



**Centuries & Sleuths Bookstore**  
**7419 W. Madison Street**  
**Forest Park, IL 60130**  
(708)771-7243 (708) 771-7412 FAX



E-mail: [cns7419@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cns7419@sbcglobal.net) Website: [www.centuriesandsleuths.com](http://www.centuriesandsleuths.com)  
**E-Books now available from our Website**

May 5, 2012

John Read  
Chief Litigation III Section  
Antitrust Division  
U.S. Department of Justice  
450 5<sup>th</sup> Street, NW Suite 4000  
Washington, DC 20530

**RECEIVED** *Kmw*

MAY 15 REC'D 2012

LITIGATION III, ANTITRUST DIV.  
U.S. DEPT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Read:

I am an independent bookseller in Forest Park, IL (a suburb of Chicago) and a member of the American Booksellers Association (ABA). We specialize in history, mystery and biography literature and are in our twenty-second year of operation. We have been declared one of the top ten booksellers in Chicago in 2007 by *The Chicago Tribune*. Nationally, we were awarded *The Raven* for 2011 by the Mystery Writers of America for a non-author's contribution to the Mystery Writing Industry.

So from the above you can see we have been fighting the good fight to stay alive in the book business in sometimes a vicious market and in an unpredictable economy. We have survived, so far... This has been possible with the help of some of the major publishers (e.g. Penguin USA, Macmillan, Random House, etc.) whose sales representatives and managers have a very good sense of what it takes for a bookseller to continue operating. Until recently I was unfamiliar with the term "agency model". However, the administration and staff of the ABA have explained its operation and benefit to the independent bookselling industry, especially, in the "new" e-book market to me and my fellow bookseller members quite well. It provides and helps maintain "the level playing field" all good competitors require and need in this trade. If this agency model is viewed as illegal, unconstitutional, or, somehow, a detriment to fair competition by the U.S. Department of Justice, they are wrong. It will provide the behemoth retail predatory businesses the tools they need to snuff out their smaller independent competitors. If the agency model is found illegal then the Amazons of the retail industry will be able to severely undercut our prices in the e-book marketplace. When they have wiped out the competition then there is no limit to how they can determine the price of their product the consumer. And, the consumer will have no place to go to compare if the price he's paying is fair. Well, that might be the dream of every greedy entrepreneur, but it's the purpose of a government to regulate operations so that greed is not sole driving force of a business operation.

As I said we specializes in history, mystery and biography and it plays a role in how we view things. In the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries you had such greedy business moguls attempting to run thing to their financial benefit only. They were referred to as The Robber Barons, as I'm sure you know. I say that considering that part of the address under your name is "Antitrust Division". Your department as you know was started in that period to fight and defeat these Robber Barons. Without the agency model we may be for the new Robber Barons of 2014-2020s. The mystery to me is that the Justice Department can not see this coming and, in fact, eliminating a governing mechanism that can prevent the Robber Barons rebirth. As I said you're part of the Antitrust Division, do your job. Don't prohibit "the Agency Model".

Thank you for reading this appeal and feel free to contact me via letter, phone call or e-mail if you need further clarification of my stand. You have that contact information on the head of this letter.

Sincerely

*August P. Aleksey III*  
August P. Aleksey III (Sole Proprietor)



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DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT
5/12	SAT	2:00 PM:	G.K. Chesterton Society of Chicago Meeting Title: <i>The Thing: Why I am a Catholic</i> Author: G.K. Chesterton
5/19	SAT	2:00 PM:	Mystery Discussion Group Title: <i>The Beautiful Blue Death</i> Author: Charles Lynch
5/20	SUN	1:00 PM:	<i>Mystery Writers of America</i> : The Midwest Chapter: <i>Interactive Meeting with the MWA Cleveland, Ohio Meeting via WiFi</i>
5/26	SAT	2:00:	Author Discussion & Signing: Craig Cleve Title: <i>The Green Hornet Street Car Disaster</i> (Chicago May 25, 1950)
5/27	SUN	2:00 PM:	Clio's Chroniclers [a.k.a. The History Discussion Group] Title: <i>The Reformation: A History</i> (John K.) Author: Mac Culloch, Diarmaid
6/2	SAT	2:00 PM:	Authors Discussion & Signing: John McEvoy & Jack Fredrickson Titles: <i>Photo Finish</i> (5 <sup>th</sup> Jack Doyle Race Track Mystery) and <i>Hunting Sweetie Rose</i> (3 <sup>rd</sup> Dek Elstrom Mystery)
6/3	SUN	1:00 PM	Mystery Writers of America (Midwest Chapter) Meeting Topic: T.B.A. ( <i>Guess what? It's less than a week until Chicago's Printers Row Lit Fest June 9-10th.</i> )
6/9	SAT	2:00 PM:	G.K. Chesterton Society of Chicago Meeting Title: <i>The Man Who Was Thursday</i> by G.K. Chesterton

