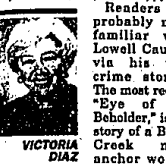


## BOOKS

# Journalist's first novel engrossing thriller

Dark Rage  
By Lowell Cauffiel  
(Plinnac, \$5.99, 349 pp)



VICTORIA  
DIAZ

Readers are probably most familiar with Lowell Cauffiel via his true crime stories. The most recent, "Eye of the Beholder," is the story of a Battle Creek news anchor woman murdered by her husband. "Dark Rage" is the chosen writer's first novel, and though it may not match the depth of the true crime accounts, it has its moments and makes for an engrossing, even eye-opening read. It's a novel that will keep you reading it while winging across the friendly skies, however, especially if you feel more secure with

both feet firmly planted on terra firma. The story opens in a Detroit suburb on the day before Thanksgiving as a deeply disturbed Vietnam veteran coolly and methodically shoots his wife in the head with a Mini-Master Black Widow .22 revolver. Soon after, he's packed three more revolvers, one rifle, and four boxes of ammo and headed for Detroit Metro Airport. It's the busiest flying day of the year, and he's chosen the time carefully. Laurel King, a disgruntled air traffic controller and quintessential control freak, is clearly a man with a score to settle. We will see what it is, and the bizarre way he intends to settle it. Much of this book's strength lies in Cauffiel's extensive background research, which lends substantial plausibility and

immediacy to the story. By the time you've finished reading, you may feel almost as if you could recognize an air traffic controller on sight. Also, you may feel as if you could sit down in one of those dimly lit airport towers and do a little air traffic controlling yourself. You'll know how ground traffic is handled via planes newly aloft vs. planes leaving Detroit's air space. You'll learn how different objects are represented by slightly varying shades of green on that flashing radar scope. You'll find out just how much redundancy is at work in a control tower, what happens to avoid disaster when a radar system fails, what's available for back-up even when all else fails. You'll also get a crash course in police work, too — especially what goes on during a hostage situation these days. Although

airport/police jargon and countless acronyms get in the way occasionally, Cauffiel has a way of weaving in most of the information so that it's a seamless part of the nail-biting drama. Some crackling dialogue and straight-forward prose go far to keep things moving apace, although the story is at times hindered by a scatter-shot format that can be so confusing as the overworked cast. Some players (tough-talking union boss, thick-headed cop, loquacious Hispanic, womanizing airline pilot etc.) seem too much like types straight out of central casting. Cauffiel's leading men fare better. The explosive Krink (nicknamed, appropriately, "Bat") is a rather complex villain with a heartbreaking past, painted not in blacks and whites, but in shades of gray. The author's insight into a twisted

mind and how a murderous fantasy can take shape there is fascinating and altogether convincing, making the bad guy ultimately the most credible character in the story. Krink's main nemesis, Detective Sgt. Jack Riker (of the Metro Airport Police), has his own shades of gray, plus plenty of rough edges, too. In a sense, these two are opposite sides of the same battered coin. Weapon-carrying, 46-year-old Vietnam vets, scarred by alcohol, they are nostalgia prone loners traveling different routes — one the cop, one the criminal. Each is marked, above all, by a singular dedication and attachment to his work. Probably due in large part to his experience as a journalist and a true crime writer, Cauffiel possesses a special knack for working real-life events into a

tale of fiction. Here, most notably, Metro Airport's Flight 255 disaster and its aftermath plays a significant role. If you've ever visited the Nomad's travel club hangar at Metro (which served as a temporary morgue after the crash), you may never look at it quite the same way after reading of it here. Though comments about printing glitches in the production of a book rarely find their way into a book review, I feel obligated to remark on it here since it's so appallingly extensive on these pages. Actually, I've never seen anything quite like this. Did nothing with a pulse proof this copy? Such a cavalier approach to words on the part of a major publisher may not be illegal, but it should be. Victoria Diaz is a Livonia freelance writer who specializes in writing about books and theater.

