

Writers House

21 W. 26 ST., NEW YORK, N.Y. 10010 • PHONE (212) 685-2400 • FAX (212) 685-1781

February 5, 1999

By Fax

Mr. Ken Follett
London

Dear Ken,

After our last conversation, I did some further thinking about your outline, and I have a suggestion which I hope you'll like.

Luke suspects but does not know for sure that there is a spy or who the spy is, so that he must do all the digging around which you now have him doing. But at the same time he knows that if Anthony discovers that his memory has returned, he is in mortal danger. Thus, to protect himself he must pretend on the one hand to be doing all sorts of things to try and regain his memory while on the other hand he secretly struggles to chase down the espionage danger and who is behind it. Mixed in with this could be an encounter he has with Anthony or one of his minions who seek to reassure themselves that Luke still is suffering from amnesia. It would be fascinating, I think, to have him playing a "double game" with his both old friend and principal antagonist. One of the things you're going to need for him is jeopardy that is palpable.

Claire and I are delighted to be invited to your birthday celebration, and we are planning to come. We'll probably stay over Saturday night, so do let us know the name of a nearby inn so that we can reserve.

Warmest Wishes,
Al

P.S. I had a nice lunch with Larry Hughes who still edits Sidney Sheldon and who sends his regards.

Sent via fax modem

PG's comments on the 1st draft outline of *A Deadly Remembrance*

Phone conversation 17 December 1998

1. Luke should be more pro-active in causing the happy solution. In particular, he should be responsible for the repeated postponement of the launch. The weather story is the official version Americans have always been given, but this is the true story behind that.
2. Dramatic high-tension scenes at Cape Canaveral throughout the book, not just at the end.
3. Anthony becomes a spy too easily. He and the others should have a philosophical commitment to communism. Then the incident with his father should push him over the edge. We have to respect their reasons for becoming spies.
4. Tara should be more of a good guy. Maybe she is working on the amnesia treatment and having grave doubts about the ethics, but she does not actually administer the treatment. Somehow Elspeth steals the drug and does the dirty work. Then Tara can still feel dreadfully guilty when she finds out what has happened, but she is not really responsible.

When the book is over we want to feel that Luke and Tara have a future together.
5. Is it too hokey that Tara marries Bernie?
6. Remember that, as well as excitement, KF always brings more to the table in a thriller.
7. Number 21 Dec to 2 Jan is 508 693 5310