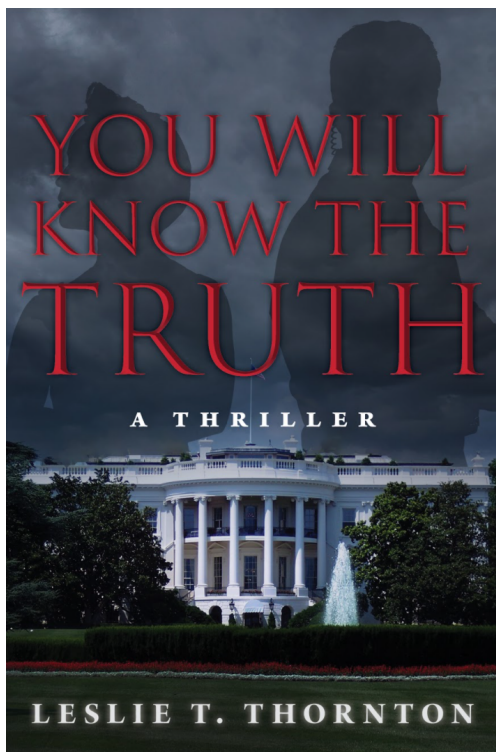

Select Advanced Praise for YOU WILL KNOW THE TRUTH

“What a terrific, galloping read. The women characters are badass, the details precise—from the courtroom to the Situation Room. Can't wait to see the movie!”—**George Stephanopoulos, Former White House Communications Director and network television anchor**

“Leslie T. Thornton has cracked the code of the D.C. thriller—in a world where we live with constant distractions, she has created a novel so rich and engaging with plot twists you will never see coming, that I could not put it down. I squealed when twists were revealed. I could not get to the next page fast enough. It is the perfect read.”—**Alyssa Mastromonaco, New York Times Best Selling author and co-host of Crooked Media’s *Hysteria* podcast**

“This thriller moves with wonderful pace and surprise but not without plenty of thought provoking and entertaining moments. A host of compelling characters come together in this story in unpredictable yet believable ways. Leslie T. Thornton taps her unique life experiences to weave a gripping tale of intrigue that immerses the reader into some of the diciest spots in Washington, D.C.—from dark alleys to courthouses and the halls of The White House.”—**Thurgood Marshall Jr., Former Assistant to the President and White House Cabinet Secretary to President Clinton, Former Director of Legislative Affairs, and Former Deputy Counsel to Vice President Gore**



**YOU WILL KNOW THE
TRUTH**

A Thriller

By Leslie T. Thornton

A Sweet Read Publishing Hardcover

On Sale 08-10-2021

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When D.C. Public Defender Nicki Jo Lewis pulls the gruesome F Street murder no one is surprised—she’s the best. But quickly it becomes clear this case is different.

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The D.C. police become mired in questions about another appalling crime scene seemingly unconnected. As Police Chief Coley tries to unravel the macabre findings there, his investigation is thwarted by his old friend U.S. Secret Service Agent Stackhouse. Apparently, the Service has already been at the scene, but of course they won't, or can't, disclose why.

Yet, one thing is clear. Nicki is caught up in something bigger than she knows. Someone or something has put her in the middle of it, and she is desperate to find out what's going on. Everyone is keeping secrets—the government's witness, the court reporter, the judge, possibly a juror, even the President of the United States. The only person she can trust is her investigator, Shep, who is with her every step of the way.

Turns out, Nicki has an old connection with a witness, and his world spills over into hers in ways that endanger, infuriate, and frighten her.

In her debut legal crime novel, *You Will Know the Truth*, attorney and author **Leslie T. Thornton** takes readers on a non-stop thrill ride that ricochets across Washington, D.C. through courtrooms, backrooms, and the Oval Office all to unravel the dangerous mystery the White House is hiding.

More Advanced Praise for YOU WILL KNOW THE TRUTH

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“*You Will Know the Truth* is a clever, non-stop thriller that takes political intrigue to the next level. Leslie T. Thornton’s artfully written debut novel delivers riveting plot twists as seen through the eyes of richly developed characters perilously navigating Washington’s closely guarded secrets. What makes Thornton’s work so compelling is that her saga is peppered with vivid, stunningly accurate ‘inside baseball’ accounts that show she really knows her stuff. Don’t miss it.”—**Larry Cockell, Former Deputy Director of the United States Secret Service**

