



Floater

J.A. Konrath , Henry Pérez

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Floaters

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When the latest in a series of dead bodies turns up in the Chicago River, newspaper reporter Alex Chapa and Police Lieutenant Jacqueline “Jack” Daniels reluctantly join forces.

Thriller writers J.A. Konrath (Whiskey Sour, Fuzzy Navel, Cherry Bomb) and Henry Perez (Killing Red) and their series characters have teamed up to create FLOATERS, a mystery tale that combines humor with thrills.

Included in this 30,000 word collection are J.A. Konrath's LAST REQUEST, a Phineas Trout story, and FAMILIAR PLACES, a story by Henry Perez about hit man who has seen better days.

This collection also includes a conversation between the authors and excerpts from each of their novels, SHOT OF TEQUILA, by J.A. Konrath, and KILLING RED by Henry Perez.

Praise for JA Konrath's thriller Fuzzy Navel:

"This gripping novel is an adrenalin rush." — Library Journal

"Fuzzy Navel is Konrath at his best – a hilariously heartstopping thriller." — Linda Fairstein

"This book moves so fast it was like having the words fired into my head by a machine gun." — Crimespree

Praise for Henry Perez's thriller Killing Red

"Intense, lightning-paced, brilliantly executed, a novel that demands to be read in one sitting." — James Rollins

"Fascinating! Killing Red is not for the faint of heart. It kept me turning pages long into the night." — Lisa Jackson

"Killing Red is an intense, smart read, and Alex Chapa is a character of flesh and blood. A terrific debut—bravo!" — Marcus Sakey

"Killing Red heralds a meteoric debut crafted with surgical skill! Not since Thomas Harris burst onto the scene with Black Sunday has a debut thriller come along that sinks its hooks this deep into a reader from page one. Here's a public service message to all thriller lovers: Do not start this book at night if you want to get any sleep, because you will be up until you cross the finish line – pulse racing, skin sweaty – but happy as hell you decided to go on this magnificent thrill ride. Highest recommendation!" — Jay Bonansinga

"Taut, provocative and unforgettable. Henry Perez's Killing Red is the one debut novel you need to read this year." — Tasha Alexander

Floater Details

Date : Published (first published May 27th 2009)

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Author : J.A. Konrath , Henry Pérez

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From Reader Review Floaters for online ebook

Vmlmike says

Fun, witty crime. Hard to beat.

Kat Lebo says

Floaters, a Jack Daniels and Alex Chapa collaboration

J.A. Konrath and Henry Perez

Floaters is the title of this collection of 3 short stories. The first in the group, "Floaters," is co-authored by Konrath and Perez and features both of their protagonists. As I am always skeptical of "co-authored" pieces, I appreciated the way the two shared the writing, with both contributing to the plot and storyline details, as well as the writing parts for both characters, alternating a Chapa chapter with a Daniels Chapa and then working together to pull it all into a seamless read. My only complaint was that it was too short!

Still, this short featured an intricate plot involving 4 floaters found in Homicide Lieutenant Jack Daniel's territory within a very short time, and an older woman who turned to newspaper reporter Chapa as her last hope to find her missing husband. Was there a connection? Would Chapa be able to find the missing husband alive? Would either he or Jack escape from a very twisted plot? Two smooth writing styles that meshed together very well. And yes, there was a fashion mention regarding Jack's apparel. In dialogue between Chapa and Daniels at a crime scene, Chapa remarks on an outfit he saw Daniels wear at a lecture she gave a few years before. He thought it was probably Armani, but Jack said, no, it was a Fendi.

Also in this book are a short story by Perez called "Familiar Places" and one by Konrath called "Last Request," neither of which feature the characters from "Floaters."

Perez's "Familiar Places" describes an assassin-for-hire who has lost the taste for the job. He's failed in one assignment and is given a last chance to prove himself. He's just going through the motions, until it becomes clear that this last chance isn't quite what he thought it to be. Perez does a great job of showing the pathos and ennui that accompany the loss of interest in one's career path. One finishes the story hoping he finds that cabin in the woods.

Konrath's "Last Requim" features one of his regular supporting characters from the Jack Daniels series, Phineous Trout, or Phin. A non-criminal, who after receiving a virtual death sentence in the form of pancreatic cancer, embarks on a less than virtuous career path. This short story takes place before or early in his acquaintance with Jack Daniels, and again, is a wonderful look into the soul of a man without hope who still hangs on to the only thing he has left: his word.

There were other additions -- notes from both authors on writing their pieces, a couple of conversations between the two regarding their friendship and collaborating on "Floaters," plus excerpts from Perez's novel "Killing Red," his first Chapa novel, and Konrath's first Jack Daniels novel, "A Shot of Tequila." Great introductions to both authors' characters if you haven't read them before, and a great visit with old friends if you have.

J Dale Breedlove says

Konrath's books are always great, sometimes a little gory, but the timing, comedic elements, suspense, it's all there. Just learned about him a few months ago from the web, been devouring his books since.

