MEDIA KIT

Due North

A Political Thriller

by Tim Trott

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1. Book at a Glance

Title	Due North
Author	Tim Trott
Genre	Political Thriller / Espionage / Military
BISAC	FIC006000 Espionage (primary); FIC031060 Political; FIC031050 Military
Structure	22 chapters; alternating points of view between a Canadian special forces officer and a CIA investigator
Setting	Ottawa; Detroit and Windsor; Reykjavik; an unnamed European coast
Audience	Adult readers of literary espionage, political suspense, and special-operations thrillers
Content	Restrained, interior thriller; tactical action without graphic violence or explicit content
Copyright	© 2026 Tim Trott.
Publication date	[TBA]
Formats / ISBN	PB: 978-1-967047-30-7 EB: 978-1-967047-31-4
Price	PB: [$] TBA EB: [$] TBA
Page count	141
Where to buy	TBA

One-Line Pitch

A decorated Canadian special forces officer is handed genuine intelligence in a manufactured frame and leads a team toward an unsanctioned operation against a sitting American president.

Short Pitch (50 words)

Major Sophie Duchamp receives a dossier of genuine intelligence pointing to a threat her government will not face. She builds a team to act on it. The target is a sitting American president. The evidence is real. Its frame was built by someone who profits from her certainty.

2. Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Central Florida Author Tim Trott Turns the Tables in Political Thriller Due North

A le Carré-style novel follows a Canadian special forces officer drawn into a plot against a sitting US president

CENTRAL FLORIDA, [DATE] -- The United States has already shown it will seize a foreign head of state. Author and podcast host Tim Trott's new novel, *Due North*, asks the question that follows: what if the tables were reversed?

Major Sophie Duchamp is a decorated officer with JTF2, Canada's elite counter-terrorism unit. After a successful mission ends her career for political reasons, a trusted former mentor shows her a dossier. Every document in it is genuine, and together they point to a threat against Canadian sovereignty that Ottawa refuses to confront.

Duchamp builds a team and a plan. Sentinel Strategic Group, a private intelligence contractor that profits from friction between allies, has given her real intelligence in a false frame. Across the border, CIA officer Marcus Webb has spent eighteen months building a racketeering case against Sentinel, and he is closer to Duchamp's operation than she knows.

"Sentinel never lies to her," Trott said. "They curate. The most dangerous manipulation uses only true things, and the more competent the target, the better it works."

Written in the tradition of John le Carré, *Due North* moves between Duchamp and Webb, converging on a single night beneath a Detroit arena during a presidential rally.

The book arrives as Canada-US relations face renewed strain over trade and sovereignty. "It's a book about certainty," Trott said. "About how a patriot can be steered into the very thing she would once have stopped."

Due North is available [TBD] in [TBD] formats. Review copies and author interviews are available on request.

About Tim Trott

Tim Trott is an author, publisher, and creative director based in Central Florida. He writes across genres including science fiction alien thrillers, political suspense, and paranormal mystery, and hosts the *@AuthorToAuthor* podcast on YouTube. Learn more at TimTrottWrites.com.

3. Book Description

Back-Cover Hook

THE US KIDNAPPED A FOREIGN PRESIDENT. WHAT IF THE TABLES WERE REVERSED?

A Political Thriller about the price of truth, the cost of justice, and the thin line between patriotism and treason.

Back-Cover Copy

Major Sophie Duchamp has spent her career being right about difficult things. A JTF2 officer from a third-generation military family in Québec City, she leads a clean extraction on a cold European coast and comes home to an inquiry. The mission worked. Its diplomatic optics did not. She is stood down.

From the sidelines, she watches the relationship between Canada and the United States fray in intelligence she is still cleared to read. Ottawa's answer is patience. Hers is something else.

A former mentor, now working as a private analyst, shows her a document over drinks. Then another. Then a dossier. Duchamp verifies every page independently, and every page holds. Piece by piece she recruits a team: a loyal second-in-command, a young corporal who still believes in everything, a professional who asks no unnecessary questions, an Icelandic hacker who thinks he is auditing arena security, and an extraction coordinator with an immaculate résumé.

Across the border, CIA officer Marcus Webb has spent eighteen months on Sentinel Strategic Group, a contractor that sells threat assessments to allied governments and earns more when allies distrust each other. He knows what Sentinel does. He does not yet know who they have recruited, or for what.

The two investigations converge on Detroit, on the night of a presidential rally, in the service corridors beneath a crowded arena. Everything Duchamp believes is true. The question is who arranged it, and why.

4. What Makes This Book Different

- **A villain who never lies.** Sentinel never fabricates evidence. It strips true documents of context and lets a competent officer reach the wrong conclusion on her own.
- **The view from the smaller ally.** American thrillers rarely tell the story from Canada's side of the border. Duchamp's grievance is real, and it is exactly what Sentinel exploits.
- **Ripped from a real precedent.** The United States has seized a sitting foreign president. *Due North* inverts that event and asks whether a close ally could talk itself into the same logic.
- **A thriller of the mind.** In the le Carré tradition, the tension lives inside the characters. Action sequences carry the clinical economy of an operational debrief.
- **Five recruits, five reasons.** Each member of Duchamp's team follows her for a different motive: loyalty, belief, professionalism, compartmentalization, and something colder.
- **Private intelligence under the microscope.** Sentinel is fiction. The business model it represents, contractors who profit from prolonged tension, is a live policy question.
- **No partisan agenda.** The president in the novel is deliberately generic. The subject is how certainty is manufactured.

