

| AUTHOR

FROM THE MAILROOM TO THE BESTSELLER LIST:

The Soul Journey of Bill Froehlich

BY BRIAN SCHWARTZ

BILL FROEHLICH DOESN'T JUST TELL STORIES — HE'S LIVED ONE.

A graduate of Ithaca College, where he earned his degree summa cum laude and was mentored by writer-producer Rod Serling (*The Twilight Zone*), Froehlich began his Hollywood career the old-fashioned way: in the Universal Studios mailroom. But even then, he was playing a bigger game. He quietly secured an empty producer's office on the lot, landed interest from Burt Lancaster and Anthony Hopkins on an original treatment for a screenplay, and charmed his way into a real opportunity — all while delivering the mail.

His break came when director Richard Colla, impressed by the resourceful “mailboy,” hired him as associate producer on *Olly, Olly Oxen Free*, starring Katharine Hepburn. A career spanning decades followed.

Froehlich made his feature directorial debut with *Return to Horror High* (1987), a comedy-slasher film he also co-wrote, starring Alex Rocco, Maureen McCormick, and a young George Clooney. The film — a nonlinear, genre-bending spoof about a film crew shooting at the site of an unsolved massacre — was distributed by New World Pictures and went on to become a cult classic, with home video sales that outpaced its theatrical run.

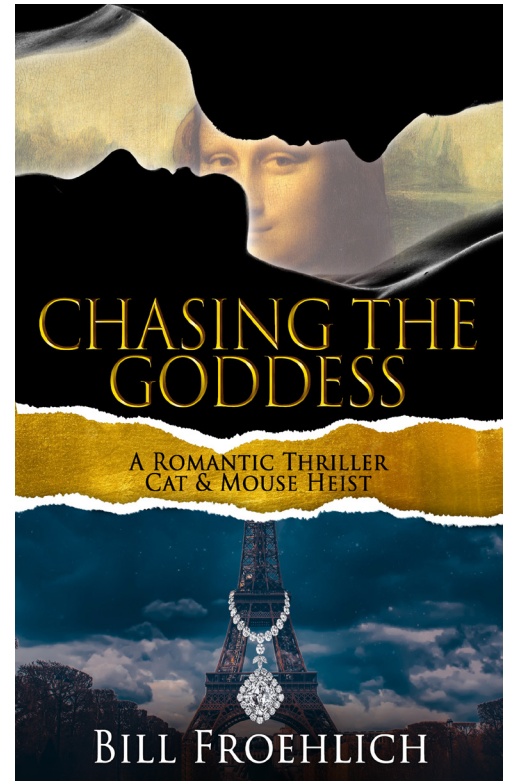
After working at MTM Enterprises, Froehlich became a force in television as a writer-producer. He helped launch the Mike Hammer series starring Stacy Keach, produced *Scarecrow & Mrs. King*, and, as co-showrunner, turned the beloved series *MacGyver* into a long-running hit. He also served as co-executive producer and co-showrunner on *Freddy's Nightmares*, *Poltergeist: The Legacy*, *The Outer Limits*, and *The Sentinel*, and wrote ten television movies, including *If Things Were Different*, starring Suzanne Pleshette, and the final *Hart to Hart* film, with Robert Wagner, Stefanie Powers, and George Hamilton.



On the film side, as a writer, producer, and/or director, he had projects involving Paul Newman, Kurt Russell, Jack Lemmon, Peter Falk, and Ron Howard. His feature documentary *Circuit*, made with Paul Newman about auto racing, has been called “the best movie on racing ever made” by both *Car and Driver* and *Motor Trend*.

His latest endeavor, *Chasing the Goddess*, marks Froehlich's first solo novel and represents the culmination of his decades in Hollywood. This international romantic thriller is described as a “cat-and-mouse heist” that reads with the cinematic pace of a feature film.

The novel explores profound themes, asking specifically how trust functions as the ultimate gamble in a world of deception. Readers have praised the book for its slow-burn romance and action-packed sequences, noting that it captures the sophisticated wit of classics like *The Thomas Crown Affair*. For Froehlich, the book is a “soul journey” that explores the mysteries of life and the yearning for something true to last. By blending high-stakes suspense with a sensitive exploration of identity and “the ghosts we inherit,” Froehlich has crafted a debut novel that is both sensual and captivating. **SLO LIFE**



Coalesce Bookstore in Morro Bay will be hosting a book signing on June 13, from 1-3 pm.
Learn more at BillFroehlich.com.