

## **Lester Gorn**

A native of Portland, Maine, Lester Gorn has lived and worked in every part of the United States. He has been at various times and in diverse places a longshoreman, a cab driver, a news editor, a ghostwriter, a teacher and a soldier. A combat veteran of World War II, he advanced from squad leader to staff officer assigned to the Defense Department. He taught for many years (story lab, world literature, world drama) at University of California Extension, Monterey Peninsula College and the San Francisco Black Writers' Workshop (its only instructor and sole honky). In the olden days, he put in a stint as book editor and daily columnist of the San Francisco Examiner.

A novel, *The Anglo Saxons*, was based on his experiences as the only American C.O. in the Israeli Army's ground forces during the War of Independence. Under the nom de guerre Ben Zion Hagai, he commanded the 5<sup>th</sup> Troop (Anti-Tank) of the Israel Army, which participated in every major battle of the Negev campaign. His command car was the second vehicle to enter Eilat (then Umm Al-Rashrash), on the Red Sea, the final objective of the Army's drive south. At that time, Eilat—now a resort city of 48,000—consisted of three huts and a flagpole.

The father of four sons, Lester Gorn now lives in Pacific Grove, California, with his beloved wife, Winnie.

## **James N. Frey**

James N. Frey is one of America's leading creative writing teachers. For over fifteen years, he conducted the popular Open Workshop at the Squaw Valley Community of Writers and has run workshops and lectured at dozens of other schools and conferences, including the Oregon Writers Colony, the Santa Barbara Writers Conference, the Heartland Writers, the University of California Extension novel writing workshop, the California Writers Club conference, and many others, both in America and in Europe. He is the author of nine novels and five widely read creative writing guides: *How to Write a Damn Good Novel*, *How to Write a Damn Good Novel II: Advanced Techniques*, *The Key: Writing Damn Good Fiction Using the Power of Myth*, *How to Write a Damn Good Mystery*, and *How to Write a Damn Good Thriller*. He lives on a sailboat with his wife, Liza. Check out his website at [www.jamesnfrey.com](http://www.jamesnfrey.com)

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