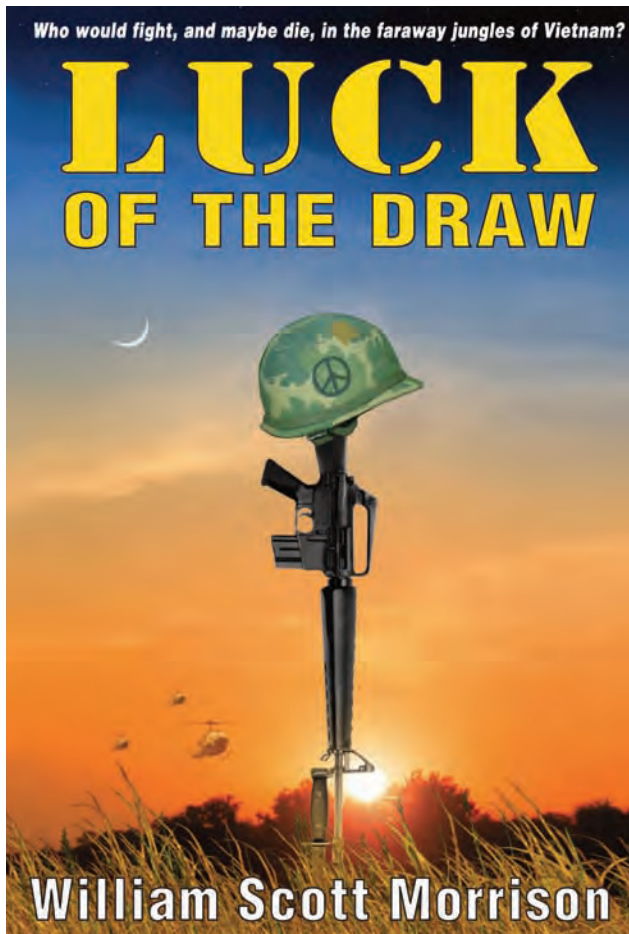


# ***An Era that Changed a Nation***

**Who would fight, and maybe die, in the faraway jungles of Vietnam?**



**Title:** Luck of the Draw  
**Author:** William Scott Morrison  
**Categories:** fiction, historical fiction  
**Format:** trade paperback, 6"x9"  
**Pages:** 324  
**Price:** \$19.99  
**Publication Date:** June 6, 2016  
**ISBN:** 978-0929150-314  
**Other formats:** Kindle, ePub, audio  
**Stocklists:** Amazon, Ingram

## **About the Novel**

*Luck of the Draw* tells the story of what it was like to grow up in an era that defined a generation and changed a nation. From the baseball playgrounds of Little League in the conservative Fifties, to the Summer of Love and the radical Sixties, to the last days of the Vietnam war in the Seventies, it follows the lives of four idealistic boomers looking for love and trying to change the world. Theirs is the story of being young during that turbulent time of Cold War paranoia, civil rights marches, political assassinations, anti-war protests, military conscription and enormous cultural upheavals that included hippies, women's liberation and of course sex and drugs and the greatest rock 'n' roll.

“Having lived many of the events in *Luck of the Draw*, I appreciate Scott Morrison's illuminating those chaotic and confusing times. He's put each scene into the context of well-researched history. This story of four young Americans reveals the impact of the war in Vietnam on personal lives.”

Maxine Hong Kingston  
National Book Award Winner

## **About the Author**

Now in his late youth, William “Scott” Morrison channels his lifelong interest in politics and history into telling the story of the times through fiction. *Luck of the Draw*, his second novel, follows the lives of the same characters who in his first novel *The Energy Caper, or Nixon in the Sky with Diamonds*, live and love in a world where there was no Vietnam war. A native of Pennsylvania, he lives quietly with his wife in the wine country of California.





Castalia Communications P.O. Box 2503 Petaluma, CA 94953 • 800-777-9977 • fax 800-752-7730 • [www.castaliapub.com](http://www.castaliapub.com)

Dear Friends and Frenemies,

Dec. 28, 2015

I saw a quote not long ago by a writer who said, “Hell is self-promotion.” This note and the accompanying links are my first steps down that path.

I’m sending this to anyone whose email I have who has ever known me, from second grade through high school, college, the army, my vagabond era as well as personally or in business in more recent decades. Some of you will not remember me at all, others may wish you didn’t. Many I’ve known only on line, or exchanged business cards at a trade show. Apologies to those who have no idea who I am.

I have finished my second novel, *Luck of the Draw*, and unless Random House swoops in at the last minute it looks like I’ll be publishing it through my own company. Most people in book publishing would consider it self-published, but since I’ve been in the business of putting ink on paper in one form or another for 35 years it’s not how I think of it.

The publishing world is in a technological upheaval, and self-publishing has become a “thing.” The current thinking by the how-to gurus is that to have even a snowball’s chance of success a book’s launch should be prepared months in advance. Websites, email lists, reviews, blurbs, flyers, ads, blogs, vlogs, podcasts, and the worst of the worst, wasting hours on Facebook and Twitter. The list seems endless, and I’m just beginning the ordeal. The idea is to make a big deal of how great your book is and get a bunch of preorders, then when the book comes out it theoretically jumps up the Amazon sales list and PRESTO, you can brag that you too have an Amazon best-seller. Hey, look at me! Ain’t my book great! The publication date is June 6, 2016, exactly fifty years to the day that I graduated from high school. Wow man, far out!

To get started, I put it up on Kindle Scout three weeks ago. It’s a kind of talent-search in which readers nominate what they think might be a good read from dozens of unpublished books. If a book attracts enough votes within the 30 day campaign, the Kindle editors might take a look at it and consider it for publication in eBook format, leaving print rights to the author. I’ve been told it takes thousands of votes to be considered. The deal seems to be geared to those with social networking habits who pass things around on Facebook or Twitter, which is definitely not me. But I figured it’s free exposure, so what the heck.

Then a few days ago I discovered a literary website in Pittsburgh (where I’m from and where much of the novel is set) that liked the promo flyer and put a section from the book up on their site and made connecting to the page on Amazon/Kindle easy, which kicked me into gear to write this note. The 30-day campaign ends on Jan. 2. Better late than never. Here’s the URL: <http://tinyurl.com/j6efswj>

Many of you know about my first novel, *The Energy Caper, or Nixon in the Sky with Diamonds*, and a few of you have read it. I’ve recently put an audio version up on Audible. They sent me a bunch of codes for free downloads with the idea of using them to garner listener reviews just like print books get reader reviews on Amazon. If you’re into audiobooks (or know someone who is) reply to this note and I’ll send you a code for a free download. Here’s the Amazon listing with a short sound clip: <http://tinyurl.com/nszsvs9>

I also have an audio version of *Luck of the Draw*, and I have proof copies of the printed book. The how-to gurus say to get as many reviews as possible, so if you’re into novels and willing to write a quick reader or listener review (just a paragraph or so) let me know what format works (print, audio, eBook) and I’ll send it. Even bad reviews are good as they give the good reviews credibility.

I have very few email addresses of people I haven’t seen since the dawn of the internet, so if you have addresses of people we have known in common you don’t think I have, please send them. Thanks.

That’s it for now.

Happy New Year!