



Jeffrey Robinson

Born in Long Beach, New York, Jeffrey started selling freelance articles & stories to small magazines in 1965, several months before his 15th birthday. His first cheque was for a 2-page spread in the comedy magazine **Cracked** (a poor man's Mad) for which he was paid \$30. At the same time, he began covering high school sports for two home town weeklies, the **Long Beach Progress** & the **Nassau Star**.

While attending Temple University in Philadelphia, he wrote for television & radio; he was a staff writer at KYW-TV3, scripted a popular local children's show called **Sunny Dee & Snoopy** & was on the writing staff of **The Mike Douglas Show**, a nationally televised daily talk show.

Jeffrey continued working in the media during his four year stint as an Officer in the United States Air Force (1967-1971). Charged with running a press & public relations office for five Generals & three Colonels out of Hancock Field, Syracuse, New York, he hosted a weekly talk show, scripted & directed several film projects, wrote short stories for national magazines & moonlighted as a disc jockey on local WFBL radio.

When his military obligation was completed at the beginning of 1971, Jeffrey took up residence in St. Laurent-du-Var, a small village just west of Nice, in the South of France. Using the French Riviera as his base, he spent the next 12 years travelling around the world, writing articles & short stories for leading North American & British periodicals.

In 1982, now earning his living as an established freelance journalist & short story writer – with more than 600 published articles & stories to his credit – he moved to London where he married the former Aline Benayoun of Antibes, France, started a family & put together a string of British best-selling, non-fiction books including; **The Risk Takers**, **Minus Millionaires**, **Yamani**, **Rainier & Grace & Bardot**.

Jeffrey hit the international scene in 1994/1995 with his investigative tour de force, **The Laundrymen**. Uncovering the true extent of global money laundering, he revealed how hundreds of billions of dirty dollars derived mainly from the drug trade are re-invested throughout the world by otherwise legitimate businessmen, lawyers, accountants & bankers. Still considered the definitive book on the subject & used in universities & law schools as a text, **Business Week** described it as “*an indictment of governments & banks*”.

A headline-maker in 14 countries, the book established him as a recognised expert on organised crime, fraud & money laundering. He has actively maintained that reputation for the past 15 years which led to the British Bankers' Association labelling him, “*the world's most important financial crime author.*”

On the back of **The Laundrymen**, Jeffrey scripted & hosted several television documentaries on money laundering & organised crime, including one for the BBC & another for Arte in France & Germany. Both have been shown in the United States.

In 1998, Jeffrey published a sequel to **The Laundrymen, The Merger – The Conglomeration of International Organised Crime**. In it, he demonstrated the shocking & disturbing lengths that transnational organised criminals go to in order to build multi-national corporations; explained why organised crime is the major beneficiary of globalisation; & illustrated how transnational organised criminals have become the most powerful special interest group on the planet.

Five years after **The Merger**, Jeffrey published another book in this series; **The Sink**, exposing crime, terrorism & dirty money in the offshore world.

Between 1986 & 1994, Jeffrey wrote three major best-selling biographies; **Yamani – The Inside Story**, described by the Wall Street Journal as *“the best book ever written about the oil industry”*; **Rainier & Grace**, the only legitimate biography ever written about & with the co-operation of Monaco’s sovereign family; & **Bardot – Two Lives**, also unique in that it was written with the co-operation of French icon, Brigitte Bardot.

Jeffrey’s other non-fiction titles include; **The Risk Takers** (his first UK best-seller) which highlighted the high-fliers of City finance, recounting their tales of money, ego & power; **Minus Millionaires**, the off-beat sequel to **The Risk Takers** in which he told stories about risk takers who had lost fortunes; **The End of the American Century** which revealed the hidden agendas of the Cold War (writing this book in London, Moscow & Washington, Jeffrey was one of the very first western journalists to gain access to secret archives in the former Soviet Union); **The Hotel**, stories gathered over five months as a fly on the wall in what is, arguably the best hotel in the world; **The Manipulators – A Conspiracy to Make Us Buy**, exposing the marketing world’s *‘hidden persuaders’* 40 years after Vance Packard; & **Prescription Games**, an insider’s view of the global pharmaceutical industry where science & marketing are deliberately kept apart & where, all too often, profit dictates who lives & who dies.

