

Novelist and Writing Coach John DeDakis is a former Senior Copy Editor on CNN's "The Situation Room with Wolf Blitzer." DeDakis (pronounced deh-DAY-kiss) is the author of five novels in the Lark Chadwick mystery-suspense-thriller series: *Fast Track*, *Bluff*, *Troubled Water*, *Bullet in the Chamber*, and *Fake*.

Bullet in the Chamber is the winner of Reviewers Choice, Foreword INDIES, and Feathered Quill book awards. In his most recent novel, *Fake*, protagonist Lark Chadwick is a White House correspondent dealing with “fake news” in the era of #MeToo. *Fake* earned Honorable Mention for the Reviewers Choice Award and was a Finalist for two book awards: Killer Nashville’s Silver Falchion, and the CLUE Award sponsored by the Chanticleer International Book Awards (CIBA).

During his award-winning 45-year career in journalism (25 years at CNN), DeDakis has been a White House Correspondent and interviewed such luminaries as Alfred Hitchcock, Jimmy Carter, and Ronald Reagan.

DeDakis is a writing coach, manuscript editor, writing workshop leader, and has taught journalism at the University of Maryland – College Park, and American University in Washington, D.C. He has also taught broadcast news writing in CNN’s Washington bureau.

DeDakis is also the host of the video podcast “One-to-One with John DeDakis” on YouTube.

DeDakis has led writing workshops at the Politics & Prose Bookstore in Washington; The Writer’s Center in Bethesda, Maryland; The Loft Literary Center in Minneapolis; The Muse in Norfolk, Virginia; and at the Chautauqua Institution in southern New York. In 2013 he was the Writer in Residence at the Callenwolde Fine Arts Center in Atlanta. In 2021 he was a keynote speaker at the Colorado Gold Writer’s Conference in Denver.

He has led immersive writing workshops in County Donegal, Ireland, and aboard the Coral Princess on an 11-day cruise to the Panama Canal.

Website: www.johndedakis.com