

## The Novel

*ABOVE THE WATER* follows the lives of two young lovers—separated by war—endeavoring to survive and find one another again. They are confronted daily by harrowing situations and appalling choices, but they find the will to carry one, no matter the situation or the consequences. Set in Shanghai, Texas, and the Pacific Theater of War, it's a story of love, family, moral ambiguity, and perseverance.

Jody's background as an international affairs expert and an East Asian and Russian scholar helps to embellish the story with wonderful historical detail and colorful cultural references. Partly inspired by family members and by his own experiences living and working in Asia, the novel takes the reader from Pennsylvania and Texas, to pre-war China and the string of jungle islands that served as the backdrop for the horrific battles of the Pacific Theater.

## The Audience

*ABOVE THE WATER* is a story for lovers of timeless romance and for readers who crave insight into East Asia and the Second World War. This historical fiction novel is set primarily in exotic Shanghai on the eve of the global conflict that will envelop the two young lovers, Harry and Viktoria. Separated by war and by the vast Pacific Ocean, their respective journeys to try and reunite will captivate readers of all backgrounds.

Jody is eager to share his novel with his expansive network of friends, colleagues and new fans. A well-received public speaker, Jody regularly presents talks on a variety of topics, including East Asian history and culture, American foreign policy, Russian history and politics, World War II in the Asia-Pacific, and various other topics.

## Reviews

"Jody Ferguson makes great use of this unique city as a backdrop to his story of war, love, and loss... colorfully drawing characters who, like Shanghai itself, are desperately seeking a way out of one world and into the next."

~ James Carter, author of *CHAMPIONS DAY: THE END OF OLD SHANGHAI*

"From its vivid portrayal of Russian expatriate life in China to his stark scenes of men in combat... Jody Ferguson makes us feel we know these people, and their fates are bound up in our own. The author's extensive background in Russia and East Asia lends a rare authenticity to the worlds he surveys."

~ Russell Working, author of *THE IRISH MARTYR*

"*ABOVE THE WATER* is engaging and educational, and you'll feel its thrum on your emotions as well."

~ Dana Frank, author of *THE MOON CAN TELL*

## Author

Jody Ferguson is a native Texan and political-military affairs expert whose numerous articles and books have been published in outlets including *The Wall Street Journal* and *International Herald Tribune*. Specializing in affairs relating to Eurasia, his most recent work was in the Pentagon. Over his 20-plus year career, Jody has lived and worked in four different countries. A Ph.D. in International Relations from the John Hopkins University School, and a Fulbright Fellow in Russia for two years. He speaks and reads Japanese, French, and Russian.

Jody recently left his profession to return home to Austin, Texas home with his wife and children in order to pursue his life-long passion for writing historical fiction and to be closer to his extended Texas family. Many of their colorful life stories are woven into the characters of Jody's books. *ABOVE THE WATER* is his debut novel. Learn more about his journey and his family at [jodyferguson.com](http://jodyferguson.com).

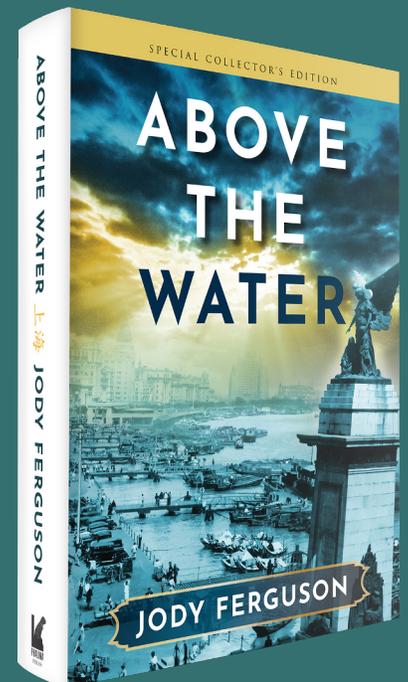
## Publishing

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