

**THURSDAY, MAY 30, 2024**

Registration, open 12:00 pm - 2:15 pm and 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm, *Lower Lobby* | The Mysterious Bookshop, open 9:00 am - 6:30 pm, *Flatiron*

6:30 pm - 8:00 pm	<b>THRILLERFEST OPENING RECEPTION</b> Co-Hosted by TOR/Forge, Minotaur & St. Martin's <i>New York Ballroom</i>
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**THRILLERFEST FRIDAY, MAY 31, 2024**

Registration, open 7:30 am - 6:30pm *Lower Lobby* | The Mysterious Bookshop, open 9:00 am - 6:30 pm, *Flatiron Room*

ROOM	EMPIRE EAST	GRAMERCY	BOWERY	EMPIRE WEST
<b>MORNING COFFEE - 8:00 am - 10:30 am Hosted by ITW Foyer</b>				
8:00 am - 8:50 am	<b>BEAU, FOE OR NO?</b> <b>Dynamic Character Relationships</b> Moderator: A.J. Tata Margot Douaihy Alex Finlay Shari Lapena Tosca Lee Clare Mackintosh	<b>CONFLICT, CLOCK OR CRUCIBLE?</b> <b>What Makes a Good Thriller</b> Moderator: Terry Shames John Dobbyn Joseph LeValley Jode Millman Joshua Moehling Polly Stewart	<b>HEADBUTT, DROPKICK OR CHOKEHOLD?</b> <b>Writing Realistic Fight Scenes</b> Moderator: Ruth Church Chris Grall T.R. Hendricks Isabella Maldonado Stephen Mann Gregg Podolski Connor Sullivan	<b>IMPOSSIBLE ESCAPES, UNPREDICTABLE TWISTS OR MISBEHAVING CHARACTERS?</b> <b>When the Unexpected Works</b> Moderator: Roland Gulliver Allison Buccola Reed Bunzel Matthew Quinn Martin William Maz Thomas Shawver Tessa Wegert
9:00 am - 9:50 am	<b>HARDCOVER, PAPERBACK OR E-BOOK?</b> <b>Thriller Award Nominees</b> Moderator: Tosca Lee S.A. Cosby J.T. Ellison Tess Gerritsen Lisa Gray Lauren Nosssett Lisa Unger	<b>GASLIGHTING, INTIMIDATION OR STALKING?</b> <b>Psychological Thrillers</b> Moderator: Samantha Skal Samantha M. Bailey Karen Dionne Alex Finlay Robyn Harding D.J. Palmer Kate White	<b>NARRATOR, SPECIAL EFFECTS OR FULL CAST?</b> <b>Audiobook Trends</b> Moderator: Stacy Creamer Scott Brick Suzanne Elise Freeman Hillary Huber Saskia Maarleveld Ellen Quint	<b>SWEET, SOUR OR BITTER?</b> <b>The Taste of Revenge</b> Moderator: Tessa Wegert S.K. Andrews Jaime Lynn Hendricks Amy Impellizzeri Sarah Zachrich Jeng Bonnie Kistler Robert Rotstein
9:50 am - 10:20 am	Authors from morning sessions will be signing in Lenox Ballroom.			
10:20 am - 11:10 am	<b>ThrillerMaster Tess Gerritsen interviewed by Karin Slaughter, <i>Empire East</i></b>			
11:20 am - 12:10 pm	<b>MURDER, MAYHEM OR PSYCHIATRY?</b> <b>The Twisted Women's Book Club</b> Moderator: K.J. Howe Steve Feldberg Joseph Finder Gregg Hurwitz Shari Lapena Clare Mackintosh Karin Slaughter	<b>LIARS, THIEVES OR MURDERERS?</b> <b>Developing Antagonists</b> Moderator: Allison Brennan Mysti Berry Marco Carocari Vanessa Cuti Rob Hart Lawrence Light Hannah Morrissey	<b>PICTURESQUE, BUSTLING OR REMOTE?</b> <b>International Settings</b> Moderator: Jeffrey Wilson Traci Abramson Simon Gervais Puja Guha Don Helin Tullan Holmqvist A.J. Tata	<b>SINGLE, SERIAL OR SPREE?</b> <b>Types of Murder</b> Moderator: Tammy Euliano Esme Addison Robert Bailey Mindy Carlson Doug Grad Deborah J. Ledford Lev Rosen