Carol says

OK but nothing to get excited about. Actually, it wasn't even as good as a fair short story. It could have been much better with a little more character development and a desire to tell a good story rather than a synopsis of what could have been.

Jerry B says

We picked up this ebook after discovering it pairs Konrath's (Ms.) Jack Daniels with Chicago newspaperman, Alex Chapa, apparently the leading man of co-author Henry Pérez. We liked Chapa, and found his efforts to locate a missing antiques/collectibles dealer rather suspenseful. We didn't recall that Jack is known for her designer work apparel but nonetheless her involvement in the plot was timely as well. For such a short tale, it's a pleaser!

Katie says

Excellent story. Very engaging and believable. The integration of the two writers parts was seamless. First thing I did after finishing this story was go buy *Killing Red* by Henry Perez the other co-author.

Jason says

*Floater*s was a collaborative effort between two authors, incorporating characters that already exist in their own series.

The back-and-forth flipping of perspectives between the two protagonists made the reading a bit choppy to me. And because the story was short, there wasn't much development or depth. There just didn't seem to be enough elements to keep things interesting.

I have a feeling that fans of the Jack Daniels and Alex Chapa will appreciate *Floater*s more than someone unfamiliar with either character.

Melissa says

The only disappointment was that I clearly didn't read the description close enough. This is a short story collaboration. I enjoyed the stories included, but was disappointed because I believed it was a novel.

Chris Birdy says

Short and sweet! The collaborative effort was enjoyable but brief. I didn't realize the "book" was three short stories.

Megan Reuther says

Floater was pretty good - I am a fan of all things Jack. Last Request was my favorite of the bunch & I was glad I picked it up!

Debra Daniels-zeller says

This book was a deal on Amazon, but the irresistible price encouraged my low expectations. I'd thought the book would be short, but I didn't realize that "book" actually contained 3 short stories, one interview and two previews (plugs) for other books. Floater is a braided story by two authors, with two protagonists--Jack Daniels and Alex Chapa. Not my favorite braided story and I'd expected Floater to be longer and was surprised when more stories and an interview were included in this book. Floater was totally a character driven story that moved along at a quick clip, but ultimately the book wasn't the most memorable one I've read this month. But the other stories--Familiar Places by Henry Perez and Last Request by J.A Konrath were great and the idea of including the interview was perfect. I loved the surprise of Familiar Places and the previews of the authors' other books made me want to keep reading.

Wynn says

Story #1: Floater by Konrath and Perez

Floater was my introduction to Henry Perez's character, Cuban-American reporter Alex Chapa. Lucky for me Chapa works in Chicago. Chicago is the same city my favorite fictional Homicide Lieutenant, Jack Daniels, also works. Chapa is searching for missing Emil Candolini at the request of his wife of forty years, Nina. Why he agrees to take this story is beyond me. (Surely there are bigger stories in Chicago.) Nina gives Alex three names and addresses of people he may have dealt with and he begins his search for Emil. When bodies begin popping up in the Chicago River, Alex may have found a link to Emil. Enter the always stylishly dressed Jack Daniels and her always hungry slob of a partner, Herb. What absolutely made this story perfect was the banter between Jack and Herb which mostly included pepperoni snacks. No matter how ludicrous their conversations can get, they honor their jobs as police officers and always have each other's back. Although the criminals are totally stupid (because they're criminals) Jack and Herb are forced to cover

Alex's back as well.

Story #2: Familiar Places by Henry Perez

This story is about a hit man who failed to follow through on a job and the fallout that follows. The "fallout" came as a surprise to me and was exciting to read. (Includes gunfire, fists and blood) Really, what becomes of a hit man when he no longer has a future with his employer?

Story # 3: Last Request (The best of the three!)

This short story follows Phineas Trout. Phin is character from the Jack Daniels series who is dying from pancreatic cancer. Phin's morality has seriously slipped and he takes on crime to help him pay for coke or heroin to ease his pain. On the way to commit a crime he picks up a transsexual hooker named Thor. (That's an image!) All I can say about this story is "I did not see that coming!" This story has a fantastic and very surprising twist. It was a great read! Phin is awesome. I hope he never dies!

Floater also has brief conversations between Konrath and Perez. They're very short and humorous. Thankfully, they offer no deep thoughts. Floater also features excerpts from Killing Red and A Shot of Tequila. I skipped those.

If anything you must read Last Request. Floater is nothing profound, but for free it was a lot of fun. Just a FYI: I paid zero \$ for Floater and I am madly in love with the writing of J.A. Konrath.

Harold Honey says

disjointed

Tim says

This collaboration by a couple authors leaves nothing too memorable, despite some bits of brutality. 3 of 10 stars

Pat says

As I hadn't read either author before, I'm pleased to have enjoyed the stories from both. The collaboration on the title story was especially well done.
