

James Rollins

James Rollins is the author of six thrillers in the bestselling Sigma Force series (*Sandstorm*, *Map of Bones*, *Black Order*, *The Judas Strain*, *The Last Oracle*, and *The Doomsday Key*); the blockbuster movie novelization, *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull*; and six individual adventure thrillers. Rollins is also writing the Jake Ransom series for kids and adults. The first volume, *Jake Ransom and the Skull King's Shadow*, is in bookstores now, and the next release, *Jake Ransom and the Howling Sphinx*, is due in Spring 2011. Publication date for his seventh sigma adventure, *The Devil Colony*, is Summer 2011.

Known for building high-octane adventures on a solid science foundation, Jim juxtaposes the familiar with the exotic and then turbo-charges his tales with suspense. Always mindful of history's legacy, Jim reveals how secrets, some hidden for centuries, can change the course of human events. His novels explore how advancing technology can impact society – not just the physical threats of unchecked developments, but also the spiritual and moral challenges that result. "The true terror of technology is not the cogs and the wheels, but how it will change us," he says.

Explosive, Page-Turning Adventures

Jim has brought readers at least one book a year since his first thriller, *Subterranean*, was published in 1999. His novels have been deemed perfect "summer reads" by reviewers in publications as diverse as *People* magazine, *USA Today*, and *Publisher's Weekly*. With an ever-expanding fan base, Jim's books have been translated for readers in 32 countries outside the United States, including Brazil, Bulgaria, China, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Italy, Israel, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Norway, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, and Vietnam.

The Bestselling Sigma Force Series

A division of DARPA (the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency), Sigma Force is a covert organization of highly skilled Special Forces operatives with expertise in two or more scientific fields. Each novel stands alone, yet all share a cast of recurring characters – and some unexpected appearances by characters from Jim's previous thrillers. With *Sandstorm*, the prequel to the Sigma Force series, Jim debuted on the *New York Times* bestseller list. Each consecutive Sigma novel has climbed higher on that list, breaking into the Top Five.

Independent Adventure-Thrillers

When Lucasfilm sought an author to convert the fourth *Indiana Jones* blockbuster into novel form, the logical choice was James Rollins to create the book-length tale of everyone's favorite globe-trotting, treasure-hunting, wisecracking archaeologist: *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull*.

Jim's earlier thrillers include *Subterranean*, *Excavation*, *Deep Fathom*, *Amazonia* and *Ice Hunt*.

Adventures for Kids and Adults

Jim's first adventure for kids and adults, *Jake Ransom and the Skull King's Shadow*, was published in May, 2009. Jake and his sister embark on a search that takes them across

time and mysterious lands to discover the true fate of their parents, who disappeared three years earlier while on an archaeological dig in Mexico.

Short Fiction

On request from editors, Jim has developed works of short fiction for anthologies such as *Warriors*, a cross-genre collection of short fiction selected by Gardiner Dozier, George R.R. Martin and Daniel Abraham. Jim's story, "The Pit," will appear alongside pieces from top-name authors such as Joe Haldeman, Tony Hillerman and Neil Gaiman.

Also upcoming is a James Rollins chapter in the *7 Days* serialized novel in Glen Beck's Fusion Magazine. Each issue features a different bestselling author writing a new chapter of the serial thriller. An earlier piece, "Kowalski's in Love," for James Patterson's anthology *Thriller (2006)*, featured a hard-boiled, indomitable Seaman who reappears years later in the most unexpected place: *The Last Oracle*.

The Storyteller's Story

As a boy, James Rollins immersed himself in the scientific adventures of Doc Savage, the wonders of Jules Verne and H.G. Wells, and pulps featuring The Shadow, The Spider, and The Avenger. From there sparked the desire to become a writer himself. Already an accomplished storyteller, spinning elaborate tales that often were at the heart of pranks played on his brothers and sisters, Jim went on to hone his writing skills.

Although his talent emerged and grew, writing was not Jim's original profession. Before he would set heroes and villains on harrowing adventures, he embarked on a career in veterinary medicine, graduating from the University of Missouri and establishing a successful veterinary clinic in Sacramento, California. This hands-on knowledge of medicine and science helps shape the research and scientific speculation that set James Rollins books apart.

Jim's mentoring skills and generosity have made him a popular writing instructor and guest lecturer across the country, including at the Hawaii Writers Conference and Retreat, where he is among the core faculty. In 2005, Jim joined other luminaries in the genre to create International Thriller Writers, Inc., to recognize and promote the thriller genre, to provide opportunities for mentoring, education, and collegiality among authors and industry professionals, and to grant awards for excellence in the genre. In 2009 Jim served as the Co-President of ITW alongside Steve Berry.

Link: <http://www.thrillerwriters.org/thrillerfest/index.html>

When Jim is not writing, touring, giving seminars, or making presentations, he can be found spelunking, scuba diving, hiking, and/or traveling. Jim and his two- and four-legged family members live amid chew toys and paleontological treasures in Northern California.