

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Gregg Sullivan, Publicist: 646.307.5569/ gregg.sullivan@stmartins.com

PUBLICATION DATE: MAY 16, 2006

KILLER INSTINCT

JOSEPH FINDER

***FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE KILLER INSTINCT PLASMA SCREEN TV GIVEAWAY,
PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE***

"Novelists are addicted to things like schools and police departments and armies because it's easy to understand the narrative and dramatic possibilities of those worlds. Getting a grip on the modern corporate world has always been more difficult for fiction writers. I think Joe Finder does it better than anyone."

—MALCOLM GLADWELL, bestselling author of *The Tipping Point* and *Blink*.

"Finder remains the CEO of the corporate thriller in his latest page-turner... creating an all-too-realistic look at the corporate life with some thriller elements thrown into the mix." —LIBRARY

JOURNAL

"...masterful business thriller...readers who enjoy movies where you have to fight the urge to shout 'Stop! Don't open that door!' will love this one." —PUBLISHERS WEEKLY **STARRED REVIEW**

In **Joseph Finder's** bestsellers *Company Man* (2005) and *Paranoia* (2004), he consistently and successfully reinvented the contemporary thriller to the delight of hundreds of thousands of readers. These previous two books landed him on the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Publishers Weekly*, and *New York Times Business* bestseller lists. In this latest novel, **KILLER INSTINCT** (St. Martin's Press; May 16, 2006; ISBN 0.312.34747.2; \$24.95 hardcover), **Finder** presents a story that explores the dark sides of cutthroat industry competition, the pressure to succeed, and how far people will go to get what they want.

In **KILLER INSTINCT**, **Finder** takes aim at the \$37 billion-a-year consumer electronics industry. Before writing the book, he interviewed hundreds of top corporate executives and salespeople and they confided to him secrets that you won't find on the pages of your daily business section. As a result, readers get a unique, inside look at the industry. He exposes how these companies operate, how they monitor their employees' performances, and how they keep their secrets safe through extensive corporate security measures. He also portrays the industry's hyper-competitiveness where winning is indeed the only thing and, as a result, the pressures to succeed often drive otherwise honorable men and women to transgress the limits of decency and even the law.

In **KILLER INSTINCT**, Jason Steadman, an early 30s, likeable salesman lives a happily complacent life working for an electronics giant—a fictional competitor of NEC, Sony, and

Panasonic. It's obvious to his wife and boss that he lacks that "killer instinct" necessary to be tremendously successful. But all that changes one evening when he meets Kurt Semko, a former Special Forces officer just back from Iraq. Jason gets Kurt a job in his company's Corporate Security department. Soon, good things start to happen for Jason and bad things start to happen to his rivals – his career suddenly takes off. Only too late does he discover that his "friend" Kurt has been clandestinely paving his path to the top by the most efficient and ruthless means available. When Jason tries to put a stop to it, he finds that his new pal has become the most dangerous enemy imaginable and now it's far more than just his career that lies in the balance.

— over, please —

KILLER INSTINCT is ultimately a tale of ambition, loyalty, corporate machismo gone wild, and the meaning of success. It boasts **Finder's** masterly, now trademark narrative style: Powerful, moving portrayals of real people from ordinary walks of life trying to survive in a progressively more dangerous and amoral world where virtue and personal integrity are always under attack. Amid the plot's reversals of fortune, readers will easily empathize with Jason Steadman's struggle between his desire to be a nice guy and discovering his "killer instinct" for success. Fast-paced and suspenseful, **KILLER INSTINCT** is sure to delight Finder's established fans as well as new readers.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

JOSEPH FINDER is the author of several previous thrillers, most notably *The New York Times* bestsellers *Paranoia*, *Company Man*, and *High Crimes* (the basis for the Ashley Judd/Morgan Freeman movie). Having spent much of his childhood in Afghanistan and the Philippines, he went on to Yale University, where he graduated *summa cum laude*, and Harvard, where he earned a M.A. from its prestigious Russian Research Center. He lives in Boston, Massachusetts with his wife and daughter. For more information, please visit www.josephfinder.com.

A BOOK TOUR WITH PLASMA SCREEN TV GIVEAWAYS!

Electronics giant **NEC** and **St. Martin's Press** are pleased to announce a plasma screen TV giveaway associated with Joseph Finder's **KILLER INSTINCT** book tour. **NEC** and **St. Martin's Press** will be raffling off **TEN** 42" NEC 42VP5 Plasma Screen TVs with an approximate retail value of \$2,495.

Details on participating bookstores can be found on the Tour Schedule, which is included in the press kit.

For more information about the sweepstakes, please contact Gregg Sullivan (646.307.5569/gregg.sullivan@stmartins.com).

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Gregg Sullivan, Associate Director of Publicity: 646.307.5569/ gregg.sullivan@stmartins.com

Abbye Simkowitz, Publicity Assistant: 646.307.5554/ abbye.simkowitz@stmartins.com

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