## Family, dead-end job are 'What's Eating Gilbert Grape'

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
STAFF WRITER

Working at a dead end job and caring for members of a really screwed up family are the some of the answers to the title of the gentle 1993 film "What's Eating Gilbert Grape."

An auburn-haired Johnny Depp plays Gilbert, who works at the local grocery store in his small hometown. Business has been pretty slow at the small store ever since the big new supermarket opened out on the interstate. Gilbert's the kind of guy who will reassure his worried boss that their customers

will be back once the novelty wears off the new store. Gilbert has a mentally handicapped younger brother Arnie, played by Leonardo DiCaprio. Arnie has a bad habit of climbing the town water tower. That creates a little excitement in town as the police and fire department turn out to get the boy down. It did occur to me, but apparently not to anyone in the fictional town, that it might have been a good idea to secure the ladder or other access to the tower to stop

this from happening. At home is Gilbert's mother, a morbidly obese woman who hasn't left the house in seven years. She spends all of her time on the couch — the family carries a table to her for their meals. Directed by Lasse Hallstrom, "What's Eating Gilbert Grape" is really a series of often touching vignettes about a family that is torturously fractured and simultaneously very closely tied together. It's a very low key character-driven film. Gilbert is particularly conflicted about his family. He loves his

brother, yet at times would like nothing better than to be free of him. The same is true with his mother. He loves her, and still helps the neighborhood kids peek at her through a window. Much as he does in the recent "Donnie Brasco," Depp serves as a very good straight man at the center of a story. Gilbert's not the flashy or overtly emotional character. He is a very decent person trying to take care of everyone else. A housewife with whom Gilbert is having an affair, played by Mary Steenburgen, sums him up. She says she

chose Gilbert because she knew he would never leave. Darlene Cates plays the mother, once a very pretty young woman, with a great deal of dignity. She knows what a burden she is to her children, something

she never intended to happen. In a performance less manner than most of her work, Juliette Lewis plays a young woman visiting town who befriends Gilbert. Though her Gilbert starts to see some other possibilities for life.

### VIDEO

**TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CLARENCEVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE PUBLIC THAT A PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST OF THE VOTING OF THE BALLOTS WILL BE HELD TO TABULATE THE BALLOTS CAST IN THE UPCOMING JUNE 9 ANNUAL ELECTION, TEST WILL BEGIN AT 10 A.M., CLARENCEVILLE COMMUNITY EDUCATION, 20165 MIDLEBELL ROAD, JUNE 4, PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY CLARENCEVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT.  
Publish: June 1, 1997

**CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
**PROPOSED**  
**FISCAL YEAR 1997-98**  
**GENERAL FUND SPECIAL REVENUE AND**  
**DEBT SERVICE FUND BUDGETS**  
In conformity with Article VI, Section 6.04 of the City Charter and Section 16 of the Uniform Budget and Accounting Act (MCL 141.436), notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, June 9, 1997 at the City of Farmington Hills, 31555 Eleven Mile Road. All interested persons will be provided an opportunity to present oral or written comments regarding the following proposed 1997-98 General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Debt Service Funds, Capital Improvement Fund and Enterprise Fund Budgets. Fiscal 1996-97 budgets and the 1996 Property Tax Rate will be adopted at the Council meeting on June 9, 1997.  
1997-98  
PROPOSED  
GENERAL FUND BUDGET

REVENUES	
Property Tax Revenue	\$21,270,025
Grants	85,000
State Shared Revenue	9,434,000
Licenses & Permits	1,387,400
Charges for Goods and Services	2,258,185
Interest Income	1,117,000
Recreation Fees	110,000
Fines & Forfeitures	2,102,915
Appropriations From Reserves	200,000
Contributions From Other Funds	100,000
	<u>\$35,772,360</u>
EXPENDITURES	
General Government & Administration	\$ 5,771,404
Boards & Commissions	741,187
District Court	1,755,441
Library	2,381,963
Police Department	11,837,945
Fire Department	2,012,918
Public Services	2,154,783
Interfund Transfers	7,230,266
	<u>\$35,772,360</u>

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed fiscal 1997-98 budget will be subject of this hearing and is allocated as follows:

General Operating	7.2193
Drain and Capital	0.5377
Debt Within Charter	0.9080
Voted Parks	0.5000
Voted Public Safety	1.0000
Total Proposed Fiscal	
1997-98 Tax Rate	<u>10.1650</u>

The City has authority to levy this millage through its Charter or voter approval.

