

TOR PUBLISHING GROUP



****On-sale: February 6, 2024****

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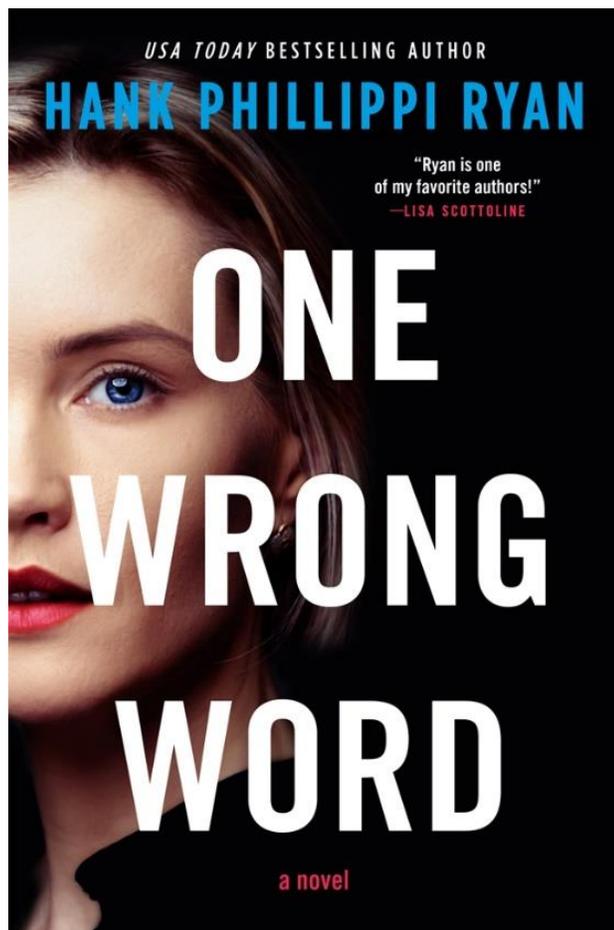
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**A HEART-RACING NEW CAT-AND-MOUSE THRILLER FROM *USA TODAY*
BESTSELLING AND MULTIPLE AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR,
HANK PHILLIPPI RYAN**

ONE WRONG WORD HANK PHILLIPPI RYAN



“A story with all the goods—great characters, blistering pace, and powered by prose that cuts right to the nerve.

Buckle up and read.”

—David Baldacci, Bestselling Author

“If you're looking for riveting suspense that keeps you up late—in **ONE WRONG WORD** you get your wish.”

—#1 Bestselling Author James Patterson

“Tense and twisty! Hard to put down.”

—Shari Lapena, Internationally Bestselling author of *Everyone Here is Lying* and *The Couple Next Door*

“I have one right word for **ONE WRONG WORD** by the amazing Hank Phillippi Ryan - fabulous!! A gripping rollercoaster of a read that will have you switching allegiances with every turn of the page.

This is Hank at her very best—another brilliant book!”

—B.A. Paris, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Behind Closed Doors*

“ONE WRONG WORD grabbed me on the first page and didn’t let go. Ryan never fails to amaze me.”
—Mary Kubica, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Just the Nicest Couple*

“My favorite Hank Phillippi Ryan book to date.... A page-turner from start to finish, **ONE WRONG WORD** had me flying through the pages, pausing only to catch my breath. Not to be missed!”
—Heather Gudenkauf, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Overnight Guest*

“Propulsive and bingeable, **ONE WRONG WORD** kept me guessing to the very end.”
—Ana Reyes, *New York Times* bestselling author of *A House in the Pines*

“Masterful storytelling and relentless pacing come together in a chilling tale of deception, manipulation, and paranoia—this is your next must-read!”
—Liv Constantine, internationally bestselling author of *The Last Mrs. Parrish*

“ONE WRONG WORD is a sublime cat-and-mouse Hank Phillippi Ryan proves once again that she’s at the top of her game, and a master of suspense!”
—Hannah Mary McKinnon, internationally bestselling author of *The Revenge List*

“No one does a cat and mouse thriller like Hank Phillippi Ryan, and **ONE WRONG WORD** is a tense, snappy, mind-blowing story that made my heart pound. Nail-bitingly suspenseful and very clever, this is Ryan at her best.”
—Samantha M. Bailey, *USA Today* and internationally bestselling author of *Woman on the Edge*

“Ryan knows how to keep readers on the edge of their seats, and she does it again with this pulse pounding thriller. Bravo!”
—Wendy Walker, bestselling author of *What Remains*

This winter, Hank Phillippi Ryan, the bestselling and award-winning author who has won 37 Emmys for her investigative journalism, returns with her latest gripping novel of suspense: **ONE WRONG WORD** (Forge Hardcover, eBook, and Macmillan Audio; On-sale: February 6, 2024). Using her longtime expertise as an investigative reporter, combined with her timely and pitch-perfect storytelling skills, Ryan spins a cat-and-mouse thriller that will leave everyone in your book club sitting on the edge of their seats. The book explores the insidious nature of gossip, scandal and lies—and how careers, friendships, and even marriages can be shattered forever by **ONE WRONG WORD**.