12:10 pm - 12:40 pm	Authors from the midday sessions will be signing in Lenox Ballroom including <b>ThrillerMaster Tess Gerritsen</b>			
12:40 pm - 1:30 pm	<b>Spotlight Guest Steph Cha interviewed by Walter Mosley, <i>Empire East</i></b>			
1:40 pm - 2:30 pm	<b>ITW MEMBERSHIP MEETING, <i>Empire East</i>. Win Prizes!</b>			
2:40 pm - 3:30 pm	<b>SLUSHPILE FINDS, BREAKOUTS, OR GENRE-BENDING SUCCESSES</b> <b>Stories from the Front Lines</b> Moderator: Samuel Octavius Dan Conaway Tara Gavin Sandy Lu Julian Pavia Kelley Ragland John Talbot	<b>VISUAL, EPIC OR THREE-ACT STRUCTURE?</b> <b>Writing Cinematic Structure</b> Moderator: Brian Andrews Rachel Koller Croft Simon Gervais Nic Izzi Melissa Larsen Jon McGoran Stephanie Wrobel	<b>GOODREADS, NEW YORK TIMES OR KIRKUS?</b> <b>Book Reviews</b> Moderator: Jon Land Sam Boush Vanessa Cronin Elizabeth French Ayo Onatade Conner Reed Henrietta Thornton	<b>SUBTERFUGE, COVERT OR DOUBLE AGENT?</b> <b>The World of Espionage</b> Moderator: Jamie Freveletti I.S. Berry Brittany Butler Len Opanashuk Susan Ouellette Jonathan Payne Roman Rozhavsky (FBI)
3:40 pm - 4:30 pm	<b>Spotlight Guest Ruth Ware interviewed by Lisa Unger, <i>Empire East</i></b>			
4:40 pm - 5:30 pm	<b>ACCOLADES, AWARDS OR LEGACY?</b> <b>The Life of a ThrillerMaster</b> Moderator: Jeff Ayers Tess Gerritsen Heather Graham Charlaire Harris David Morrell Walter Mosley John Sandford R.L. Stine	<b>TROT, CANTER OR GALLOP?</b> <b>Pacing Your Plot</b> Moderator: Paula Munier Joe Clifford Jennifer Fawcett Roland Gulliver McCracken Poston, Jr. Carl Vonderau Jennifer Wilkov	<b>INSTAGRAM, FACEBOOK OR TWITTER/X?</b> <b>Building Your Social Platform</b> Moderator: Sara DiVello Tim Ehrenberg Stephanie Hockersmith Tabrizia Jones Jeneva Rose Kate Vocke	<b>INDIE, SMALL PRESS OR HYBRID?</b> <b>Successful Publishing Routes</b> Moderator: Carter Wilson Trevor Firetog Caryl Janis Meryl Moss Darden North Robert Rogers Michael Stagg
5:30 pm - 6:00 pm	Authors from late afternoon sessions will be signing in Lenox Ballroom including <b>Spotlight Guests Steph Cha and Ruth Ware</b>			
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm	<b>FRIDAY NIGHT COCKTAIL PARTY</b> sponsored by Kevin Anderson & Associates, <i>Metropolitan West Ballroom</i>			

# THRILLERFEST SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 2024

Registration, open 7:30 am - 2:15 pm, Awards Banquet Ticket Sales 5:30 pm - 7:15 pm, *Lower Lobby* | The Mysterious Bookshop, open 9:00 am – 6:00 pm, *Flatiron*

