**KELLEY’S FAVORITE AUTHORS AND BOOKS . . .**

Ifyou could have dinner with any writer, living or dead, who would it be and what would you talk about?

I love love love Stephen King, Dean Koontz and Harlan Coben, but I fully plan on having dinner with them at some point in my future, so I’ll let you know what we talked about. As far as the writer whose brain I am dying to pick, that is of course William Shakespeare. I would ask him how on earth he can have such a vast knowledge of the human condition while living in such narrow and untraveled circumstances. I mean, can you imagine? Do you think he had dreams? Visions? Maybe he was a time traveler, and he could leave his modest house in England and travel anywhere and anywhen, then pop back home and create his masterpieces. But even that

wouldn’t explain his understanding—I mean, lots of people are well-educated and well-traveled, and still not self-aware or world-aware. Jeez.

If you could collaborate with any other author (living, dead, or undead) who would that be and why?

Of course it would be William Shakespeare, first off—in my opinion he knew more about people and what makes them tick than just about anyone else. I’d love to know how he knew. But I love so many other authors, and so I’ll make a list: Stephen King, Harlan Coben, John Steinbeck, Ray Bradbury, Harper Lee, Barbara Kingsolver, Madeline L’Engle, A.A. Milne, and finally, of course, Dean Koontz (he lives like 75 miles away from me and I am always scheming to find a way to meet with him.)

If we lived in a Fahrenheit 451 culture, which book would you want to memorize?

OMG that is such a great question. I think a Shakespeare play would be the easiest to memorize because I taught it for so many years, and like I said, he’s a genius who knows people. But maybe *To Kill a Mockingbird*, or *A Wrinkle in Time*.