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Patricia Menton opens ‘The Case of Emil Diesel’

Max Diesel fights the East Germans and present-day Germany to reclaim his father’s precious art collection

LYNN, Mass. – For 10 years, Patricia Menton listened to her husband’s stories about his father and became part of his adventure while taking notes along the way. Realizing the story about the case had to be told in fiction, she penned “The Case of Emil Diesel” ([published by Xlibris](#)). Inspired by real-life events, the novel is about art theft blended with twist and turns of intrigue, suspense and emotional drama. It is also intertwined with love, loss, betrayal and deception during difficult times.

The book is about Max Diesel, the son an art collector, who makes an irreversible decision to pursue his father’s art collection that was seized by the Stasi in Erfurt, East Germany in 1974. He is forced to face painful memories of his home and recollections of his father, Emil Diesel, whose life is traced back to his early days in Amsterdam as a graphic artist and soldier in World War II, to his days in Erfurt with his family under Russian occupation, all leading up to the theft of his collection in 1974. When Max returns in 1975, after his father’s untimely death to claim his rightful inheritance, he is coerced into a conspiracy to regain possession of his art, but not without repercussions, until 2013, when he struggles with the city and the museums in Germany for his inheritance which leads to a riveting conclusion.

Menton relates the book to the ongoing cases of people today trying to reclaim art that was rightfully theirs from museums. As it is themed with how one faces life’s conflicts in the pursuit for art, the book highlights how one fights for truth and justice when one is up against greater powers all in the name of art.

“I want (the readers) to really enjoy the story and realize that fighting for what you believe is everyone’s right,” Menton concludes.

“The Case of Emil Diesel”

By Patricia Menton

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