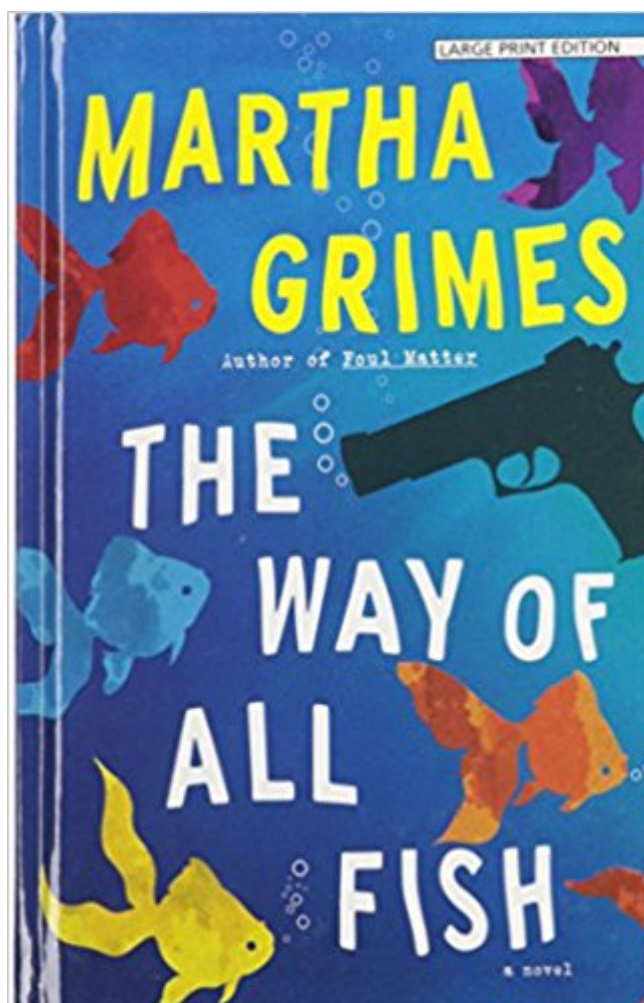


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# The Way Of All Fish (Thorndike Press Large Print Core Series)



## Synopsis

MARTHA GRIMES "GOES ENTERTAININGLY WONKY WITH THIS SEQUEL TO HER BESTSELLING "FOUL MATTER" . . . DELIVERING INSIDER PUBLISHING STUFF WITH ACIDULOUS WIT" ("LIBRARY JOURNAL"). In Grimes's new sendup of a world she knows very well, Candy and Karl, hitmen with a difference-- they have scruples--once again venture into the murky Manhattan publishing scene. This time they come to the aid of a writer who is being sued by her unscrupulous literary agent, L. Bass Hess, a man determined to get a 15 percent commission for a book he didn't sell. The contract killers join forces with publishing mogul Bobby Mackenzie and megabestselling writer Paul Giverney to rid the mean streets of Hess, not by shooting him, but by driving him crazy. They are helped by other characters from Foul Matter and a crew of new colorful personalities, including an out-of-work Vegas magician, an alligator wrangler, a glamorous Malaysian con lady, and Hess's aunt in Everglades City, who has undergone a wildly successful sex change. This wickedly funny sequel to Grimes's bestselling novel "Foul Matter" is another character-driven "satire of the venal, not to say murderous, practices of the New York publishing industry" ("The New York Times Book Review").

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

They're back! Candy and Karl, who represent the gold standard for hit men in Manhattan (introduced in Foul Matter, 2003), return with their scruples—they kill only persons they think deserve to die—and their burgeoning interest in the publishing industry. But their contract on

universally disliked literary agent L. Bass Hess hits a snag. Because Hess is suing a former client, author Cindy Sella, Candy and Karl fear that Sella would be the first person suspected if Hess were murdered. So the pair draws on their contacts from the earlier book, including best-selling author Paul Giverney and publisher Bobby Mackensie, to devise a means of obliterating Hess short of killing him. From the opening pages, when other hit men shoot up an aquarium in the downtown Clownfish Cafe, exotic tropical fish are the key to zany action proposed on the fly. This sequel to *Foul Matter* is a caper that casts an eye on publishing that is comic, caustic, and relentlessly readable. Yes, it's Grimes lite—and probably as much fun for the author as it is for her readers.

--Michele Leber --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Few people have ever succeeded in making book publishing of all things seem funny and suspenseful, but Martha Grimes does so brilliantly in *"The Way of All Fish"*.--Michael Korda, author of *Another Life* Martha Grimes is a very funny writer and *"The Way of All Fish"* is a hilarious and worthy sequel to her bestselling *"Foul Matter"*. Like all great satirists, Ms. Grimes sees the world from the other side of the looking glass and invites us to come along for a wild and wacky ride. A very entertaining and fun read.--Nelson DeMille, bestselling author of *The Quest* Martha Grimes is back with a deliciously hilarious send-up of the book business. *"The Way of All Fish"* nails all the foul matter of publishing dead on, and is a smashingly great read as well.--Linda Fairstein "bestselling author of *Death Angel* "

Watch your back Hiaasen! Why? Well, Martha Grimes has taken a brief trip to Florida and in has caressed the Everglades in her wonderful style of humor. If you're reading this and think, oh it's a Florida book, you'd be wrong, and it was cruel of me to mislead you. This wonderful book is about the zany justice two contract killers enact against an inscrutable agent. I can't without spoiling it tell you why they do it. Or how they drag characters from her previous work *"Foul Matter"* into it. But I am going to say this was so much fun to read that I had to have the book taken out of my hands (between chapter 47 and 48) because my laughter was keeping everybody awake. Who sleeps at 2AM? This is a sequel, but since it had been a while since I read *"Foul Matter"* it took me awhile until the plot of that book seeped into my consciousness. It wasn't forgettable, I just read a lot and fast. Martha writes the *"Richard Jury Series,"* which I loved enough to crawl in between and under the West Palm Beach Library stacks to find the book that was missing but was supposed to be there. She is a lady and a humorist. She is a writer and a story teller. And she has my esteem.

You'll either love it or hate it. I love its snarky wit, its Keystone Cops flavor of one plot after another backfiring in such unexpected ways. Strictly fun with a whiff of literature!

I've been a fan of Grimes' Richard Jury for years and have enjoyed her other novels as well particularly this one and its "volume 1" "Foul Matter". Don't read this one without reading the first, she relies on your knowing them from the first book. The two together are very funny.

After reading Foul Matter by Martha Grimes, I could hardly wait to read the sequel, The Way of All Fish. I am reading it as slowly as possible because I don't want it to end. The two hit men are hysterical in their outsiders view of what they see as a business much more cut throat than theirs, the publishing industry. Don't want to give anything away except I find myself laughing out loud which I rarely do. Highly recommend.

I like Martha Grimes' novels and her style of writing.

I have read this book several times just to immerse myself in Ms. Grimes wonderful and witty prose. Candy and Karl help set the stage for hijinks involving the publishing world in addition to other characters that make you wish you could write like Ms. Grimes! If I were Ms. Grimes these characters and their publishing world would be dancing through my head without end! Thank you Ms. Grimes for your talent and hard work.

Ms Grimes is one of my favorite writers. She never disappoints. I am so glad she made a follow-up with this book as the first one was just as enjoyable!

Humorous take-off on the publishing industry. Contains lots of unusual characters. Not quite as good as predecessor, Foul Matter, but that may be because the situations and characters were new to me in the first book..

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