



**ROGUE PICTURES AND RANDOM HOUSE FILMS TO DEVELOP
THRILLER *INFESTED*, ADAPTED FROM UPCOMING
CROWN PUBLISHERS NOVEL BY SCOTT SIGLER**

NEW YORK, May 30, 2007 – Scott Sigler’s thriller novel *INFESTED*, to be published by book publisher Random House, Inc.’s imprint Crown Publishers in the U.S. and Canada next spring, has been acquired for development by Random House Films and Rogue Pictures. Andrew Karpen and Andrew Rona, Co-Presidents of Rogue Pictures, part of NBC Universal; and Peter Gethers, President, Random House Films, a division of Random House, Inc., made the announcement today.

The thriller by acclaimed horror and science fiction writer Scott Sigler is the first in a series of at least two books. Crown Publishers recently secured a world rights multi-book deal with Mr. Sigler, while the filmmaking partnership now holds rights to both *INFESTED* and the as-yet-untitled second book in the series. Adrienne Biddle and Alex Heineman will oversee *Infested* for Rogue Pictures. Valerie Cates, Executive Story Editor, will oversee the project for Random House Films.

INFESTED details a race against escalating terror, as a CIA black-ops specialist and a Center for Disease Control scientist team up in the struggle to contain a parasite that is rapidly spreading across America. This bug’s bite turns ordinary people into crazed serial killers. The trail of corpses – of both the killers and their victims – soon leads to an infected man, Perry Dawsey, fighting a bloody battle for control of his own mind and body. Can Dawsey stave off his – and humanity’s – nightmare?

Steve Ross, Senior Vice President and Publisher, Crown Publishers, commented, “*INFESTED* will be one of our biggest books for next spring, and we are thrilled about our multi-book arrangement with Scott. As both a highly visual storyteller and an innovative online podcaster, he creates pulse-pounding narratives.”

Mr. Karpen and Mr. Rona said, “Readers and listeners worldwide hang on Scott’s every word. *INFESTED* is ideal for the type of smart genre moviemaking that Rogue cultivates.”

Mr. Gethers added, “We’re delighted to partner with Rogue to turn this truly scary and entertaining novel into what surely will be an equally frightening and enjoyable film.”

(more)

Mr. Sigler's previous novels, all of which have been either published as a book or podcast online, include EARTHCORE, ANCESTOR, and THE ROOKIE. He has readers and listeners in nearly three dozen countries, most notably the U.S., the U.K., Germany, and Australia.

Infested is the latest project to evolve from the filmmaking partnership between Crown sister division Random House Films and Rogue sibling company Focus Features. In the multi-year deal announced in November 2005 between Random House, Inc. and Focus Features, the companies will develop movies together and co-finance and co-produce a substantial slate of feature films for theatrical release, all based on books published by Random House imprints in North America and internationally.

Random House Films and Focus jointly acquire film rights for the books and partner together on script development, director selection, all phases of production, and marketing and publicity. Films co-produced by Focus or its sibling company Rogue Pictures with Random House Films will be jointly owned, with Focus holding worldwide distribution and sales rights.

The inaugural film to be made in the partnership is the drama *Reservation Road*, which Focus will release this fall, based on the novel of the same name by John Burnham Schwartz and directed by Terry George. The film stars Joaquin Phoenix, Mark Ruffalo, Jennifer Connelly, and Mira Sorvino, and is in post-production.

Rogue Pictures (www.roguepictures.com) is devoted to producing and distributing high-quality suspense, action, thriller, comedy, and urban entertainment with mainstream appeal and franchise potential.

In addition to *Infested*, current and upcoming Rogue Pictures releases include Edgar Wright's *Hot Fuzz*, the action comedy hit from the *Shaun of the Dead* team; Robert Ben Garant and Thomas Lennon's *Balls of Fury*, starring Dan Fogler, Christopher Walken, George Lopez, and Maggie Q; Bryan Bertino's *The Strangers*, starring Liv Tyler and Scott Speedman; and Neil Marshall's *DOOMSDAY*, starring Rhona Mitra, Bob Hoskins, and Malcolm McDowell.

Focus Features and Rogue Pictures are part of NBC Universal, one of the world's leading media and entertainment companies in the development, production, and marketing of entertainment, news, and information to a global audience. Formed in May 2004 through the combining of NBC and Vivendi Universal Entertainment, NBC Universal owns and operates a valuable portfolio of news and entertainment networks, a premier motion picture company, significant television production operations, a leading television stations group, and world-renowned theme parks. NBC Universal is 80% owned by General Electric and 20% owned by Vivendi.

Random House, the world's largest trade book publisher, publishes many of the foremost and most popular fiction and nonfiction authors in hardcover, trade and mass market paperback, audio, electronic, digital, and other formats.

Random House, Inc. (www.randomhouse.com) is the U.S. division of Random House, the book division of Bertelsmann AG, one of the world's leading media companies. Books published by Random House, Inc. have won more than fifty Nobel Prizes, as well as dozens of Pulitzer Prizes, and National Book Awards. Among the dozens of Random House, Inc. publishing divisions and imprints in the U.S. are the Bantam Dell Publishing Group, the Crown Publishing Group, the Doubleday Broadway Publishing Group, the Knopf Publishing Group, Fodor's Travel Guides, Random House Children's Books, the Random House Publishing Group, and the Random House Audio Publishing Group. Random House's publishing companies in Canada, the United Kingdom, Germany, Spain, Latin America, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Japan, and Korea are publishing leaders in their territories.

#