



MARK WALDEN

UNLEASHED ON THE WORLD by BLOOMSBURY, 4th SEPTEMBER 2006 – HARDBACK – £12.99

'Welcome, ladies and gentlemen, to your new home. Your lives as you once knew them are over. You have been selected, all of you, the worst, the most cunning, the most mischievous minds from around the world ... selected to become part of an institution like no other.'

Welcome to H.I.V.E., the school where tomorrow's villains are made today. Here, eligible students are trained in the ways of wickedness in the hope that they will become super-villains. The school's motto is *'It takes the best to create the worst'* ... but one of the new students is about to become their worst nightmare!

Otto Malpense has been drugged, taken to a secret island and is now expected to spend the next six years of his young life training to be a super-villain. Otto is no stranger to a little villainy, in fact he's got a natural talent for it, but he doesn't appreciate being forced to spend his adolescence taking classes to prove it. Along with Wing Fanchu, another new recruit, Otto sets out to give the Higher Institute of Villainous Education a taste of its own medicine.

H.I.V.E. is the comedy thriller for anyone who has dreamed of a secret lair complete with shark-filled pool and giant lasers. Packed full of humour, action and with a knowing nod to cinematic baddies, *H.I.V.E.* subverts the traditional school-based novel by setting it somewhere that the pupils are encouraged to misbehave. Not since Hogwarts has there been a school that children will so actively want to attend!

Mark Walden worked as a video games producer and designer before embarking on his most challenging role – full-time dad. His debut novel is already heading for world domination as film rights have been bought by Paramount Pictures, *H.I.V.E.* is the inspiration behind the BigBadRead and publishing rights have been sold to the US.

Mark Walden is available for interview

For more information or to arrange an interview with the author
please contact **Ian Lamb** on **020 7494 6340** or email ian_lamb@bloomsbury.com

