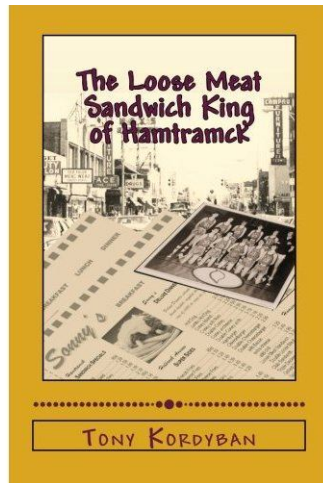


Book Synopsis



**The Loose Meat Sandwich King
of Hamtramck**

by Tony Kordyban

READ FOR FUN

is Tony Kordyban's motto. He wrote this novel to be fun to read, starting with the idea, "What would you do if everybody in town except you was acting insane? And how is that different from every time you visit the old hometown?" He added some off-beat characters inspired by people he grew up with in Detroit, and let them tell their story of a minor skirmish between good and evil.

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Terry Starko is hoping to change his luck by heading to, of all places, Detroit. In the hometown he'd escaped years ago is a promising job interview. Until nine months ago, Terry had the American Dream in his back pocket: the picket-fenced house, wife, kids and career, mostly due to a series of fortunate misunderstandings. Then an outsourced job and an unpaid mortgage threaten to snatch all that away. This new job just might banish the bill collectors and put the brakes on a looming divorce.

Plans to nail the interview get shoved to the back burner as soon as Terry hits Detroit. Everybody is looking for him as if he'd never left town, from his hot new step-mother to some shady characters from the Greek Restaurant Owners Association. It's all connected to the best friend Terry didn't know he had, a guy who sells Chernobyl Tonic Water to old babushka ladies, and who had once started a street gang war over bootleg Colorado beer. Oh, and that best friend was just found dead under suspicious circumstances. It looks like Terry might end up either in a coffin next to his best friend, or as the new Loose Meat Sandwich King of Hamtramck. Which way it goes depends on the confluence of high school basketball, a stripper running for election to the city council, and a crook who's working to fix Detroit, one coffee shop at a time. It's a fun, nostalgic adventure in a town where garage bands compose songs about Richard Nixon based on the Ukrainian national anthem. And finally, it answers the long-pondered question, "What is a loose meat sandwich, anyway?"

Tony Kordyban
566 S. La Londe Avenue
Lombard IL 60148

www.tonykordyban.com
kordyban.books@comcast.net