






BOOKS: A campy take on the 007 franchise
IN PRINT / Hair stylist by trade, secret agent by choice
Cameron Herdman / Xtra West / Friday, September 14, 2007

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For over 40 years, the alpha male benchmark has been set by a tuxedo-clad man who oozes sex and sophistication while saving the world without breaking a sweat. He's the man every woman wants, every straight man wants to be and every gay man wants to be on. With his debonair looks, cunning catch phrases and sexual prowess, James Bond has always been the epitome of alpha males. It was only a matter of time before someone came up with a gay version.



SEXY NOT SILLY. Author Robert Cabell the idea for Jayms Blonde came to him during a chance encounter with Rupert Everett in a café in New York. (Xtra West files)

Robert Cabell's new book *The Hair-Raising Adventures of Jayms Blonde* is a campy take on the 007 franchise and promises to be the first book of a new series featuring the sexy hero Jayms Blonde, an ex-navy seal who is a hair stylist by trade and a secret agent by choice. "The idea for Jayms came from a chance encounter in 2001 at Tea & Sympathy, a café in New York," Cabell says. "I ran into Rupert Everett who was there with his dog and we were doing dog talk. He mentioned that he wanted to do a gay James Bond and it was an idea that interested me. My lover at the time was a hairdresser and Jayms sort of took on a life of his own after that." Cabell had spent 20 years in the entertainment industry working for such companies as HBO, Spelling International and the New York Post. He saw potential for a gay secret agent and took it upon himself to write the sexy tale. The result is a smart, good looking and happy-go-lucky character that isn't so much suave as he is horny. As an agent of STOP (Stop Terrorizing Our Planet), Jayms fights for the environment against the nefarious ZENRON Corporation (Zillionaire Environmental Nihilists Reinstating Oligarchy Nobility) with his arsenal of deadly cosmetic products, sassy comments and unquenchable libido.

True to the Bond tradition, he has an impressive assortment of gadgets that includes a hair dryer that shoots Teflon bullets, explosive press-on nails and bulletproof hair moose. The pièce de resistance is a backpack that sprouts wings so Jayms can fly around like a bumblebee — a very sexy bumblebee. His comrades in arms include a transgendered boss named Mama, a twinkie sidekick named Precious Needmore, and an array of sexy men who aren't able to keep their pants on. (But don't count on this being a piece of erotica; the lights go off before the dicks come out.) Together they fight ZENRON's plans to ensure crude oil profits by ridding the world of clean