

# CLEOPATRA'S VENDETTA

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# Critical Praise



"Action, adventure, and suspense! A juicy thriller." — **Robert Dugoni, *New York Times* & International Bestselling Author of the Tracy Crosswhite Series**

"A fascinating look at the 2000-year culture clash between male and female power systems, and the brilliant propaganda strategies that have been deployed, from ancient Rome and Egypt to modern times." — **Katherine Neville, *New York Times*, *USA Today*, and #1 Internationally Bestselling author**

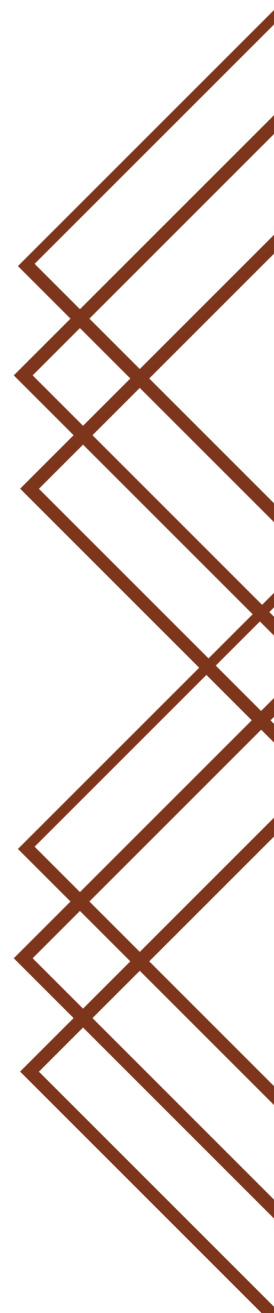


"Race-against-time, action-packed adventure. This is a thriller that will captivate its audience from the first page." — **Manhattan Book Review**

"An adventure that will appeal to fans of Dan Brown. It's one of those rare birds: a thriller that will have you turning the pages and leave you thinking." — **Debbi Mack, *New York Times* bestselling author of the Sam McRae and Erica Jensen mysteries**

"If you like your modern global threats to have a dash of ancient mystery and mysticism, you're going to find yourself with some sleepless nights while reading Cleopatra's Vendetta." — **Kevin Tumlinson, bestselling and award-winning author of *The Coelho Medallion***

"Dangerous and intoxicating." — **Audrey Wilson, screenwriter, producer, and award-winning author of *Wrong Girl Gone***



# CLEOPATRA'S VENDETTA

*Born a goddess, Cleopatra died a prisoner. But the cobra's deadly kiss was just the beginning...*

Bari, Italy, present day. Think tank Special Ops leader Timothy Stryker and his wife Angie, a self-made CEO, haven't exactly been seeing eye-to-eye. They take a much-needed Italian holiday, but it comes to a shocking end when Angie and their daughter are kidnapped.

Still raw from the death of their infant son, Stryker is desperate to rescue Angie and reconcile their differences. As he works to locate the captors' lair, he discovers the kidnappers are behind a string of recent assassinations and attempting another high-profile hit in only seven days. But when he learns their plans for his only remaining child, the scab on his heart tears open and blood begins to spill.

Working from inside her brutal captors' high-security compound, Angie realizes the cabal is hiding an ancient secret using modern propaganda techniques. And as Stryker races hitmen across India, Egypt, and Greece to thwart the next assassination and save his family, he has to connect a series of deadly dots tracing all the way back to the time of Cleopatra. Ultimately, the estranged pair must shake the deeply buried pillars of western civilization to save their four-year-old daughter from an unspeakable fate.

*Fascinating, provocative, original, and timely, Cleopatra's Vendetta is a sizzling novel that paints a disturbing picture of some of the most intricate issues that have plagued humanity's past...challenges that color our days and provide the blueprint for our future.*



# Meet the Author

*International bestselling author who blends intrigue, history, science, and mystery into pulse-pounding thrillers*


Avanti Centrae is honored to have won nine literary awards.

She finds inspiration from her father, who served as a US marine corporal in Okinawa, gathering military intelligence. Avanti graduated from Purdue University and has spent time in a spectrum of professions, from raft guide to Silicon Valley IT executive. When not traveling the world or hiking in the Sierra mountains, she's writing her next thriller in Northern California, helped by her family and distracted by her German shepherds.

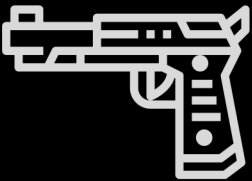



# CHARACTERS

## Meet the Strykers:



Timothy Stryker, 32, is the redhaired/blue-eyed leader of the paramilitary M2 team, which is part of US Futures Command, a forward-looking Army think tank. With a master's degree in Applied Linguistics and Psychology, he enjoys poetry and plays violin. A worldly spy, he can blend in everywhere. His dad was a German alcoholic who abused his Irish mother, then killed her and himself when Timothy was seven. Stryker lived through it, but ended up without the ring and pinkie fingers on his left hand. Scarred on the inside, too, Stryker was then raised by strict aunt in Illinois where he hunted on the family farm. He's from the wrong side of Chicago and that accent lingers when he's tired. When he was thirteen, he tried to kill himself, then got into Yoga and personal growth. He joined the Air Force and eventually landed with the M2 team. Stryker always wants to do the right thing.



Angie Stryker, 29 – Met Tim Stryker through her sister, Samantha Coin, who was in the Air Force with Stryker. Angie has a slight southern accent. She's a wealthy self-made biotech CEO, and Krav Maga trainee (G3 blue belt). Driven and successful. She is known as Agent NR-11 with the CIA, part of the National Resources program that uses executives to gather intelligence. Intense, impatient, she intimidates many with her striking pale blue eyes. Likes good whiskey, fine wine, and caviar. Loves her German Shepherd. She has a lifelong fear of water and can't swim. Started drinking too much after she and Tim lost their first child, Malachi, and they've been fighting about it. The Strykers live in Key West, Florida.

# Around the World Danger



Civil War  
is  
Brewing

Kidnapped  
in Bari

Trouble  
in  
Turkey

Clues in  
Cleo's  
Tomb

Shootout  
in  
Greece

# A "Dangerous" & Controversial Thriller

Publishing details

## *Cleopatra's Vendetta*

*Royal secrets. Epic lies.*

*This standalone thriller from international bestselling VanOps author Avanti Centrae is a fast-paced bombshell of a story about truth and courage.*

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