## The Conspiracy (Maximum Security, 1)

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## New York Times

bestselling author Kat Martin raises the tension and the passion when family ambition turns deadly...

Harper Winston's brother has disappeared. Pursuing his dream of sailing the Caribbean, Michael hasn't responded to texts or emails in days. When even the Coast Guard can't find him, Harper is forced to take desperate measures. Which means going to Chase Garrett, once her brother's best friend, now the only man she can trust...or so she hopes.

As the successful owner of Maximum Security, Chase has learned to trust his gut. He knows Harper's father is mixed up in a deadly business, and suspects there's more to Michael's disappearance than meets the eye. Getting involved again with the Winstons goes against everything he stands for, yet old loyalties die hard. As the case draws him closer to Harper and deeper into the Winstons' snarled crime family, he is forced to put everything on the line to keep Harper safe...and both of them alive.

## Also includes a bonus Maximum Security novella, Wait Until Dark

Top ten New York Times bestselling author Kat Martin is a graduate of the University of California Santa Barbara. Residing with her Western-author husband, L.J. Martin, in Missoula, Montana, Kat has written 70 Historical and Contemporary Romantic Suspense novels. More than 17 million of her books are in print and she has been published in twenty foreign countries. Kat is currently hard at work on her next novel.

"Martin keeps the twists and turns coming in the sensuous and spirited first Maximum Security romantic thriller...Readers will find it hard to wait for the next book in this tantalizing series about detectives, bodyguards, and bounty hunters." -Publishers Weekly on The Conspiracy

"Kat Martin is a fast gun when it comes to storytelling, and I love her books." -#1 New York Times bestselling author Linda Lael Miller

"[A] master of suspenseful romance...Martin doesn't hold back on the page-turning thrills or steamy love scenes." -Publishers Weekly

"[Kat] Martin is a terrific storyteller." -Booklist

"It doesn't matter what Martin's characters are up against-she dishes up romantic suspense, sizzling sex and international intrigue." -RT Book Reviews

"[A] suspenseful, emotion-packed page-turner... This nonstop, high-stakes adventure stands on its own." -Library Journal, starred review, on Against the Edge

"Martin has a consummate skill for developing the most lovable and the most despicable characters." -Publishers Weekly

"Both a suspenseful mystery to find a lost brother and a thrilling romance, Kat Martin's latest is an easy page-turner." -BookTrib.com
Other Books

Publications Combined: Fake News, Conspiracy Theories, and Lies: Information Laundering In the 21st Century, The purpose of this research, broadly speaking, is to expose the threat that fake news poses to our national security. This thesis answers the question: Can the information laundering model, or a modified version of it, be used to explain how the internet is exploited to spread fake news, and the resulting threat to the United States? I assert that a well-crafted narrative, whether true or false, can be spread rapidly online due to the accessibility and interconnectedness of the internet ecosystem. I then articulate how these narratives can be further accelerated and disseminated when propagandists take advantage of existing processes that improve the customization, ease of access, and availability of information online. I do this by modifying the information laundering model, and then using the new model to examine the interconnectedness of search engines, blogs, social networking platforms, and media/academic outlets, and how these connections can be exploited to launder false or purposefully misleading information into public discourse. Finally, I demonstrate how this process allows adversarial nations, criminals, and malicious actors to increase public discord, undermine democracy, and threaten Americans physical and cognitive security. Contains the following studies: 1. Fake News, Conspiracy Theories, and Lies: An Information Laundering Model for Homeland Security 2. THE COMMAND OF THE TREND: SOCIAL MEDIA AS A WEAPON IN THE INFORMATION AGE 3. PUTIN'S PROPAGANDA WAR: IS HE WINNING? 4. Cyber-Terrorism and Cyber-Crime: There Is a Difference 5. CYBERDETERRANCE IN 2035: REDEFINING THE FRAMEWORK FOR SUCCESS 6. Countering Russian Active Measures

2 2 2 2 . On the other hand, in 2005, James Surowiecki (in his well-known book, The Wisdom of Crowds), takes the opposite view in relation to crowds. Whereas Le Bon looks at a crowd and sees homogeneity and madness, Surowiecki believes that the ..."