

Supreme Courtship Christopher Buckley

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Christopher Buckley - Bodies of Proof**Supreme Courtship Christopher Buckley**

Washington, D.C. is chockablock with historians, but perhaps none so jaunty as satirist Christopher ... war on Bermuda, and Buckley's most recent, *Supreme Courtship*, published in 2008.

President of the United States Donald Vanderdamp is having a hell of a time getting his nominees appointed to the Supreme Court. After one nominee is rejected for insufficiently appreciating To Kill A Mockingbird, the president chooses someone so beloved by voters that the Senate won't have the guts to reject her -- Judge Pepper Cartwright, the star of the nation's most popular reality show, Courtroom Six. Will Pepper, a straight-talking Texan, survive a confirmation battle in the Senate? Will becoming one of the most powerful women in the world ruin her love life? And even if she can make it to the Supreme Court, how will she get along with her eight highly skeptical colleagues, including a floundering Chief Justice who, after legalizing gay marriage, learns that his wife has left him for another woman. Soon, Pepper finds herself in the middle of a constitutional crisis, a presidential reelection campaign that the president is determined to lose, and oral arguments of a romantic nature. *Supreme Courtship* is another classic Christopher Buckley comedy about the Washington institutions most deserving of ridicule.

When a television judge ends up on the Supreme Court, romance and the fate of a presidential election take center stage in this comic political satire.

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An irreverent selection of essays by the best-selling author of *Wry Martinis* traces his literary friendships, family experiences and travels in such entries as "How to Teach Your Four-Year-Old to Ski," "A Short History of the Bug Zapper" and "The Art of Sacking."

The bestselling author who made mincemeat of political correctness in *Thank You for Smoking*, conspiracy theories in *Little Green Men*, and Presidential indiscretions *No Way to Treat a First Lady* now takes on the hottest topic in the entire world-Arab-American relations-in a blistering comic novel sure to offend the few it doesn't delight. Appalled by the punishment of her rebellious friend Nazrah, youngest and most petulant wife of Prince Bawad of Wasabia, Florence Farfarletti decides to draw a line in the sand. As Deputy to the deputy assistant secretary for Near East Affairs, Florence invents a far-reaching, wide-ranging plan for female emancipation in that part of the world. The U.S. government, of course, tells her to forget it. Publicly, that is. Privately, she's enlisted in a top-secret mission to impose equal rights for the sexes on the small emirate of Matar (pronounced "Mutter"), the "Switzerland of the Persian Gulf." Her crack team: a CIA killer, a snappy PR man, and a brilliant but frustrated gay bureaucrat. Her weapon: TV shows. The lineup on TV Matar includes *A Thousand and One Mornings*, a daytime talk show that features self-defense tips to be used against boyfriends during Ramadan; an addictive soap opera featuring strangely familiar members of the Matar royal family; and a sitcom about an inept but ruthless squad of religious police, pitched as "Friends from Hell." The result: the first deadly car bombs in the country since 1936, a fatwa against the station's entire staff, a struggle for control of the kingdom, and, of course, interference from the French. And that's only the beginning. A merciless dismantling of both American ineptitude and Arabic intolerance, *Florence of Arabia* is Christopher Buckley's funniest and most serious novel yet, a biting satire of how U.S. good intentions can cause the Shiite to hit the fan.

A New York Times Notable Book of the Year Elizabeth Tyler MacMann, the ambitious First Lady of the United States (and known in the tabloids as "Lady Bethmac"), is on trial for the death of her philandering husband, and the only man who can save her is the boyfriend she jilted in law school—now the most shameless defense attorney in America. Published to rave reviews, *No Way to Treat a First Lady* is a hilariously warped love story for our time set in the funniest place in America: Washington, D.C.

With a pajama-clad President Reagan refusing to leave the White House on his successor's Inauguration Day, Buckley has given this farce of Oval Office politics a nearly perfect beginning. Parodying the familiar form of the White House memoir, Buckley recounts the turbulent years of the Democratic Tucker administration, as told by loyalist Herbert Wadlough. Through this former accountant's eyes, we see the infighting that plagues the White House, the President's faltering marriage to a former starlet, and his ongoing crises.

In an attempt to gain Congressional approval for a top secret weapons system, Washington lobbyist "Bird" McIntyre and sexy Neo-Con wonkette Angel Templeton start a rumour that the Chinese secret service is trying to assassinate the Dalai Lama. Their outrageous scheme provokes a series of crises involving the White House, the CIA, and a strangely sympathetic and vulnerable Chinese president, with both countries veering perilously towards war. Buckley has drawn his most convincing and outrageous characters to date: Bird, failed novelist of amusingly awful Clancy-esque thrillers; Angel, combination Anne Coulter and Ayn Rand; Bird's demanding, equestrian wife, Myndi; Bewks, his feckless but endearing Civil War re-enactor brother; the mild-mannered Chinese President Fa and his devoted aide Gang, manoeuvring desperately against sinister Politbuo hard-liners Minister Lo and General Han. Blending the skewering genius of *Thank You For Smoking* with Dr. Strangelove's dark comedy, *They Eat Puppies Don't They?* has something to offend -- and amuse -- everyone. Praise for Christopher Buckley: "One of the funniest writers in the English language." Tom Wolfe. "A Benchley with WordPerfect." John Updike. "An effervescent joy." Joseph Heller.

Outraged over the mounting Social Security debt, Cassandra Devine, a charismatic 29-year-old blogger and member of Generation Whatever, incites massive cultural warfare when she politely suggests that Baby Boomers be given government incentives to kill themselves by age 75. Her modest proposal catches fire with millions of citizens, chief among them "an ambitious senator seeking the presidency." With the help of Washington's greatest spin doctor, the blogger and the politician try to ride the issue of euthanasia for Boomers (called "transitioning") all the way to the White House over the objections of the Religious Right, and of course, the Baby Boomers, who are deeply offended by demonstrations on the golf courses of their retirement resorts.

Charley Becker, head of one of America's biggest conglomerates, is a man on a mission. His only granddaughter, the beloved Natasha, has been found dead in her flat after taking an accidental overdose of cocaine and now he wants revenge. Determined to find the men responsible, Charley starts by tracking down Natasha's boyfriend, Tim. Then he finds the small-time dealers who supplied him. Charley's way of doing business leaves no room for negotiation. But 'wet work'—the shooting of a victim from up close—is only half the story and the further up the chain Charley gets, the higher the stakes become. To nail Peru's megalomaniac cocaine king, he will have to hire himself some hit men, a gunboat and some truly extraordinary weaponry . . .

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