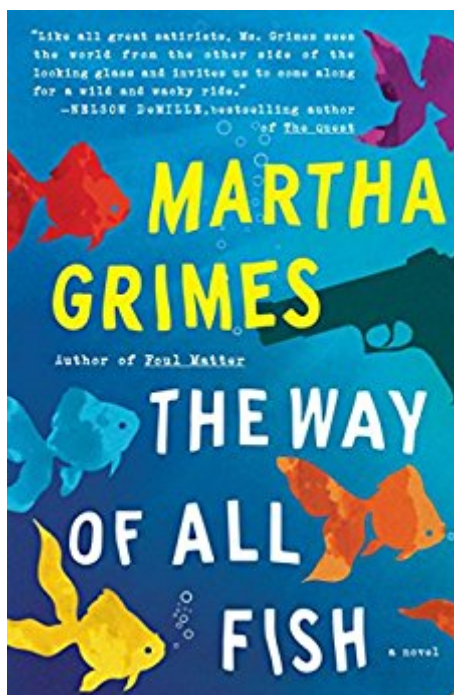


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# The Way Of All Fish: A Novel



## Synopsis

An absurdly amusing (The New York Times Book Review) sequel to Martha Grimes's bestselling novel, *Foul Matter*, this wicked satire of the publishing industry is comic, caustic, and relentlessly readable (Booklist). Writer Cindy Sella is having trouble with her new novel. Aside from her paralyzing writer's block, she's faced with a lawsuit from her ex-agent, L. Bass Hess. Hess will stop at nothing to collect a commission from Cindy on her previous novel, which he did not represent since she had fired him long before it was published. Hitmen Candy and Karl—first introduced in *Foul Matter*—are asked to get rid of L. Bass Hess. They join forces with a publishing mogul, a bestselling author, an out-of-work Vegas magician, an alligator wrangler, a glamorous Malaysian con lady, and Hess's aunt in the Everglades who has undergone a wildly successful sex change, and concoct a plan to save Cindy Sella from the odious machinations of Hess by driving him (slowly, hilariously) crazy. Grimes's fans will delight in the return of several colorful characters from *Foul Matter*, including Senior Editor Clive Esterhaus, unprincipled publisher Bobby Mackenzie, and ex-mobster and author Danny Zito, currently under the witness protection program. New readers will find that these characters and their escapades shed an amusing light on the New York publishing scene. Informed and influenced by the author's own publishing adventures, *æ* is a goofily offbeat delight (>).

## Book Information

File Size: 6959 KB

Print Length: 368 pages

Publisher: Scribner; Reprint edition (January 7, 2014)

Publication Date: January 7, 2014

Sold by: Simon and Schuster Digital Sales Inc

Language: English

ASIN: B00BSBR5QM

Text-to-Speech: Not enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #644,349 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #55

inÂ Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Hunting & Fishing #1057 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Satire #1156 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Literature & Fiction > Humor & Satire > American

## Customer Reviews

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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