



Suggested Interview Questions ***The Kremlin Conspiracy***

- 1) After 17 years of writing about the threats posed by Radical Islamist terrorists in the Middle East, why the switch to writing about Russia?
- 2) How did your family's history impact the writing of *The Kremlin Conspiracy*?
- 3) Why do you believe Vladimir Putin is so dangerous?
- 4) What do you believe Putin wants, and how far do you think he would go to get it?
- 5) You recently commissioned a poll in which 71 percent of Americans said they believe Putin and Russia pose "a clear and present danger" to our security and that of our allies. Why do you feel this concern continues to be overshadowed?
- 6) How would you characterize the U.S. relationship with Putin and Russian leaders under President Trump?
- 7) In the novel, you characterize U.S. and NATO leaders as politically divided, unsure how to respond to Moscow's growing aggression, and at risk of being blind-sided by a new Kremlin military move. Is this fiction, or is this really how you see the situation?
- 8) What should U.S. and NATO leaders be doing to counter the growing threat posed by the Kremlin?
- 9) You spent many years in Washington helping political leaders communicate their messages. Why did you shift to writing political thrillers? And why do you feel it's important to use fiction as a way of connecting with the popular culture?
- 10) One of the central themes of your novels is this thought, "To misunderstand the nature and threat of evil is to risk being blindsided by it." What do you mean by that statement, and why does it drive so much of your work as an author?