“From ‘Who done it?’ to ‘Who did it!’... *You Will Know the Truth* has more twists than a bag of licorice. In a shocking finale, your emotions will be overwhelmed as you weigh the ethical dilemma faced by our chosen leaders. What would *you* be willing to do...for the greater good?”—**Harry Rhoads, Jr., Co-founder, Washington Speakers Bureau**

“A nonstop thriller that takes you from the grittiness of a criminal courtroom to the political intrigue at the centers of power at the White House. Thornton uses her insights as a criminal defense lawyer and D.C. insider to craft a story of murder, secrets and lies that leaves you guessing until the last page.”—**Kim Taylor-Thompson, former Director of the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia, and Professor of Clinical Law Emerita, NYU School of Law**

“Those who know Washington will recognize the places and wonder why they haven’t met these people. Those who don’t should be prepared to become involved in a world where you never know what’s going to happen next and can’t wait to find out. Everyone will believe the story is one of Washington’s deep secrets revealed by an insider breaking the code of silence...and who knows? If you like crime and politics, read Leslie T. Thornton’s first book. You won’t forget it and you’ll be ready for her next offering.”—**Former Congressman Alan Wheat**

“Leslie T. Thornton has written an exciting, gripping and insightful page-turner that grabs the readers’ heart and gut. This writer knows Washington, D.C. After spending much of her career living and working in this power-centered city, she learned a lot. She writes for the lifelong Washingtonian and for the rest of the world who live outside the Potomac. Whether you’ve spent much time in the city or not, Thornton’s book teaches you all you need to know about the back-stabbing politics, the policies made for the few, and the everyday wheeling and dealing that so quickly becomes part of formerly normal men and women’s culture. Thornton writes of a city that is for the powerful and not for the faint of heart. Not only is her book an emotional roller coaster, it is one you will want to share with others. Great writing. Great storytelling, from page one to the very end.”—**Bob J. Nash, Former Assistant to the President & Director of Presidential Personnel**

“The next great crime thrilling author has arrived! Leslie T. Thornton has crafted a gripping tale that will keep you spellbound reading her page-turning novel until you get to the climactic finish. *You Will Know the Truth* has a riveting plot with authentic Washington, D.C. references and captivating, distinctive characters. She is a true Washington insider, with a comprehensive knowledge of how the city operates—from its gritty streets, to its fabled courtrooms to the hallowed halls of The White House.”—**Ronald C. Machen Jr., Former United States Attorney for the District of Columbia**

“Missions are black and white. There is no room for softness, no time for debate. Everybody’s life depends on everyone else bringing their A game, completing their tasks. In mission, there is no family, no wife, no child, no love, no desire. There is only precision.”

About the Author



Leslie T. Thornton has been a Washington, D.C.-based attorney for over 30 years. After growing up in Philadelphia with a twin sister and two older brothers, she began her legal career as a D.C. Public Defender. There, she tried armed rape, murder, and conspiracy cases. Later, Thornton spent eight years as a senior executive in the Clinton Administration. Among other things, Thornton was her agency’s

representative for the Continuity of Operations of Government plan. Holding a top-secret clearance, Thornton received top-secret national security briefings at “undisclosed locations,” and that is all she can say about that! Thornton also worked closely with President Clinton on education and political matters and was Deputy Advisor for the 1996 Presidential Debates. Thornton has received numerous legal awards over her career, but she is perhaps proudest of her recognition from the U.S. Secret Service for work in creating a permanent partnership between the USSS and the U.S. Department of Education on threat assessment for U.S. schools.

Thornton has been a law partner in two top D.C. law firms, and general counsel for a multi-billion-dollar energy company in charge of nation state actor cyber security for critical infrastructure in Washington, D.C., among other responsibilities. The seriousness of this responsibility led her to return to Georgetown Law for her LL.M in National Security Law. In addition to her legal career, Thornton has served as the only Black woman on the corporate boards of two multi-billion-dollar public companies. Over the years, her opinion pieces have appeared in such publications as *The Wall Street Journal*, *National Journal/Legal Times*, *The American Lawyer*, *The Boston Globe*, *The Washington Times*, and *The Daily Oklahoman*, among others.

When she was just 15 years old, Thornton’s uncle—an original Tuskegee Airman—taught her how to fly. Or tried to. She had a little trouble with her s-turns. In the early 2000s, Thornton threw a letter-high strike as the opening pitch at a Nationals game—from the mound. Two years ago, she participated in an operation with the U.S. Secret Service. And that’s all she can say about that!

“While it was clear that the President was getting ready to impart something that he felt very strongly about, something monumentally beneficial for the world, there were also unanswerable questions of right and wrong, good and bad, weighing on him.”

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