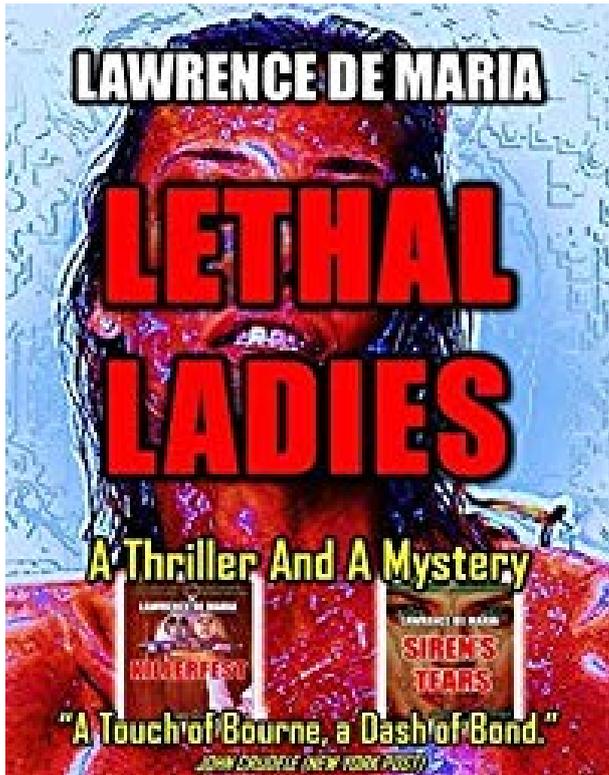


LETHAL LADIES: A Lawrence De Maria Mystery and Thriller Omnibus



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Alton Rhode and Jake Scarne are two very different kinds of investigators.

But they have one thing in common. They spend a lot of time in the company of very dangerous women. In *SIREN'S TEARS*, the death of a spider monkey in a South American rain forest is the prelude to a series of apparently unsolvable human murders in Canada and the United States. Only when private investigator Alton Rhode is approached by an elderly Catholic priest – who may know more than he reveals – does the killer have anything to worry about. Nagged by doubts about the priest's story, but urged on by an unlikely underworld ally, Rhode starts to piece together the mystery. His hunt for the truth spans thousands of miles and makes him a target of a diabolical killer using sex and science to seek a perverted revenge on men. In *KILLERFEST*, one author has been already been murdered for allegedly insulting Islam. Now, Sebastian Quimper, the world's most popular thriller novelist, is apparently the next target. Jake Scarne is asked to protect Quimper during one of the publishing industry's premier showcases. More than a thousand authors, agents, publishers and literary groupies are scheduled to attend the annual conference in New York.

It will be a security nightmare, since Quimper is the honoree and featured speaker. Nothing is as it seems, as Scarne is confronted with a diabolical madman and a beautiful but deadly woman assassin in a twisty tale that features exotic locations (London, India, Belgium and Tuscany, to name a few). ABOUT THE AUTHOR Lawrence De Maria is a Pulitzer-nominated journalist who cut his teeth on financial corruption at The New

York Times and Forbes. His other thrillers and mysteries in the ALTON RHODE and JAKE SCARNE series do not have to be read in order, but he believes to do so will enhance the reader's experience. ALTON RHODE MYSTERIES (in order): Capriati's Blood Laura Lee Siren's Tears Sister Gunner JAKE SCARNE THRILLERS (in order): Sound of Blood Madman's Thirst Killerfest The Viron Conspiracy A tenth thriller, HURRICANE FATS, features CIA agent/assassin COLE SUDDEN. It is likely we haven't heard the last of SUDDEN. CRITICAL ACCLAIM According to John Crudele of the New York Post, Alton Rhode has "a touch of Bourne, a dash of Bond and a sprig of Spenser." "While De Maria may have been an award-winning financial reporter, he's an awfully good fiction writer as well." (THE NAPLES DAILY NEWS) "What is really almost beyond belief is how easily De Maria has transitioned from the dry world of financial reporting to the wild and lavish world of novel writing." (THE COLLIER CITIZEN) De Maria is "a master of thriller dialogue." (THE WASHINGTON INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF BOOKS)