



For Immediate Release
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Bernhardt's Latest Book Exposes "The Torso Killer" and Eliot Ness' Real-Life Quest to Apprehend the Killer

A terrific story of madness and obsession, the plot is compelling, the writing crisp and the dialogue evocative. Add to that the disclosure of the real-life identity of America's first serial killer and you've got yourself a winner and then some.

—John Lescroart, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Betrayal*

Tulsa, OK—*New York Times* bestselling author of over 20 books, William Bernhardt has nailed it yet again! In his new release, *Nemesis: The Final Case of Eliot Ness*, Bernhardt turns back the clock to the city of Cleveland, Ohio, in the fall of 1935.

Based on true events and new discoveries uncovered during Bernhardt's thorough investigation of Eliot Ness's life, *Nemesis* brilliantly unfolds, revealing this legendary lawman's fateful duel with a terrifyingly new kind of criminal: America's first serial killer. Bernhardt not only documents historical facts—but has discovered the shocking new details of why the murderer was never apprehended, exposes his identity, and uncovers the political ties that helped him avoid prosecution.

In Chicago, Eliot Ness had created "The Untouchables," the notorious team of federal agents who were beyond corruption and who finally put Al Capone behind bars. Now the headline-grabbing Ness has been moved to Cleveland, where the new mayor desperately needs some positive publicity. The heroic, squeaky-clean Fed is the perfect man to become the city's director of public safety. As Ness settles into his new position, a serial killer has embarked on a career of his own—a deranged man as obsessed with blood and mayhem as Eliot Ness is with justice.

Accurately depicting the headlines that infused fear into the very fabric of the city, bodies are discovered one by one—each one decapitated and uniquely dissected with a doctor's skill and a madman's bent. The police are baffled, the population is terrorized, and newspaper headlines resound with the moniker "Torso Killer." Though it's not his turf, Ness is forced to cross bureaucratic boundaries and take over the case, working with a dogged, street-smart detective and making enemies every step of the way.

The more energy Ness pours into the investigation, the more it overtakes his life, his marriage, even his seemingly flawless reputation. Because in Cleveland, there is only room for one untouchable: a killer with the perfect hiding place and the perfect plan for destroying Eliot Ness.

From the first primitive use of forensic psychology to a portrait of America battling the Great Depression and a man battling his own demons, *Nemesis* is a masterwork of mystery, murder, and vivid, dynamic historical suspense.

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**For more information, or to schedule an interview with William Bernhardt, please contact
Kristen Schremp at Kristen@kaspublicity.com or 703.928.5527**



Praise for *Nemesis*

"The Untouchables. The Unknowns. The Unspeakable. Evil has many levels. In William Bernhardt's chilling *Nemesis*, a real-life American hero descends to the bottom of it, confronting the most dangerous adversary of his career."

—David Morrell, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Creepers*

"Painted on a broad canvas, William Bernhardt's writing is expertly controlled, rich in imagery, blessed with characterization. Great authenticity, utter realism, and some fascinating legal skullduggery weave a supple, elegant thriller. Bernhardt is a born stylist. His writing through the years has aged like a fine wine—sharper, deeper, and better than ever."

—Steve Berry, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Charlemagne Pursuit*

Starred Review! "This is a thrilling novel that is both a fast-paced action-adventure and a character study, a portrait of a resourceful and determined lawman whose political naïveté and straight-arrow demeanor put off many of his colleagues. Fans of *The Untouchables* will get that same period feel from the book as the film version, and it will be a surprise if some clever Hollywood producer doesn't snap up Bernhardt's novel and put Ness on screen yet again. A rousing success, highly recommended...."

—Booklist

Five-Star Review! "This biographical fiction of an American icon is well-written as Ness is made into a caring human who bleeds. William Bernhardt enables the reader to get past the TV series and movie to the real Ness."

—Harriet Klausner, Barnes & Noble.com

William Bernhardt is the author of many novels, including *Primary Justice*, *Murder One*, *Criminal Intent*, *Death Row*, *Hate Crime*, *Dark Eye*, *Capitol Murder*, *Capitol Threat*, and *Capitol Conspiracy*. He has twice won the Oklahoma Book Award for Best Fiction, and in 2000 he was presented the H. Louise Cobb Distinguished Author Award "in recognition of an outstanding body of work in which we understand ourselves and American society at large." A former trial attorney, Bernhardt has received several awards for his public service. He lives in Tulsa with his three children. Visit him at www.williambernhardt.com

***Nemesis: The Final Case of Eliot Ness* • William Bernhardt**

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Learn more about William Bernhardt and Eliot Ness at www.williambernhardt.com

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