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New novel entitled
BEHIND THE MASK
featuring Hannibal Lecter
by Thomas Harris
author of SILENCE OF THE LAMBS
to be published by the Bantam Dell Publishing Group
in Fall 2005

Dr. Hannibal Lecter, physician, monster, man of many parts, will return in *Behind the Mask*, a novel by Thomas Harris to be published by Delacorte Press next fall. Irwyn Applebaum, President and Publisher of the Bantam Dell Publishing Group, announced he will publish the Delacorte hardcover in Fall, 2005, followed a year later by a Dell paperback edition.

"Thomas Harris is the premier novelist of psychological suspense of our time," Applebaum said. "In Dr. Hannibal Lecter he created the literary figure to whom all other villains are compared. Millions of readers in 25 languages have wondered how Dr. Lecter developed his particular appetite for evil. This novel will satisfy their curiosity."

It is the fourth book dealing with the Doctor, who first appeared in *Red Dragon*, and subsequently in *The Silence of the Lambs* and *Hannibal*. All were best sellers. *Hannibal* was a number one *New York Times* hardcover and paperback bestseller, with sales of nearly 1.5 million hardcovers for Delacorte in 1999 and more than 3 million Dell paperbacks.

Thomas Harris was a veteran crime reporter when he wrote *Black Sunday*, a story of jihad in America published in 1975. All his novels have been made into major motion pictures, as will the new account of Dr. Hannibal Lecter, the film rights to which have been acquired by The Dino De Laurentiis Company, producer of *Red Dragon* and *Hannibal*.

Bantam Dell has acquired North American hardcover, paperback and book club publishing rights for the new novel and a second novel by Mr. Harris. The author was represented in the negotiations by Morton L. Janklow of Janklow and Nesbit Associates.

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