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December 1, 2008

You hold in your hands a copy of *Man*, the third in a series of four novellas being published in 2008 and 2009. The first, *Man Talking*, can be read in its entirety for free at my website, mikeheppner.com. The second, *Talking Man*, is a handmade, limited edition book available exclusively at smallanchorpress.com. The final novella, *Talking*, will be published in 2009.

Man cannot be purchased anywhere, nor can it be read on-line. Instead, five hundred copies have been left in random locations across the country. **This is one of them.**

Please do one of the following: (a) read it, (b) leave it where you found it, or (c) give it to a friend.

After you read it, send me an email through my website, mikeheppner.com. Tell me a little about yourself and where you found the manuscript. Also tell me what you thought of the story, even if you didn't like it.

I'll post your comments on my website. (Your identity will be kept confidential, and nothing more will be asked of you.)

You're also invited to make copies of the story and distribute them. Just be sure to include this note with every copy, and please don't post any of the material on-line.

I hope you enjoy *Man*, and I look forward to hearing from you. Thanks.

Mike Heppner

About the author:

Mike Heppner is the author of two novels, *The Egg Code* and *Pike's Folly*, published in 2002 and 2006 by Knopf and available as Vintage Paperbacks. His novels have been reviewed in *Entertainment Weekly*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and *Publishers Weekly*, and his short fiction has appeared in *Nerve* and *Esquire*.