

# NEWS FROM PUTNAM

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## IN THE COMPANY OF KILLERS by Bryan Christy

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G.P. PUTNAM'S SONS  
ON-SALE: APRIL 13, 2021

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"Christy makes his fiction debut with an exceptional adventure thriller... A riveting plot, complex characters, deep backstory, and an engrossing setting enhance this finely written novel about justice, personal responsibility, and saving the environment. Readers will come away eager for whatever Christy, the head of Special Investigations at *National Geographic*, turns his hand to next." —***Publishers Weekly* (starred review)**

"Elephants and humans alike face mortal danger in this tense, complex thriller set in Africa... [Bryan Christy's] experience as a special investigator for *National Geographic* informs this fast-moving debut novel. High marks for this one. Let's hope it's the beginning of a long series." —***Kirkus Reviews*, starred review**

"Fans of both espionage and global crime thrillers will find a gem here: Klay is an introspective, flawed survivor who bends operative stereotypes, and the intersection of corporate greed, media, technology, and crime is chillingly current." —***Booklist*, starred review**

"It is uncommon for a first novel to earn a starred review in the hallowed halls of this column, but Bryan Christy's ***In the Company of Killers*** ticks all the right boxes...You will not want to put it down." —***BookPage* (starred review)**

"*In the Company of Killers* is a special kind of thriller: crisp, fast, wise, intelligent, world-weary, violent, and propulsive. Bryan Christy provides an indispensable inside-view to a world we only thought we knew."  
—**C.J. Box, #1 *New York Times* Bestselling Author of *Long Range* and *Dark Sky***

"I loved Bryan Christy's *IN THE COMPANY OF KILLERS*, an exotic, riveting thriller unlike any other. In his fiction debut, Christy, himself a champion of endangered animals and an expert in wildlife trafficking around the world, uses every detail from his stellar career to inform the story of protagonist Tom Klay, a flinty, fascinating investigative journalist with a secret identity. When Klay's best friend is murdered, he travels the globe to hunt down the killer, jeopardizing himself by revealing his double life and pitting himself against a ruthless and lethal adversary more powerful than he ever imagined. *IN THE COMPANY OF KILLERS* depicts locales like Kenya, Manila, and South Africa with authenticity and realism, and at the same time, brings to life the world of espionage, with neither borders nor laws."  
—**Lisa Scottoline, #1 bestselling author of *Eternal***

"An inside look at a high-stakes world that will appeal to fans of classic international intrigue as well as those craving a more modern take on the geopolitical thriller. An adventure story for the thinking man."  
—**Alma Katsu, former FBI agent and author of *Red Widow***

No one knows the world of international reporting as well as **Bryan Christy**, founder and former head of Special Investigations at *National Geographic*. An international lawyer by training, and raised in a family that includes one of the

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FBI's first long-term undercover agents, Christy puts his decades of experience with international affairs and reporting to new use in producing a deeply researched, action-packed thriller that explores some of the most compelling social issues of our time. Putnam is excited to publish his first work of fiction, **IN THE COMPANY OF KILLERS**, on **April 13, 2021**.

**IN THE COMPANY OF KILLERS** introduces Tom Klay, a celebrated investigative wildlife reporter for the esteemed magazine *The Sovereign*. But Klay is not just a journalist. His reporting is cover for an even more dangerous job: CIA agent. Klay's press credentials make him the perfect spy—able to travel the globe, engage both politicians and warlords, and openly record what he sees. When he needs help, the Agency provides it to him, and asks little in return. But while on assignment in Kenya, Klay is attacked and his closest friend is murdered. Soon Klay's carefully constructed double life unravels as his ambition turns to revenge.

The CIA has an answer. Klay is offered a devil's bargain to capture the man who killed his friend by infiltrating the offices of the woman he once loved, South Africa's special prosecutor, Hungry Khoza. But Klay soon discovers that he and Hungry are part of a larger, more lethal game—one that involves a ruthless mercenary and a global superpower. The deeper he digs, the more Klay realizes that everything he thought he knew about his work may have been a lie, and his sworn enemy may be his only ally. In this riveting, timely thriller, the lines between good and evil blur, and absolutely nothing is as it seems.

Crisscrossing Washington, DC, Africa, and the Philippines, lightning fast and rippling with plot twists, Christy's debut is a powerful new entry into the field of geopolitical thrillers. A trailblazer both on and off the page, Christy's unique vantage point has him joining the ranks of greats like Frederick Forsyth, C.J. Box and Clive Cussler who have walked the walk before writing their books. The punch of his writing and the depth of his expertise elevate **IN THE COMPANY OF KILLERS** into that rare echelon of books that not only entertain but also have something substantial to say about how the world works.

## **ABOUT THE AUTHOR:**

**Bryan Christy** is the former head of Special Investigations at *National Geographic* and the 2014 National Geographic Society "Rolex Explorer of the Year." His criminal investigations have been the subject of two award-winning *National Geographic* documentaries and his crime writing has been anthologized in *The Best American Science and Nature Writing*. He is author of the non-fiction book *The Lizard King*. His education includes Penn State, Cornell's FALCON Program, University of Michigan Law School, Tokyo University Law School, and time at the Iowa Writers' Workshop. He grew up in New Jersey and lives in Maryland.

## **Virtual Tour Dates for IN THE COMPANY OF KILLERS**

Tuesday, April 13	Murder by the Book (Houston, TX) *with Alma Katsu, author of <i>Red Widow</i>	Facebook LIVE	7:00 PM CT / 8:00 PM ET
Wednesday, April 14	Poisoned Pen (Scottsdale, AZ)	Facebook LIVE	5:00 PM MT / 8:00 PM ET
Sunday, April 18	Book Carnival (Orange, CA)	Zoom event	4:00 PM PT / 7:00 PM ET

**IN THE COMPANY OF KILLERS • By Bryan Christy • G. P. Putnam's Sons**  
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