

# THAT'S WHAT YA GET! Kowalski's Assertions

ISBN 978-0-9558360-7-7

Brindley Hallam Dennis

Published by UNBOUND PRESS August 2010

Kowalski is only one of many voices Brindley Hallam Dennis has written for, but Kowalski is the one who won't shut up, who doesn't go away, and hasn't finished yet telling you *That's What Ya Get!*

A writer friend of BHD's warned, 'There's a lot of you in Kowalski.' He said, 'Kowalski's the kind of guy you wouldn't want to get caught in a lift with, but you'd like to watch someone who was!' There's a bit of Kowalski in all of us, too much in some us, and maybe not enough in many.

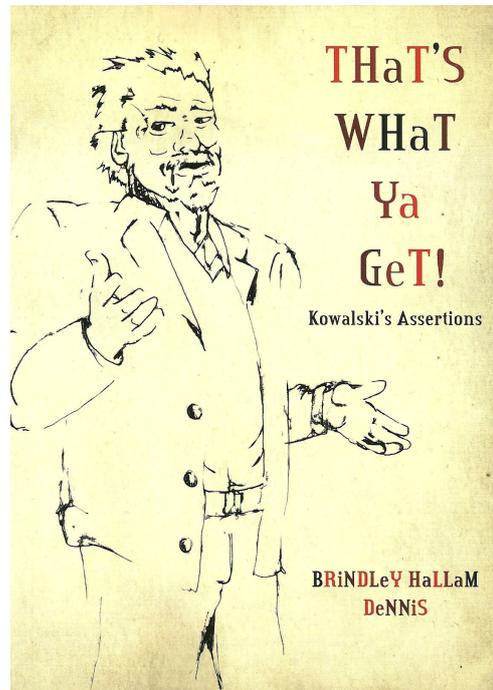
Kowalski, a curmudgeonly old New Yorker living in England with his long-suffering wife Mildred, *'that's my old lady,'* takes us on a hilarious outsider's tour of contemporary life, from the frustrations of petty regulations, to the maddening irrelevancies of public information; from the complexities of race relations and green politics, to the incomprehensibilities of personal relationships, geophysical temporalities, and fishing! Most of all he struggles, *without the trace of an accent,* to negotiate the minefields of ambiguity and the whirlpools of double-meanings that constitute the English language.

As he says: *Ya see! That's what ya get! That's what ya get when ya lives among people. Ya gets ta sound like 'em.*

## Praise for the author's live performances of his Kowalski monologues

When ya can get **That's What Ya Get!** get it.  
*Norman Hadley, The Lunecy Review*

Brindley Hallam Dennis stepped to the mic and became Kowalski. An outspoken, crotchety, New Yorker with a fund of tales of escapades with Mildred 'she's my old lady'. Dennis' glorious performance brought Kowalski truly and uproariously alive, and I'd love to hear more. *Kevin McVeigh, Lancaster Spotlight Club*



Brindley Hallam Dennis has lived in Cumbria for forty years, over half of them at his present location, within sight of the mountain tops of Skiddaw, Cross Fell, and Criffel, and of a sliver of Solway Firth. He lives with his wife and daughter, with whom he shares two cats, several goldfish, and a large garden, in which the bones of previous generations of pets are interred. He has published, under several names, short stories, poems, essays and a short play. He has won several awards and prizes for his writing, all of which, to some extent, he writes with performance in mind.

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