A copy of this information, the entire proposed budget and additional background materials are available for public inspection starting on May 9, 1997 at the City Clerk's Office, City Hall 31555 W. 11 Mile Road, Farmington Hills, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays; the Farmington Hills Branch Library, 52737 W. 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills, from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday; also at the Farmington Branch Library, 24100 Liberty Street, Farmington, from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

KATHRYN A. DORNAN, City Clerk

Publish: May 29 and June 1, 1997

**CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS**  
**31555 ELEVEN MILE ROAD**  
**FARMINGTON HILLS, MI 48336-1165**  
**(810) 474-6116**  
**ADVERTISEMENT**

The City of Farmington Hills Purchasing Division will solicit sealed bids during the next forty-five (45) days for the following products and/or services:

- 1997 Cube/Utility Van
- Vertical Storage File for Mylar Plans
- Portable Lavatories
- Steel Frame Park Shelter
- Programmable Refrigerant Management System
- Nutrition Department Shelving

Specifications may be obtained by contacting the Central Services Department. All bids must be submitted in accordance with the bid specifications. The City of Farmington Hills reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, either in part or in whole, to waive any formalities and to accept the bid which it believes to be in the best interest of the City.

KATHRYN A. DORNAN, City Clerk

**Farmington Hills City Hall**  
**31555 Eleven Mile Road**  
**Farmington Hills, MI 48336**  
**(810) 473-9543**  
**PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**  
**ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT**

DATE: JUNE 19, 1997  
TIME: 7:30 P.M.  
PLACE: Farmington Hills City Hall  
31555 Eleven Mile Road  
Farmington Hills, MI 48336  
ITEM: Zoning Text Amendment 2, 1997  
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Farmington Hills Planning Commission will give formal consideration to a proposed text amendment of the Farmington Hills City Code, Chapter 34, Zoning Chapter, which amendment will amend Article XXII, Section 34-539. (Tree Protection, Removal and Replacement)

1. The proposal will amend the section addressing "Tree Protection, Removal and Replacement" within the City.

Any person who is interested in this amendment is invited to attend and participate in the public hearing discussions. Complete Zoning Chapter and Text are available for purchase and/or inspection during regular business hours at the Planning Department.

DALE A. COUNTEGAN, Director  
Planning & Community Development  
City of Farmington Hills

Publish: June 1, 1997

**Farmington Hills City Hall**  
**31555 Eleven Mile Road**  
**Farmington Hills, MI 48336**  
**(810) 473-9543**  
**CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**  
**ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT**

DATE: JUNE 18, 1997  
TIME: 7:30 P.M.  
PLACE: Farmington Hills City Hall  
31555 Eleven Mile Road  
Farmington Hills, MI 48336  
ITEM: Zoning Text Amendment 3, 1997  
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Farmington Hills City Council will give formal consideration to a proposed text amendment of the Farmington Hills City Code, Chapter 34, Zoning Chapter, which amendment will amend Article I, Section 34-3; Article XII, Section 34-278; XIV Section 34-353; Article XV, Section 34-358; Article XVII, Section 34-414 and Section 34-415; Article XVIII, Section 34-438; Article XIX, Section 34-483; Article XXII, Section 34-560; Article XXIII, Section 34-581; and Article XXIV, Section 34-608 and Section 34-609. A summary of said amendment is as follows:

1. An ordinance to regulate personal wireless communication facilities.

Any person who is interested in this amendment is invited to attend and participate in the public hearing discussions. Complete Zoning Chapter and Text are available for purchase and/or inspection during regular business hours at the Planning Department.

