

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 30, 2016



'Oddball' author pens mystery thrillers for a new generation

Author of the quirky, "Murder Becomes" series, raised in Wichita, to make appearance at Full Circle Bookstore on Saturday, July 9

The mysteries penned by author Jeffrey Eaton are far from what the industry calls 'cozies.'

For the murders in his books take place in glamorous international locations (Manhattan, Miami) and the team of detectives on each case are scrambling not just to solve a murder but to thwart a terrorist plot, as well.

But neither are his books 'adventure thrillers.' For the team of detectives are architects by trade who use their powers of observation and research, not feats of derring-do, to identify the murderer. And the most turbocharged vehicle in the books is a vintage Italian scooter ridden by the books' lead detective, Dalton Lee (who, when he isn't solving crimes, is conversing with statues, department-store mannequins, and other inanimate objects).

"On one hand, I wanted my series to whisk readers away to the world's most fascinating cities and introduce them to the great architecture they showcase," Eaton says. "On the other hand, I wanted the detectives to feel less like James Bond and more like everyday people. Everyday *oddball* people, that is, who, one day, are having a nervous breakdown on a Manhattan street but, the very next, are tackling a murder suspect in a drugstore to snatch her incriminating cellphone."

Eaton says the fun-house feel of his books may be attributable to his feeling like such an oddball as a child. "From kindergarten to fourth grade, I was the only kid in my classes whose parents was divorced," he says. By the age of six, he had turned to reading, and writing his own stories, for comfort. In first grade, he wrote Dr. Seuss a letter offering to help the children's book author develop his next book. "He was gracious in his rejection," Eaton says with a smile, "but I was still a little stunned that he said 'no'."

The "Murder Becomes" series is also oddball in some key ways. It features a team of detectives who, by day, are architects and urban planners (but have a more sinister bond that gets revealed as the tales unfold). Just as the end of each Hardy Boys and Nancy Drew mystery told the reader the title of the next in the series, the end of each "Murder Becomes" mystery clues the reader as to the 'M' location in which the next book will take place.

And the electronic versions of the mysteries include embedded hyperlinks that take reader to such add-on content as photos of the murder scene, the recipe for the perfect grilled-cheese sandwich one detective craves, and even a tour of the architectural masterpieces in the city being written about.

"We wanted to make reading the 'Murder Becomes' series more of an active experience than a casual pastime," Eaton says. "That said, oddball that I am, I still am a huge fan of the physical book. I love turning pages rather than scrolling.

"And, I can't write a personal, heartfelt message on someone's electronic copy the way I can their physical book."

-30-

Eaton, who grew up in Wichita and now lives in Dallas, will sign books and read at the Full Circle Bookstore in Oklahoma City from 3-5 pm, Saturday, July 9. He'll read from his two published works, "Murder Becomes Manhattan," and "Murder Becomes Miami," as well as the third book he has in development, "Murder Becomes Mayfair," set in London.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Randall White, The Cornet Group

(214) 946-9270

randall@thecornetgroup.com