



BRIAN GOMEZ
Devil's Place

Fiction Mystery
350 pp.
Origin: Malaysia

ABOUT THE STORY: Ning Somprasong, a prostitute whose nickname is Devil, gave up working the streets of Thailand for the more tolerable hotel rooms of Kuala Lumpur. Terry Fernandez is a struggling musician who's marrying up and trading the life he loves for a world he can't understand but where he finally has the chance to find a true job. When he finds his friends dead in his hotel room on the night of his bachelor party, he naturally thinks the Minister of Education – whose daughter he is supposed to marry - is trying to kill him. And he flees, together with Ning, who has just killed a perverse client who turns up to be a terrorist. And more: Chua Chee Ming has been spouting crazy conspiracy theories to anyone who suffers the

misfortune of getting into his cab. He thinks the CIA and the Government are trying to kill him because of his theories on human cloning. Julio Chavez of the CIA hated his posting in Malaysia, until the dead terrorist is found in the hotel room. He thinks the Chinese Communist Party is involved somehow. Suleiman Salleh is back in Malaysia after hiding out in Indonesia for several years. The Most Wanted Man in South-East Asia is on a very important mission but he thinks he's being stalked by a homosexual. Fellatio Lim Boon Fatt is Ning's pimp, who thinks the name Fellatio means the Greek God of Power and Wish-dom. Along with a jaded ex-bouncer, a sleazy cop and an old man who's looking for his cat, these people find themselves in the middle of The War on Terror, where nothing is what they think it is...

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Brian Gomez, born 1975, is a successful journalist in his home country, Malaysia, and a successful blogger in the net world. *Devil's Place* is his first novel.

PRESS REVIEWS:

"This debut novel made me nostalgic for the time I was young and saw *Pulp Fiction* on its opening day. The day after that I saw it again, twice." *Malay Mail Review*

"Seriously funny." A reader, *Star blog*

"Hilarious, rib-tickling adventure with political intrigue, murder, conspiracy and love. A must-read not because it's written by a Malaysian author but because it is written so damn well." *Faces Magazine Review*

"Gomez demonstrates a splendid gift for balancy between characters in a jolly fashion. A sparkling story." *Susan Abrams Review*

FOCUS ON:

- The story is soon going to become a movie.
- A black comedy reminding of the Tarantino movies e and of the recent successful novel *Beat the reaper* by Josh Bazell, a best-seller in 2009.
- A young and biting new author from a literarily new country.
- An novel based in less-known city like Kuala Lumpur, among its melting-pot of languages, cultures, traditions, stereotypes.