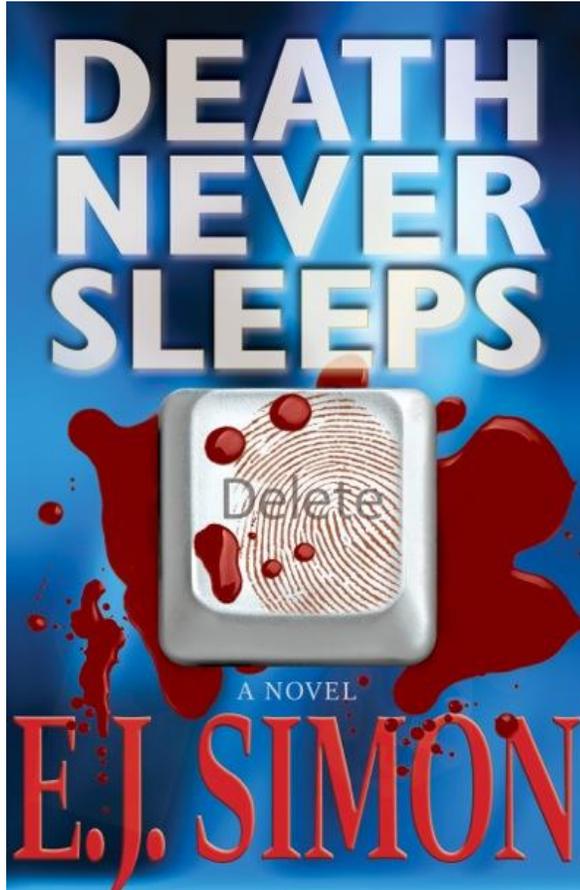


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*"A fast-paced novel with characters you will not forget. A story of murder, betrayal and love with twists and turns that as a professional detective even I didn't expect. DEATH NEVER SLEEPS will leave you thinking about how today's technology could change our concepts of life- and death. A Must Read! E. J. Simon is the real deal."*

**- Vito Colucci, Jr., Author of the true crime book, *Rogue Town, A City Under the Stranglehold of Organized Crime***

*"E. J. Simon weaves a tale with style and grace while this reader white-knuckled her way from start to finish. DEATH NEVER SLEEPS is thriller extraordinaire, keeping its audience riveted and slightly off-balance until its startling conclusion. Simon is a master at the game of suspense. Enter his world and be prepared to be awed. A page-turner at its best that left me begging for more."*

**- Judith Marks-White, Author of *Seducing Harry* and *Bachelor Degree***

*Death Never Sleeps is a deeply imagined and richly detailed crime novel in which virtual reality and the real world intermingle. Let me warn you though, reading this will make you ponder the technology saturating our lives. You will also question where life ends, where death begins, and you will marvel at Mr. Simon's imagination and superb storytelling prowess. Kudos!*

**- Mark Rubinstein, author of *Mad Dog House* and *Love Gone Mad***

# DEATH NEVER SLEEPS

By E.J. Simon

## Do the Dead Have Smartphones?

It's Halloween night in Queens, N.Y. Alex Nicholas, flamboyant bookie and loan shark, is enjoying his favorite meal at his favorite restaurant with his favorite woman who is not his wife. Sated with veal parmigiana and Chivas Regal, he dials his brother Michael's number. He has a very important

secret to tell him. Then he sees the skinny kid with the gun. In his last seconds before a bullet ends his life, Alex tells himself: Michael was smart; he would figure it all out.

Alex and Michael were as different as two brothers could be. Alex, once on track to become a star baseball player, instead became very successful in a collection of illegal businesses. He'd married three gorgeous women, divorced two, kept multiple mistresses, and had friends who carried guns. His brother Michael was living the high end of The American Dream. He was a straight-arrow, squeaky-clean CEO of a financial management company, with one beautiful wife, a daughter in college and a million-dollar colonial in Connecticut.

As Michael sits in the crowded church at his brother's funeral, the pews fill with family, shady business associates and beautiful women. Suddenly, Michael is distracted by a mysterious message in his Blackberry's inbox: It's a photo of Alex sitting behind his desk, and the words, "Life is a dream, and death is waking up."

At Alex's wake, Michael is shocked to learn that his own family is in danger. Alex died owing big money to cold-blooded mobsters who will stop at nothing to collect their debts. Their idea of negotiating was a gun below a table, aimed below the belt. Within hours, Michael is drawn into the search for the millions of dollars Alex's widow is sure Alex had stashed away.

Michael gets another message while he's standing by Alex's grave: "What are you doing here?" The pieces start to come together when Skinny Lester, Alex's right-hand man, tells Michael that just before his death, Alex had installed some very specialized software on his hidden laptop: a program that would allow him to live forever.

Things are never quite what they seem in this page-turning romp through exclusive hotels and expensive restaurants with beautiful, desperate women, tough-guy thugs, cynical cops and devious wiseguys. As Michael crosses the globe to find the people behind his brother's murder, the bodies start to fall, and the lines between life, death, the spirit, and the Internet blur.

How can Michael avoid his brother's fate? Just how far beyond death can Alex reach out to help him?

**E.J. SIMON** was CEO of GMAC Global Relocation Services and the Managing Director of Douglas Elliman, the largest real estate company in New York. He is a consultant to many leading private equity firms and has held senior level positions at prominent financial services companies. He is a world traveler, food enthusiast and lives in Connecticut. **DEATH NEVER SLEEPS** is his first novel.

## **DEATH NEVER SLEEPS**

By E.J. Simon

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