

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

An enormous amount of research and resources go into our thrillers, beginning long before the first word and continuing throughout the creative process. So, as always, we begin by offering our profound appreciation for those who have so generously given their time, knowledge, expertise, and support. We hope we have applied the input and feedback accurately and in the best way possible.

With the interest of those new to our Jake Tyler series in mind, you should know that there are spoilers that reference previous books in the series. For this reason, while each book can be read as a stand-alone novel, you may enjoy them more by reading in sequential order.

THANK YOU...

Phillip Gonzales, as ever, for the providing the serendipity that brought us together in a friendship and partnership of nearly three decades, as well as in this great endeavor.

Paul Jiménez Caro and Gaël Brose for enduring friendship, not to mention always availing themselves for subject matter help.

We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to our friend, Stephen Humphreys, a major inspiration for this book. He is doing amazing work with his organization, American Veterans Archaeological Recovery (AVAR), which we enthusiastically support. Thank you, Stephen, for your kindness and for taking the time out of a packed schedule of fieldwork and associated commitments to guide us through the archaeology, and also for sharing the ways in which you apply it to benefit and enrich the lives of veterans. Also, special appreciation for Operations Manager, Mackenze Burkhart, BA, RA; and the rest of the AVAR staff.

We have other esteemed archaeologists to thank, including Yiorgos Kalomoiris, Scientific Director, IDAology Project, and Joanne M. Murphy, Professor of Aegean Archaeology, Archaeological Methods and Theory; both for helping us get our footing, so to speak.

An absolute mainstay in our Greek navigation—in more ways than one—was our friend, George Malakos, sailing captain extraordinaire with Alternative Sailing. No matter the challenge, minor or major, he patiently (and often passionately) educated and enlightened in sailing and all things Greek. Thanks also to Matt Barrett, for the introduction.

Ongoing thanks and respect for our friend, Nir Kalron, of the Maisha Group for being the inspiration behind Nash Remington and *Habari*. Stay safe and keep up your important work!

In Costa Rica: Jake and Callie's home base in Dominical, thank you to the owners of the beautiful Casa Serendipia for the use of their villa; Jesse and Karen Maurer for the use of Punta Gabriela.

Muchas Gracias, Alvaro Cedeño (all the best on your new life path!), Abraham Mendez Venegas, and all of the *Guardavidas* Costa Ballena who provide an invaluable service in protecting the beaches and those who enjoy them, also the dynamic Tara Tiedemann, Viva Adventures; enormous thanks to Beth Sylver for going above and well beyond in all the legwork...you rock, *chica*! Thank you to Beth's accomplice in our special event planning and accommodations, Michael Witte of Roca Verde; Hacienda Barú's tree climbing guide, Pedro Porras. And to Jack Ewing, the OG, ambassador of Dominical, guide, storyteller, and dear friend, much gratitude. We hope you guys enjoyed your cameos!

In Greece, Turkey, and elsewhere in the Mediterranean: Ntaiana Katakouzinou of Psara Travel; Eleni Karagiorgi of Spitalia; Angeliki Zannikou of the Chios Chandris Hotel. Very special thanks for the assistance and generosity of time from Ioannis Arampatzis, Police Colonel of the Chios Police Directorate, not only for guidance in local law enforcement but also, in Chios; Alessandro Lattanzio, the Semeli Hotel and Baos, Mykonos, for being absolutely stellar in his hands-on participation (and hope you enjoyed your cameo appearance!); Aziza Mammadova and Deniz Akaltan, the Yalikavak Marina, for providing so many essential details of your spectacular facility and location; Isil Yalcin, for her considerate assistance with Turkey.

Great friends and always helpful and supportive: Martine Villeneuve, of the Danish Refuge Counsel; Dr. Lanice Jones, *Médecins Sans Frontières*.

In the Air: Our wonderful friend, Gulfstream Captain Grady Montgomery, for sharing the world along with his expertise, and truly one of the nicest people on the planet; Tom Aniello and Brian Mead, Pilatus Aircraft, for all the assistance with flying the PC-12 NGX; pilots Thomas Vander Vellen and Simon Canning, for always availing themselves for random questions and scenarios; Dimitra Kiriakopoulou, Universal Aviation Greece and Sissy Coucouvinou, Goldair Handling, for the help in

navigating FBOs.

On the seas: Aaron Amick, Sub Brief; H. I. Sutton, Covert Shores, both for their help with undersea cables and superyachts; Ben Dinsmore, who is always up for anything seafaring; Fernando Cadena Duque, for diving guidance; Yioryos Raptis, Amaso Dive Center, Ikaria, for providing technical diving support as well as assistance with localities; Lindsay Lyon, Ocean Guardian, for Jake's shark protection and who is always so kind; Xerxes Matten, sailor and world traveler, who more than knows his way around superyachts; Annita Sima and Panos Zois, Technohull, for assistance with those amazing RIBs.

For the Tech: Joe Ailinger Jr., Teledyne FLIR, for continuing to provide key support for all their cutting-edge tech and gadgets employed by Jake and Remington; Drew Smith, of the veteran-owned Lone Star Drone, for some great conversations about drone operation; Adam Bennett, HawkEye 360, for explaining that amazing technology; Deviant Ollam, security penetration specialist (and lockpicker), for sharing some of his cool tricks.

Other Key Assistance: Blaine Campbell, for CheyTac; Karl Stone, Team O'Neil Rally School, for help with some hardcore driving.

Special thanks to Scott Bohlinger, Regional Director International NGO Safety Organization, for discussions about the Middle East, Turkey, and regional conflicts, among other things. Ivan Kovalev, for all kinds of tactical support and background.

We thank several confidential sources for input and scenarios involving rare-earth minerals, polymers, and missiles.

Good friends Billy and Stacy Ray, the best kind of daydream believers—they don't give up.

In these fraught and perilous times when the scary what-if's become the what is...

Blessed are the peacemakers.