DALE A. COUNTEGAN, Director  
Planning & Community Development  
City of Farmington Hills

Publish: June 1, 1997

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST**  
**FOR REGULAR ELECTION**  
**MONDAY, JUNE 9, 1997**  
**FARMINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**COUNTY OF OAKLAND, MICHIGAN**  
TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF FARMINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a Public Accuracy Test will be taken by the Farmington Public School District for the June 9, 1997 Regular Election. This test is to demonstrate the accuracy of the Optical Scan tabulation procedures used on election night. The test will be taken on June 4, 1997, at 2:00 p.m., at the City Clerk's Office, City of Farmington Hills, 31555 W. Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills, Michigan.  
Publish: June 1, 1997

**Farmington Hills City Hall**  
**31555 Eleven Mile Road**  
**Farmington Hills, MI 48336**  
**(810) 473-9543**  
**PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**  
**ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT**

DATE: JUNE 19, 1997  
TIME: 7:30 P.M.  
PLACE: Farmington Hills City Hall  
31555 Eleven Mile Road  
Farmington Hills, MI 48336  
ITEM: Zoning Text Amendment 1, 1997  
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Farmington Hills Planning Commission will give formal consideration to a proposed text amendment of the Farmington Hills City Code, Chapter 34, Zoning Chapter, which amendment will amend Article XXII, Section 34-533. (Landscaping)

1. The proposal will amend the section addressing landscape requirements for developments within the city.

Any person who is interested in this amendment is invited to attend and participate in the public hearing discussions. Complete Zoning Chapter and Text are available for purchase and/or inspection during regular business hours at the Planning Department.

DALE A. COUNTEGAN, Director  
Planning & Community Development  
City of Farmington Hills

Publish: June 1, 1997

**FARMINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**NOTICE OF REGULAR ELECTION**  
NOTICE OF THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF FARMINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT, IN THE COUNTY OF OAKLAND, STATE OF MICHIGAN:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Regular School Election has been called to be held in Farmington Public School District, County of Oakland, and State of Michigan, on Monday, the 9th day of June, 1997, for the purpose of electing two (2) members to the Board of Education, each for a term of four (4) years, expiring June 30, 2001, for which the following persons have been nominated:

Mark H. Clevey  
Roberta (Bobbie) Feldman  
Frank L. Reid

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that all duly qualified and registered electors may vote at said election. The polls for said election will be open from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M., Eastern Daylight Savings Time, and the voting places for the precincts will be as follows:

Precinct No. 1:	Longacre Elementary School 54500 Arundel Street
Precinct No. 2:	William Grace Elementary School 29040 Shawanawee Street East Middle School
Precinct No. 3:	29500 Middlebelt Road Warner Middle School
Precinct No. 4:	30303 W. Fourteen Mile Road Dunkirk Middle School
Precinct No. 5:	32300 Twelve Mile Road Forest Elementary School
Precinct No. 6:	34545 Old Timber Road Hillside Elementary School
Precinct No. 7:	38801 W. Eleven Mile Road Gill Elementary School
Precinct No. 8:	31105 Gill Road

NOTICE REGARDING APPLICATIONS FOR ABSENTEE BALLOTS.  
Applications for absentee ballots are available at the Lewis Schulman Administrative Center, 32500 Shawanawee, Farmington, Michigan, during regular business hours on the weekdays beginning Tuesday, May 20, 1997 through Friday, June 6, 1997. The Administrative Center will also be open on Saturday, June 7, 1997 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. "Emergency absentee voter application" requests may be made up until 4:00 p.m. on Monday, June 9, 1997. Applications for absentee ballots will also be mailed to individual qualified electors, upon request made to Judy Stinebaugh at 483-5341.

This notice is given by order of the Board of Education of said school district.

BOBBIE FELDMAN,  
Secretary, Board of Education

Board Approved: April 16, 1997  
Publish: May 20 and June 1, 1997