

Cottonwood Fall (Page 1)

The Adventures Resume

Jase begins -- the story -- of *Cottonwood Fall* -- this way:

Summer of 1944 was a challenging time for my best friend Danny and me. For our bravery, we'd been proclaimed town heroes on at least three occasions. We saved the citizens of Riverton, Michigan, from sinister Nazi spies, enemy air raids, nasty escaped German POWs, and the ravages of fire. I'd elaborate further, but modesty forbids.

But, as we would learn before Thanksgiving, our heroic summer was a walk in the park compared to the dangerous obstacles that would confront us in the fall. On Don McNeil's *Breakfast Club* radio show, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt and FBI Director, J. Edgar Hoover, told everyone in America that Danny and I were lucky to be alive to share our story. That's why they awarded us the Medals of Courage.

And Governor Thomas E. Dewey, a native of nearby Owosso said he was very proud to be our friend. We'd gotten to know each other when we helped him during his campaign for President of the United States. Of course, we also helped President Roosevelt with his campaign. Since Danny and I liked them both, we were glad we didn't have to choose between our two friends at the ballot box. Sometimes being too young to vote has its advantages.

But I'm getting a little ahead of myself.

**Excerpted from *Cottonwood Fall* by Gary Slaughter.
Copyright 2006 by Gary Slaughter Corporation.
All rights reserved. No part of this excerpt may be reproduced
or reprinted without permission in writing from
Gary Slaughter Corporation.**