

# News Release

Media-Tech

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## **What Was *Really* Going on Behind the Financial Meltdown of 2008? Is the Truth Stranger than Fiction?**

### ***House of Cards: Dead Men Tell No Tales* [Second Edition]**

When the head of one of the largest investment banking and securities firms in the United States is assassinated on Times Square in the middle of New York City's annual celebration of Halloween, the Festival of the Dead, Homicide Detective Louis Martelli is one of the first on the scene. Working quickly, NYPD Information Specialist Missy Dugan quickly identifies the assassin, but the case rapidly spirals downward into a maelstrom of death and intrigue linked both to the financial meltdown of 2008 and international terrorism. Who is behind the murders, and why did the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) attempt to shut down Martelli's investigation before it even got started? Martelli eventually learns the answers to these and other questions as he tracks down the killer, but not before uncovering some of Wall Street's darkest secrets, including how two Wall Street financial institutions had been complicit in funding Islamic terrorism.



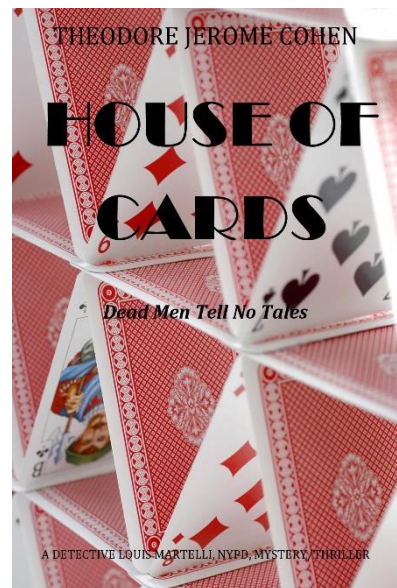
*House of Cards: Dead Men Tell No Tales*, a new murder mystery by Theodore Jerome Cohen, is the story of how the oligarchs of Wall Street, the credit rating agencies, and the US government, created, quite literally, a 'house of cards' by providing home buyers with loans—in many cases, 'no-doc' loans—that later were bundled into debt instruments destined to default when homeowners no longer could make their mortgage payments. The resulting financial meltdown destroyed wealth reaching into the trillions of dollars across the globe and sent the world's economies reeling. None has yet recovered.

Cohen was inspired to write this book after reading his friend Mark Mitchell's story 'The Miscreants' Global Bust-Out' on the DeepCapture Blog. As Mark, who wrote the Foreword to Ted's new novel, told him: "My exploration of the financial instability of the last four years, including the financial crash of 2008

and the Flash Crash of 2010, leads me to conclude that various activities associated with market manipulation—for example, naked short selling, high frequency trading, derivatives such as credit default swaps and synthetic collateralized debt obligations (CDOs), sponsored access, regulatory capture, and press manipulation—were a part of a massive leverage-and-loot scheme by a network that includes organized crime, Islamic extremists with ties to Al Qaeda, international crime figures, and the Iranian regime, among others.”

How this story of international intrigue fits into *House of Cards* is something readers will have to discover for themselves. And while the story is complex, it also is very enjoyable because old friends from Cohen’s novel *Death by Wall Street: Rampage of the Bulls*, are ‘on the case.’ If it’s witty repartee you seek, this book will *not* disappoint. “I often found myself laughing out loud while typing the exchanges between Martelli and Dugan,” said Cohen. “She is every bit his match, and certainly cuts him no slack. As well, we learn things about Martelli that might shock some people, but then, he’s still the imperfect hero we have come to know and admire!” Cohen was quick to add that he uses adult language liberally throughout the book. But, he quickly added, the real obscenity here is that not a *single* financial executive responsible for the financial meltdown of 2008 has gone to jail.

Cohen’s most recent writings include *Mementos (Books 1, 2, and 3)*, which are anthologies comprised of both short stories and flash fiction; twenty (20) anthologies of flash fiction\* (including six in the series *Creative Ink, Flashy Fiction*); two anthologies of unusual short stories titled *The Road Less Taken (Books 1 and 2)*; a ripped-from-the-headlines novel, *Wheel of Fortune*, a mystery/thriller based on an actual FBI sting that took place in southeastern Pennsylvania some years ago involving a New York-based crime-infested cartage association; *Eighth Circle: A Special Place in Hell*, which deals with mob-driven corruption at the highest levels in New York City government; and *Night Shadows*, which addresses the subjects of child abuse, teenage rape, and teen suicide. Other Martelli novels include *Lilith: Demon of the Night*, a novel about a New York City vampire cult; *House of Cards: Dead Men Tell No Tales*, which is based on real events related to the 2008 financial crisis precipitated by the housing bubble; and



*Death by Wall Street: Rampage of the Bulls*, which focused on corruption within the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the incompetence of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Dr. Cohen's Antarctic Murders Trilogy describes what happened following a robbery of the Banco Central de Chile in Talcahuano in May, 1960. The trilogy comprises *Frozen in Time: Murder at the Bottom of the World* (Book I), *Unfinished Business: Pursuit of an Antarctic Killer* (Book II), and *End Game: Irrational Acts, Tragic Consequences* (Book III). The Trilogy now is available in one (Kindle) eBook edition, *Cold Blood*. Dr. Cohen's first novel, *Full Circle: A Dream Denied, A Vision Fulfilled*, which is based on his life as a violinist, was published in 2009. Screenplays written by Dr. Cohen include *Death by Wall Street*, based on his novel by the same name, and *Beware Those Closest*, based on his novel *House of Cards*. Dr. Cohen also is the author of the Young Adult (YA) novel *The Hypnotist*, which he wrote under the pen name “Alyssa Devine.” Finally, Dr. Cohen has published more than 450 papers, articles, columns, essays, and

interviews, and is a co-author of *The CQ Shortwave Propagation Handbook – 4th Edition* (from CQ Communications). The author's financial writings may be found on the Website *SeekingAlpha.com*.

Dr. Cohen's and Ms. Devine's novels are available from your favorite online retailers in Kindle, paperback, and audiobook formats.

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\* Volumes 9-20 also include short stories