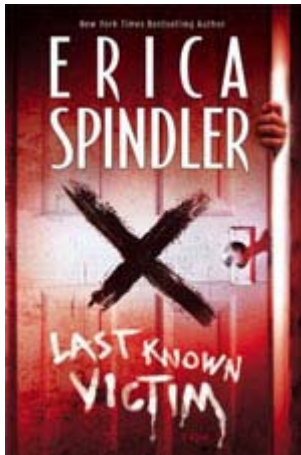


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**NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR
ERICA SPINDLER
Hunts a serial killer in *THE BIG EASY***



**LAST KNOWN VICTIM
ERICA SPINDLER
\$24.95 U.S./\$29.95CAN.
ISBN-13: 978-0-7783-2461-4
ISBN-10: 0-7783-2461-3**

**LAST KNOWN VICTIM
October 2007**

Hurricane-savaged New Orleans has a new dark force to fear. New York Times bestselling author Erica Spindler stakes her claim as one of today's best thriller writers with *LAST KNOWN VICTIM* (MIRA Books, October 2007, \$24.95 U.S./\$29.95 CAN.), a masterful tale of murder and suspense set against the back drop of a city transformed by disaster.

August 2005

As rescue efforts unfold amid the death and destruction caused by Hurricane Katrina, a grisly discovery is made at one of the massive refrigerator "graveyards." One of the metal hulks is found to contain six human hands—all female, all right hands. The press dubs the perpetrator "The Handyman." But with no way to trace the origin of this refrigerator, and with evidence lost to time and the elements, the case dead-ends. Captain Patti O'Shay is the straight-arrow, by-the-book cop who is assigned to the case. However, her tough, unflinching character is fractured when her husband and fellow police captain is

found murdered—surprised by looters taking advantage of the post-storm chaos.

August 2007

Patti, still grieving and disillusioned, receives a call from Homicide—skeletal remains have been unearthed in City Park. The unknown victim is missing her right hand. But for Patti, this grave holds something even more shocking. Found beside the victim's bones is her husband's police badge. Casting aside the very rule book by which she has lived her life, Patti is unwavering in her resolve to catch the fiend preying on innocent women and torturing her. She may be fearless—but so is the killer. As he stalks her, Patti is forced to question all she believes in, to doubt the code she has lived by...because she knows that if she doesn't find *The Handyman* first, she will become his last known victim.

Last Known Victim is available wherever books are sold, and at <http://www.mirabooks.com/>

About Erica Spindler

"No matter how innocent the story being relayed to me is, I can twist it into something pretty damn frightening. I've learned the real trick is not sharing these versions with those relaying the story. It tends to make people avoid me."

With *Last Known Victim*, Erica again shows that she is at the top of her game as she takes her readers into the world of post-Katrina New Orleans. A serial killer has benefited from the confusion of the disaster to mask the true horror of his crimes. Now one police captain must risk her career to unmask the villain and solve a murder that has become her personal obsession: that of her own husband. So says New York Times bestselling author Erica Spindler, who has written 27 novels, including *Copycat*, *Killer Takes All*, *See Jane Die*, *Dead Run* and *Bone Cold*. Her novel *Red* was turned into both a wildly popular graphic novel and a daytime drama in Japan. Her skill for crafting engrossing plots and compelling characters has earned both critical praise and legions of fans. Published in 25 countries, her stories have been lauded as "thrill-packed, page turners, white-knuckle rides and edge-of-your-seat whodunits." The *New Orleans Times-Picayune* praised Erica's 2003 novel *In Silence*, calling it "creepy and compelling; a real page turner."

Raised in Rockford, Illinois, Erica had planned on being an artist, earning a BFA from Delta State University and an MFA from the University of New Orleans in the visual arts. In June of 1982, in bed with a cold, she picked up a romance novel for relief from daytime television. She was immediately hooked, and soon decided to try to write one herself. She leaped from romance to suspense in 1996 with her novel *Forbidden Fruit*, and found her true calling. In 2002 her novel *Bone Cold* won the

prestigious Daphne du Maurier Award for excellence. A Romance Writers of America Honor Roll member, she received a Kiss of Death Award for her novels *Forbidden Fruit* and *Dead Run* and was a three-time RITA® Award finalist. In 1999 *Publishers Weekly* awarded the audio version of her novel *Shocking Pink* a Listen Up Award, naming it one of the best audio mystery books of 1998.

Erica lives just outside New Orleans, Louisiana, with her husband and two sons.

For more information about Erica Spindler please go to <http://www.ericaspindler.com/>.