## 6/9-10 SAT-SUN: The Chicago Tribune's Printers Row Lit Fest

Mystery Writers of America Midwest Chapter's Booth

(Lynda will be selling books there for our Author Friends of the MWA)

6/10	SUN	2:00 PM	Meeting of the Dickens Fellowship of Chicago Topic: <i>Great Expectations: Chapters (28-44)</i>
6/16	SAT		Mystery Discussion Group Title: <i>The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest</i> Author: Stieg Larsson
6/24	SUN	2:00 PM:	Clio's Chroniclers [a.k.a. The History Discussion Group] Title: <i>The Imperial Cruse</i> (Augie) Author: James Bradley
7/7	SAT	11:00 AM:	Sisters in Crime Meeting: Topic (T.B.A.)
7/14	SAT	2:00 PM:	G.K. Chesterton Society of Chicago Meeting Title: <i>St. Francis of Assisi</i> by G.K. Chesterton
7/21	SAT	12:30 PM:	Author Discussion & Signing: Bryan Gruley Title: <i>The Skeleton Box</i> (3 <sup>rd</sup> in the Starvation Lake Series)
7/21	SAT	2:00 PM:	Mystery Discussion Group Title: <i>The Likeness</i> Author: Tana French
7/29	SUN	2:00 PM:	Clio's Chroniclers [a.k.a. The History Discussion Group] Title: <i>Berlin Games (1936) How the Nazis Stole the Olympic Dream</i> (Com.) Author: Guy Walters
DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT
8/11	SAT	2:00 PM:	G.K. Chesterton Society of Chicago Meeting Title: <i>Characters of the Reformation</i> by Hillaire Belloc



## Winner of MWA's 2011 RAVEN Award



THERE IS A \$5/BOOK CHARGE TO HAVE BOOKS NOT PURCHASED AT C&S SIGNED BY A GUEST AUTHOR [5-3-12]



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- 8/18 SAT 2:00 PM: **Mystery Discussion Group**  
 Title: *Return to the Same City*  
 Author: Ignacio Paco Taibo
- 8/26 SUN 2:00 PM: **Clio's Chroniclers [a.k.a. The History Discussion Group]**  
 Title: *Ghost Map: London's Cholera Epidemic* (Augie)  
 Author: Steven Johnston
- 9/8 SAT 11:00 AM: **Sisters in Crime Meeting: Topic (T.B.A.)**
- 9/15 SAT 2:00 PM: **Mystery Discussion Group**  
 Title: T.B.A.
- 9/30 SUN 2:00 PM: **Clio's Chroniclers [a.k.a. The History Discussion Group]**  
 Title: *A Concise History of Russia* (Gary)  
 Author: Richard Pipes
- 10/13 SAT 11:00 AM: **Sisters in Crime Meeting: Topic (T.B.A.)**
- 10/14 SUN 2:00 PM: **Author Discussion & Signing with Jeffrey Siger**  
 Title: *Target: Tinos: (4<sup>th</sup> Inspector Kaldis Mystery in Modern Greece)*
- 10/20 SAT 2:00 PM: **Mystery Discussion Group**  
 Title: T.B.A.
- 10/28 SUN 2:00 PM: **Clio's Chroniclers [a.k.a. The History Discussion Group]**  
 Title: *Munich 1938: Appeasement and World War II* (Com)  
 Author: David Favor

**Meeting of Minds XVIII**

November 2<sup>nd</sup> (FRI) and 3<sup>rd</sup> (SAT) AT 8:00-10:00 PM

Moderator: August Aleksy

**Guests**

- Rex Stout (1886-1975)  
 Raymond Chandler (1888-1959)  
 Dashiell Hammett (1894-1961)  
 Craig Rice (1908-1957)

**Performers**

- William Sawisch  
 John Cline  
 Brendan Riley  
 Carol Hauswald

**Admission: \$10/person \*\* Seating Limited to 30 \*\* Payment Required with RSVP**

- 11/4 SUN 1:00 PM: **Author Discussion & Signing with Helen Macie Osterman**  
 Titles: *The Evil Eye* (An Emma Winberry Mystery)
- 11/17 SAT 2:00 PM: **Mystery Discussion Group**  
 Title: T.B.A.
- 12/2 SUN 1:00 PM: **Author Discussion & Signing with M. E. May**  
 Titles: *Perfidy*
- 1/10 SAT 11:00 AM: **Sisters in Crime Meeting: Topic (T.B.A.)**
- 12/9 SUN 2:00 PM: **Clio's Chroniclers [a.k.a. The History Discussion Group]**  
 Title: *In the Garden of the Beast* (Augie)
- 12/15 SAT 2:00 PM: **Mystery Discussion Group**  
 Title: T.B.A.
- 1/27 SUN 2:00 PM: *A Covert Affair: Paul and Julia Child in the OSS in World War II.*  
 Author: Jeannette Conant

**Listed in the Chicago Tribune's *Tempo* section June, 8, 2007**  
**As One of Chicago's Ten Best Bookstores**

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