ROOM	EMPIRE EAST	GRAMERCY	BOWERY	EMPIRE WEST
8:00 am - 8:50 am	<b>REINVENTION, HARD WORK OR NEW IDEAS?</b> <b>Sustaining Your Writing Career</b> Moderator: Susan Lee Don Bentley Allison Brennan J.T. Ellison Eric Rickstad Jerri Williams	<b>LAND, SEA OR AIR?</b> <b>Settings for Action Scenes</b> Moderator: Christianna Mason Ryan Aldred John David Mann Adam Sikes L.A. Starks Robert Swartwood	<b>FARMHOUSE, CHALET OR CONDO?</b> <b>Why Setting Matters</b> Moderator: Dwayne Goetzl Karen Dionne Carinn Jade William Jensen Vera Kurian Michael Pronko Tony Wirt	<b>SHOCKING, GRIPPING OR RELATABLE?</b> <b>Crafting Great Openings</b> Moderator: Meredith Anthony Linda Hurtado Bond M.M. DeLuca Tracey Devlyn Veronica Forand J.L. Hughes Kathleen Willett
9:00 am - 10:00 am	<b>ITW PRESENTS BREAKFAST WITH 2024 DEBUT AUTHOR CLASS:</b> J.M. Adams, L.K. Bowen, A.J. Chambers, Caroline Cleveland, Mailan Doquang, Peter Malone Elliott, Christina Estes, Kerrie Faye, Abbott Kahler, Elise Hart Kipness, Jon Lindstrom, Megaera Lorenz, Meredith R. Lyons, Lisa Malice, Rebecca McKanna, Allison McKenzie, Kate Michaelson, Mallika Narayanan, K.T. Nguyen, Adam Plantinga, Brooke Robinson, Carla Seyler, Tracy Sierra, Jim Spoonhour, Pamela Statz, Jack Stewart, Travis Tougaw, Steve Urszenyi <b>Introductions by Lisa Gardner, Metropolitan East Ballroom</b>			
10:00 am - 10:30 am	Authors from early morning sessions will be signing in Lenox Ballroom including <b>2024 DEBUT AUTHORS</b>			
10:30 am - 11:20 am	<b>CHEKHOV, UNDERPINNING OR INEVITABILITY?</b> <b>Foreshadowing in Fiction</b> Moderator: Jaime Levine Lynne Constantine Mark Greaney David Morrell John J. Nance John Sandford C.J. Tudor	<b>AUDIOBOOK, SHORT STORY OR FIRST NOVEL?</b> <b>Thriller Award Nominees</b> Moderator: Todd Gerber Jeff Buick Rona Halsall Matt Phillips J. Todd Scott Laura Wolfe Stacy Woodson	<b>YOUTUBE, PODCAST OR INSTA-LIVE?</b> <b>Getting Great Coverage</b> Moderator: Danielle Girard Kimberly Belle Sarina Bowen Vanessa Lillie Kaira Rouda	<b>TRAVEL, INTERVIEW OR RABBIT HOLE?</b> <b>Research Techniques</b> Moderator: Mark Alpert Mir Bahmanyar W. Michael Gear James L'Etoile Catherine McKenzie
11:30 am - 12:20 pm	<b>Silver Bullet Award Winner Louise Penny interviewed by Chris Pavone, Empire East</b>			
12:20 pm - 12:50 pm	Authors from the late morning sessions will sign in Lenox Ballroom including <b>SILVER BULLET WINNER Louise Penny</b>			
1:00 pm - 1:50 pm	<b>CHARACTER, CONFLICT OR VOICE?</b> <b>Immersing Your Reader</b> Moderator: Nathaniel Marunas Lou Berney Mark Greaney Charlaire Harris Gregg Hurwitz Walter Mosley Sarah Pekkanen	<b>JEALOUSY, GREED OR REVENGE?</b> <b>Motivations for Murder</b> Moderator: José H. Bográn J. Luke Bennecke David Bushman Mary Dixie Carter David Ellis Deborah Levison	<b>THREE-ACT, NOVEL-TO-SCREEN OR BEAT SHEET?</b> <b>Structure in Writing</b> Moderator: Boyd Morrison Steven James Darby Kane Cara Reinard Jule Selbo Tom Straw	<b>YOU, ME OR WE?</b> <b>Co-Writing and Estate Writing</b> Moderator: Lynne Constantine Don Bentley Jon Land Sonya Sargent Alex Segura A.M. Strong Greg Wands
