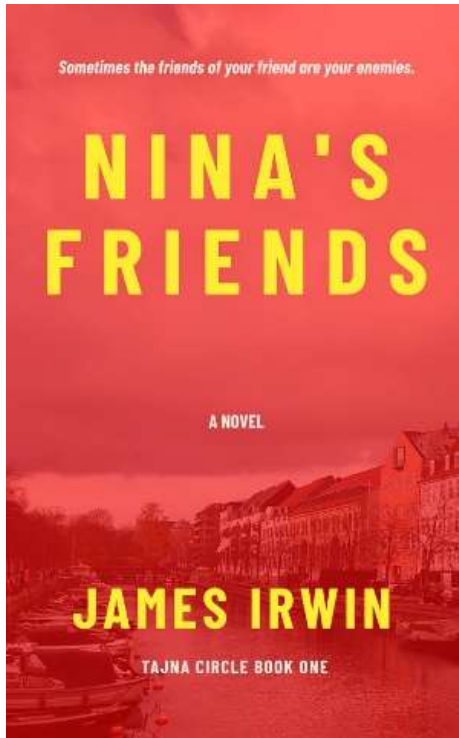


NINA'S FRIENDS

TAJNA CIRCLE BOOK ONE

A novel by James Irwin



Sophisticated, layered, and character-driven, *Nina's Friends* is a fast-moving international suspense thriller of betrayal, secrets, and greed, for fans of Daniel Silva, Tana French, and John Sandford. It explores themes of identity and belonging, social injustice, and deception.

"Sometimes the friends of your friend are your enemies."

Married Russian undercover agents are brutally murdered in their Philadelphia townhouse during the early months of the Ukraine invasion. Was it a botched robbery? Or something far darker connected to the war?

Dragan Markov, a disgraced former agent and the dead woman's lover, refuses to buy either explanation; he believes the killings are connected to the couple's illegal side-hustles. He follows the trail to Denmark, where he contends with a money launderer seeking an exit strategy, a fledgling domestic terrorist, a pansexual outlaw biker, and a beautiful colleague who wants nothing to do with him or his mission.

Time is not on Dragan's side. He'll soon become the scapegoat for the murders... unless whoever is tracking him through the side streets and shadows of Copenhagen kills him first.

This explosive murder mystery is book one of the Tajna Circle series. Book two, "Bent City," will be published in 2026.

Publication date: 25 March 2025

Format: eBook, paperback

Page count: 364 pages

eBook ISBN: 978-1-967223-00-8

Paperback ISBN: 978-1-967223-01-5

5.5" x 8.5" quality paperback

Amazon page: <https://a.co/d/5eA5GM9>

Publisher: Vague Apparatus Press

VagueApparatus@gmail.com

 **Vague Apparatus** Press

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

James Irwin was a college professor and held leadership roles in national and international marketing communication before turning full-time to writing. Prior to all that he was a widely exhibited filmmaker and media artist whose work the Los Angeles Times called "witty and ingenious," and the San Francisco Chronicle described as "pithy – cerebral undercurrent sparked by sexual innuendo."

His short stories and essays have been published in journals, newspapers, and magazines over the years. Originally from southeastern Pennsylvania, he now lives in northern New Jersey. You can find him at jirwin.com

