Inland Empire Branch Meeting
California Writers Club

Saturday, November 23, 2024 at 10:10 am
Ovitt Family Library
215 E C St, Ontario, CA 91764

Dennis Crosby – *How to Add Depth to your Villain/Antagonist*

For years the villain, the antagonist, the "big bad" in stories has traditionally been depicted as the ultimate in evil—doing bad things for the sake of being bad. Bad guys are seeking money, power, and working hard to dominate the world. Often though, we never learned why. In recent years, writers have given villains some incredible backstories, making them much more complex, giving readers a chance to watch the journey from innocence to evil. This has made some villains just as popular as the heroes they battle. How does this happen? How can we generate empathy for our villains in the stories we write? In this presentation, we'll explore effective ways writers can add depth to their villains/antagonists, thus creating more tension and deepening conflict in their stories.

Dennis K. Crosby is the award-winning author of the Kassidy Simmons novels, DEATH'S LEGACY, DEATH'S DEBT, and DEATH'S DESPAIR. Since 2020, he has published three urban fantasy novels and ten short stories in the horror and supernatural thriller genres. Dennis holds a Master's Degree in Forensic Psychology and a Master of Fine Arts Degree in Creative Writing. With experience in retail sales, private investigation, and social service, Dennis uses his knowledge and experience to craft compelling characters experiencing real world challenges against the backdrop of magical, supernatural, and mythological phenomena. Dennis has been the subject of several interviews and podcasts, a guest speaker for writer's groups and multiple conferences, and he's been a panelist and moderator at StokerCon, WonderCon, and Comic-Con International. Dennis grew up in Oak Park, IL, and currently makes his home in San Diego, CA.

Dennis's Website: https://www.denniskcrosby.com/

This in-person meeting is open to all!