

THE BOOK THAT KILLS by GARRY O'CONNOR- to be published in November 2012

---

The Book is small, it is lethal, and everyone is fighting to possess it, as it is worth a great deal of money, and may have been written by the Marquis de Sade. It is Marquis de Sade in a modern context, surrounded by murder and intrigue, set in Wales, France, London, and the Cycladic isle of Skopelos.

The story is of a mysterious, erotic book which has connections with events in the French Revolution, and the present day ambition of Olympe de Chavagnac. In the line of other original women in O'Connor's novels (Kate Ferrars in *Campion's Ghost*, Philippa Chaucer and Katherine Swinford in *Chaucer's Triumph*) she believes she is a re-incarnation, as she seeks to own the Book, and with its authority be elected President, then restore the Bourbon Monarchy to France. In the character of Guillaume Lemaitre, her sponsor and frustrated lover, fiction overtakes life, for here is De Sade himself, Dominique Strauss-Kahn, as well as the figure the murky swamps of *50 Shades*. Patrice Léon, an ex-French international rugby player, is the hero- narrator.

In sum, the novel provides a new and original challenge to the present day obsession with sex, related as it is to political power. It is a compelling expression of the potency of the printed book, and stands as a one-off in a discipline dominated by genre fiction and must-read brand-name authors.

There is a fascinating explanation and history as to how Garry O'Connor came to write it.