In 2005, he wrote his first *“as told to”* with his old college friend & former Secret Service agent, Joseph Petro; **Standing Next to History – An Agent’s Life Inside the Secret Service**. Two years later, he ghostwrote Ronnie Wood’s auto-biography, **Ronnie**, documenting Wood’s years as a rock star & member of the most famous band in the world, The Rolling Stones. Two years after that, he published his third *“as told to”*, written with the last of the great British tycoons; **Gerald Ronson - Leading From the Front**.

His most recent books are continuations of his investigative crime series: **There’s a Sucker Born Every Minute** – a revelation of audacious frauds, scams & cons - how to spot them, how to stop them. Also **Takedown** – the unlikely demise of Colombia’s brutal Norte Valle cartel.

Jeffrey Robinson has also written five much-praised novels: **Petrov & Other Games** (*“a fast paced, yet marvellously complex story”* – Nelson DeMille); **The Ginger Jar** (*“a gripping spy thriller”* – Richard Condon); **The Margin of the Bulls** (*“disgracefully entertaining”* – Daily Mail); **The Monk’s Disciples** (*“a warmly funny, richly human novel crammed with great characters & wonderful digressions. It’s like going out to dinner with your most entertaining friend & ending up talking till dawn because the company’s so good”* – Val McDermid); & **A True & Perfect Knight** (*“an audaciously plotted comedy of errors with a far-from heroic protagonist & a comic thriller of considerable skill. The dialogue too is a pleasure with wisecracks to equal Elmore Leonard at his most mordant”* – Barry Forshaw).

Jeffrey continues to write for radio & television, has scripted & hosted various projects in the United Kingdom including several Radio 4 documentary series & the much-acclaimed BBC Radio 3 Drama of the Week, **Rossum’s Cyber Café**.

He conceived & wrote the pilot for the British crime drama series **Tightrope** for Yorkshire Television & recently completed the pilot episode for a series on financial crime called **Follow the Money**. Other television scripts include **Sister Banjo & Notice of Claim**. He has scripted a film version of his biography of Brigitte Bardot simply called **Bardot** & a 'made-for-television' movie version of **Standing Next to History**, a dramatic re-telling of the special relationship between the President of the United States (Ronald Regan) & his Secret Service agent (Joseph Petro) called **Ronnie & Joe**.

Jeffrey's magazine credits include; *Playboy, McCalls, Barron's, Gourmet, Cosmopolitan, Reader's Digest, TV Guide, Redbook, True, Ambassador, Diversion, Harper's Mademoiselle & Time Magazine* among others.

His newspaper credits include *The Washington Post, The San Francisco Examiner, The Christian Science Monitor & The International Herald Tribune* for which he was a major contributor of features from 1972 to 1982.

In Britain his featured journalism has appeared in *The Times, The Sunday Times, The Sunday Times Magazine, The Sunday Telegraph, The Sunday Telegraph Magazine, The Sunday Independent, The Mail on Sunday, You Magazine, Harper's & Queen, the Evening Standard Magazine, Cosmopolitan & Marie Claire*, among others.

A frequent guest on television & radio on both sides of the Atlantic, appearances over the past several years have included; *NBC News, ABC News, Good Morning America, CNN, Fox News, BBC Breakfast, BBC Newsnight, ITN Evening News, the ITN News Channel, Channel 4 News, CBC, CNBC, Sky News, BBC World, Bloomberg, NBC's Today Show & Larry King Live*.

Jeffrey is also a popular after dinner & keynote speaker in Europe & North America & winner of the coveted Benedictine Award, **After Dinner Speaker of the Year 1990**.

In 2007, after 35 years in Europe he & his wife Aline moved back to New York to be with their now grown up children, although Jeffrey commutes back & forth to London on a monthly basis.

2010 marks the 50th year that Jeffrey Robinson has been writing professionally.

**For more information on Jeffrey Robinson,
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