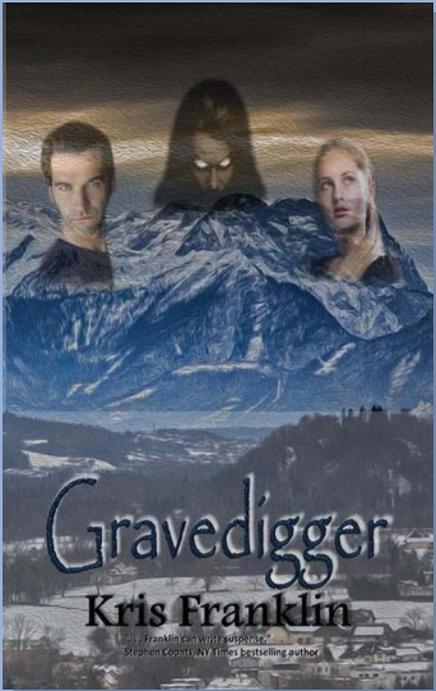




MEET YOUR INSTRUCTOR

Kris Franklin



Kris Franklin is a former English teacher whose students sometimes caught him looking out the window. “That was where the stories were,” he says, “out there in the ether.” And it was the lure of those stories which led him out of public school teaching and into freelance writing: short fiction, plus nonfiction articles about the Colorado outdoors, including skiing, backpacking and technical climbing. After a few sales to regional publications, he was hired by a Colorado newspaper, where a features writing job morphed into a weekly humor column – also frequently outdoor-related – all the while working on his first love: long form writing.

Kris’s first novel, *Silvercat*, was described by one critic as “an edge of the seat thriller by an exciting new talent.” It was followed by *The High San Juan*, said by a reviewer at Denver’s Rocky Mountain News to be “a terrific suspense novel,” then *Relentless*, which was optioned for film rights and described by best-selling author Stephen Coonts as “. . . a damn good novel. Franklin can write suspense.”

His newest novel, *Gravedigger*, a mystery/suspense story set against the backdrop of a mountain climbing expedition, introduces Sionna Magee, a young climbing guide turned deputy sheriff who will be the continuing lead character in a series of novels set in the Colorado high country.

“I once read about a novelist whose daily goal was two well-polished pages, which seemed trifling until I realized he was producing over seven hundred pages a year. It’s like the proverb of the journey that begins with a single step – or in this case with a single word on a blank sheet of paper.”

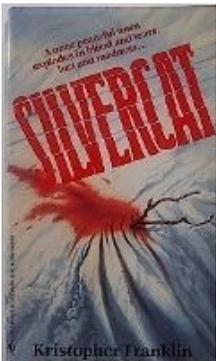
—KRIS FRANKLIN



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Kris has been an IFW writing instructor for over twenty years, and a number of his craft-related articles are part of IFW's Pointers from the Pros program at the school website, as well as two of his stories – one fiction, one nonfiction – in the Voices anthology. He also operates an editing service specializing in book-length writing projects—novels and memoirs—and, in his alternate identity as an Old Grammar Grump, he does the final galley edits for a commercial publishing house in California. In his time away from the keyboard, Kris is a self-confessed gym rat—a former collegiate athlete in track and field and competitive powerlifter—who's summited nearly half of Colorado's Fourteeners and taught climbing courses as an adjunct professor at a small Colorado university. His personal reading favorites are the Pendergast novels by Douglas Preston and Lincoln Child, and he confesses to a guilty pleasure love for the old Penny Dreadful series on Showtime.



Relentless is "...a damn good novel. Franklin can write suspense."

—Stephen Coonts