

AUTHOR BIO

Dodging bullets and bombs, debut author Maurice made his way out of Sarajevo, Bosnia, where he was born, to the U.S. via Dalmatia and Italy.

After getting his college degree in Film, he was a teacher, social worker, actor, playwright, & director, doing dramas for television, Broadway and off-Broadway. He wrote, produced, directed and hosted a weekly television show on WNYC-TV for seven years.

For a number of years he was one of the top fencers in the country, eliminating the reigning Olympic champion in the semi-finals of an international competition. He fenced for F. Murray Abraham in the movie *By the Sword* and coached Matthew Modine for his fencing scenes in the movie, *Cutthroat Island*. He also fenced in a national television commercial.

As befits a New Yorker, he was once attacked by two muggers, one of whom held a knife to his throat in the vestibule of an apartment building on the Upper West Side. Grabbing the knife blade in his hand, our writer carried the two muggers, who were trying to bring him down, out of the building while the knife blade kept cutting into his palm. Once outside, all three fell to the pavement, after which the muggers got up and ran, leaving their intended victim and his bleeding palm to ponder on the ways of the jungle, thinking about Jane and Boy, and, of course, Cheetah Maurice speaks Italian, Bosnian and English fluently while able to get along passably well in Spanish and French.