5. Meet the Cast

Character	Who They Are
Major Sophie Duchamp	JTF2 officer in her early forties from Québec City, third-generation military. Decorated, precise, and unable to tolerate a system slower than the threat it faces.
Marcus Webb	Career CIA officer in his mid-fifties and Duchamp's former handler on a joint operation. Eighteen months into a racketeering case against Sentinel Strategic Group.
Staff Sgt. David Chen	Duchamp's second-in-command, late thirties, from Vancouver and former signals intelligence. He follows out of loyalty to Duchamp rather than belief in the mission.
Cpl. Yusuf Kilani	The youngest on the team at 26, from Toronto, decorated for valour. He still believes in everything, which is its own vulnerability.
Cpl. Jean-Luc Préfontaine	Breacher and logistics specialist in his mid-thirties from Montréal, formerly RCMP emergency response. A professional who has learned not to ask.
Björn Sigurðsson	Remote technical operator, a Reykjavik hacker in his late twenties who believes he is doing routine security consulting.
Elena Vasquez	Extraction coordinator in her early forties with a career in Canadian diplomatic security behind her.

The Setting

The novel moves from Ottawa's featureless government buildings to the postindustrial border city of Detroit, economically bound to Windsor across the river. Its climax plays out in the service tunnels beneath Little Caesars Arena during a presidential rally, with the Ambassador Bridge, the busiest land crossing in North America, as escape route, trap, and the road home.

6. Comparable Titles

Due North sits between literary espionage and the commercial special-operations thriller: le Carré's moral seriousness with a tactical operation at its core.

Comparable Title	What Readers Will Recognize
John le Carré	Restrained interiority, institutional betrayal, intelligence as moral terrain
Frederick Forsyth, *The Day of the Jackal	A meticulously planned operation against a head of state, procedural detail
Daniel Silva, Gabriel Allon series	Intelligence tradecraft with geopolitical stakes
Vince Flynn, Mitch Rapp series	Special-operations competence and a protagonist who acts outside sanction

The climax turns on a decision rather than a firefight. Readers who come for interior tension will be the book's strongest advocates.

7. About the Author

Short Bio (approx. 50 words)

Tim Trott is an author, publisher, and creative director based in Central Florida. He writes sci-fi alien thrillers, political suspense, and paranormal mystery, and hosts the *@AuthorToAuthor* podcast on YouTube, interviewing writers about craft and publishing. Visit TimTrottWrites.com and YouTube.com/@AuthorToAuthor.

Full Bio

Tim Trott is an author, publisher, and creative director based in Central Florida and the author of 28 books across fiction and nonfiction. His work spans fiction, training materials, and business communication, with a focus on clarity, structure, and reader engagement.

Early influences included the *Hardy Boys* series by Franklin W. Dixon and the works of Aldous Huxley and Robert Heinlein. Today Trott writes across multiple genres, and his novels explore the tension between hidden forces and ordinary people pushed into extraordinary circumstances.

Due North is his first political spy thriller. His other titles include the military science fiction thriller *The E-Team: Project Mogul*, the cozy paranormal mystery *The Psychic Barista*, and the literary science fiction romance *Star Child*.

Trott also hosts the *@AuthorToAuthor* podcast on YouTube, where he interviews fellow writers about craft, process, and the evolving publishing landscape, and he is a licensed FAA Part 107 pilot and FDLE certified UAV instructor.

Website: TimTrottWrites.com

Author photo: high-resolution file available on request

8. Suggested Interview Questions

1. Your villain never fabricates evidence. Why is real intelligence in a false frame more dangerous than a lie?
2. The back cover opens on a real event. How did that precedent shape the novel's premise?
3. Why tell this story from a Canadian officer's point of view?
4. How did you research JTF2 and Canadian special operations?
5. Each member of Duchamp's team is recruited for a different reason. Which one was hardest to write?
6. Marcus Webb lets the operation run longer than he strictly needs to. Is he a hero?
7. Duchamp writes a letter justifying what she is about to do. What role does that letter play?
8. What does the title *Due North* mean to you?
9. You also write science fiction and cozy mystery. What changed when you moved into espionage?
10. As host of *Author to Author*, you interview other writers. What have you learned from them that shaped this book?

9. Book Club and Discussion Questions

1. At what point, if any, did you find yourself agreeing with Duchamp? What changed your mind?
2. Sentinel never lies to Duchamp. Is curating the truth worse than fabricating it?
3. Chen follows Duchamp out of loyalty, Kilani out of belief. Which is more dangerous, and why?
4. How does the Canada-US relationship shape Duchamp's grievance? Is that grievance legitimate?
5. Webb argues that slow institutions are better than the alternative. Does the novel persuade you?
6. What does the safety-deposit letter reveal about Duchamp, and how did your reading of it change by the final page?
7. The title works as a direction and as a moral compass. What does "due north" mean for each of the main characters?

10. Contact and Availability

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Review copies	Available on request (Epub or Paperback formats)
Interviews	Available for podcasts, radio, print, book clubs, and virtual events
Retailers	Amazon, B&N, KOBO, etc. (future reléase)

Available assets on request: high-resolution cover image, author headshot, sell sheet, and excerpt.

Reviewers: the final chapters turn on a single decision. Please avoid revealing how the Detroit operation ends.