2:00 pm - 2:50 pm	<b>THRILLERMASTER Dennis Lehane interviewed by Gregg Hurwitz, Empire East</b>			
2:50 pm - 3:10 pm	Authors from the early afternoon sessions will sign in Lenox Ballroom including <b>THRILLERMASTER Dennis Lehane</b>			
3:10 pm - 4:00 pm	<b>TWISTS, REVEALS OR CLIFFHANGERS?</b> <b>Satisfying Your Reader</b> Moderator: Dervla McTiernan S.A. Cosby Joshilyn Jackson Louise Penny Karin Slaughter Lisa Unger Ruth Ware	<b>BOURBON, CHAMPAGNE OR COCAINE?</b> <b>Characters and Their Vices</b> Moderator: Michael Bradley Lori Brand Rick Mofina Drew Murray Lisa Regan	<b>ROMANCE, THRILLER OR COZY?</b> <b>Success Across Genres</b> Moderator: Heather Graham Yasmin Angoe Libby Cudmore Daryl Wood Gerber Jenna Kernan Cate Ray	<b>FIRST, THIRD OR MULTIPLE?</b> <b>POV In Popular Fiction</b> Moderator: Bonnie Traymore Elizabeth Crowens Laurie Dove Elizabeth Keenan Cristina LePort Christina McDonald Otto Penzler
4:10 pm - 5:00 pm	<b>IMPERFECT PARTNER, EVIL SIBLING OR CREEPY NEIGHBOR?</b> <b>Trends in Suspense</b> Moderator: Steven James Chris Bohjalian Steph Cha Joseph Finder Lisa Gardner Jean Kwok Sarah Pekkanen	<b>UNDERDOG, PRODIGY OR LONER?</b> <b>Writing Effective YA</b> Moderator: Leslie Lutz Sorboni Banerjee Andrea Hannah Dominique Richardson R.L. Stine Elizabeth Wein	<b>SNARKY, UNRELIABLE OR UNAPOLOGETIC?</b> <b>Developing a Unique Voice</b> Moderator: Lee Matthew Goldberg Joanne Leedom-Ackerman Lauren Ling Brown Christine Carbo Jennifer Moorhead Glenn Parris Jennifer Pashley	<b>PERSUASION, NEGOTIATION OR MANIPULATION?</b> <b>Effective Dialogue</b> Moderator: James L'Etoile Daniella Bernett Jeff Cooper John Copenhagen Laurie Elizabeth Flynn Deborah Goodrich Royce
5:00 pm - 5:30 pm	Authors from the late afternoon sessions will sign in Lenox Ballroom			
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	<b>PRE-BANQUET COCKTAIL PARTY, hosted by OCEANVIEW &amp; ITW, Metropolitan West Ballroom</b>			
7:00 pm	<b>ITW 19th ANNUAL THRILLER AWARDS BANQUET, Metropolitan Ballroom</b> 2024 ThrillerMaster TESS GERRITSEN, Award Presented by 2023 ThrillerMaster Charlaire Harris 2024 ThrillerMaster DENNIS LEHANE, Award Presented by 2023 ThrillerMaster Walter Mosley 2024 Silver Bullet Award Recipient LOUISE PENNY, Award Presented by 2017 Silver Bullet Award Recipient Lisa Gardner 2024 Thriller Legend Award Recipient AUDIBLE, Award Presented by NYT Bestseller Joseph Finder <b>Presentation of the THRILLER AWARDS</b>			
<b>THRILLERMASTER AFTER PARTY honoring 2024 ThrillerMasters TESS GERRITSEN AND DENNIS LEHANE, hosted by ITW – Metropolitan Ballroom</b>				