One wrong word can ruin your life. And no one knows that better than savvy crisis management expert Arden Ward. Problem is—she’s now forced to handle a devastating crisis of her own. She’s unfairly accused of having a torrid affair with a powerful client—and now her life and dreams are about to crash and burn. Then Arden is given an ultimatum. She has two weeks to save her career and her reputation.

Is Cordelia Bannister the answer to her prayers?

Cordelia needs help for her husband Ned, a Boston real estate mogul. Though he was recently acquitted in a fatal drunk driving accident, his reputation is ruined, and the fallout is devastating not only to the Bannisters' lives, but also to the lives of their two adorable children. Arden devotes her skill and determination—and maybe her final days on the job—to helping this shattered family, but soon, revelations begin to emerge about what really happened the night of the accident. And then—another car crash throws Ned back into the spotlight.

This case is Arden's final chance to protect her own future and clear her name. But the more she tries to untangle the truth, the more she's haunted by one disturbing question—what if she's also protecting a killer? Gossip. Lies. Rumors. Words like that can hurt you. And Arden knows the reality.

Sometimes one wrong word can even kill.

Praised by reviewers, booksellers, readers, and many fellow authors including James Patterson, David Baldacci, Shari Lapena, and more, **ONE WRONG WORD** is not-to-be-missed! Only Hank Phillippi Ryan could combine her award-winning reporting skills and talented fiction writing to craft characters you root for, twisty non-stop suspense, and a page-turning story of gaslighting, manipulation, and murder.

ONE WRONG WORD

Hank Phillippi Ryan

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Complete bio, photo, and more information below
(photo credit Iden Ford)

Hank Phillippi Ryan



As an on-air investigative reporter for Boston's WHDH-TV, **Hank Phillippi Ryan** has wired herself with hidden cameras, confronted corrupt politicians, chased down criminals, gone undercover and in disguise. She's handled stories as varied as the Atlanta missing and murdered children to the Boston Marathon bombing. Ryan has changed laws and changed lives with her investigative reporting—gotten people sent to prison, helped reclaim family's homes out of unfair foreclosure, and recovered millions of dollars in refunds and restitution for consumers. At least five new laws have been passed as a result of Ryan's journalism. She has won 37 Emmys for this reporting and as she says, every one of those Emmys represents a devastating secret that someone was trying to prevent her from telling. Ryan brings that exclusive inside look into the criminal mind and the stories that captivated us all—now turned to fiction, she creates realistic page-turning suspense.

Ryan is the nationally bestselling author of 14 thrillers and also an award-winner in her second profession—with five Agathas, five Anthonys, two Macavitys, the Daphne, and for *THE OTHER WOMAN*, the coveted Mary Higgins Clark Award.

Critics call her “a master of suspense” and “a superb and gifted storyteller” and she is the only author to have won the Agatha in four different categories: Best First, Best Novel, Best Short Story and Best Non-Fiction. Ryan's 2019 release, *THE MURDER LIST* is a *USA Today* Bestseller, won the Anthony Award for Best Novel of the Year, and was an Agatha and Mary Higgins Clark Award nominee. Her 2020 release, *THE FIRST TO LIE*, also a *USA Today* Bestseller, was nominated for the Mary Higgins Clark Award and the Anthony Award, and *Publishers Weekly* called it “Stellar” in a starred review. The *USA Today* Bestseller *HER PERFECT LIFE*, published in 2021, received starred reviews from *Publishers Weekly* (“A superlative thriller”) and *Kirkus*, was an Agatha Award nominee for Best Novel. 2023's *THE HOUSE GUEST* was called “binge-worthy” by *Library Journal* in a starred review.

Ryan is past president of National Sisters in Crime, and a sought-after teacher and speaker. She now hosts *Crime Time on A Mighty Blaze*, is a founder and co-host of *The Back Room*, and is co-host of *First Chapter Fun*. She lives in Boston with her husband, a renowned civil rights and criminal defense attorney.

Visit Ryan online at HankPhillippiRyan.com, on Twitter @HankPRyan, on Instagram @hankpryan and on Facebook at [HankPhillippiRyanAuthor](https://www.facebook.com/HankPhillippiRyanAuthor).