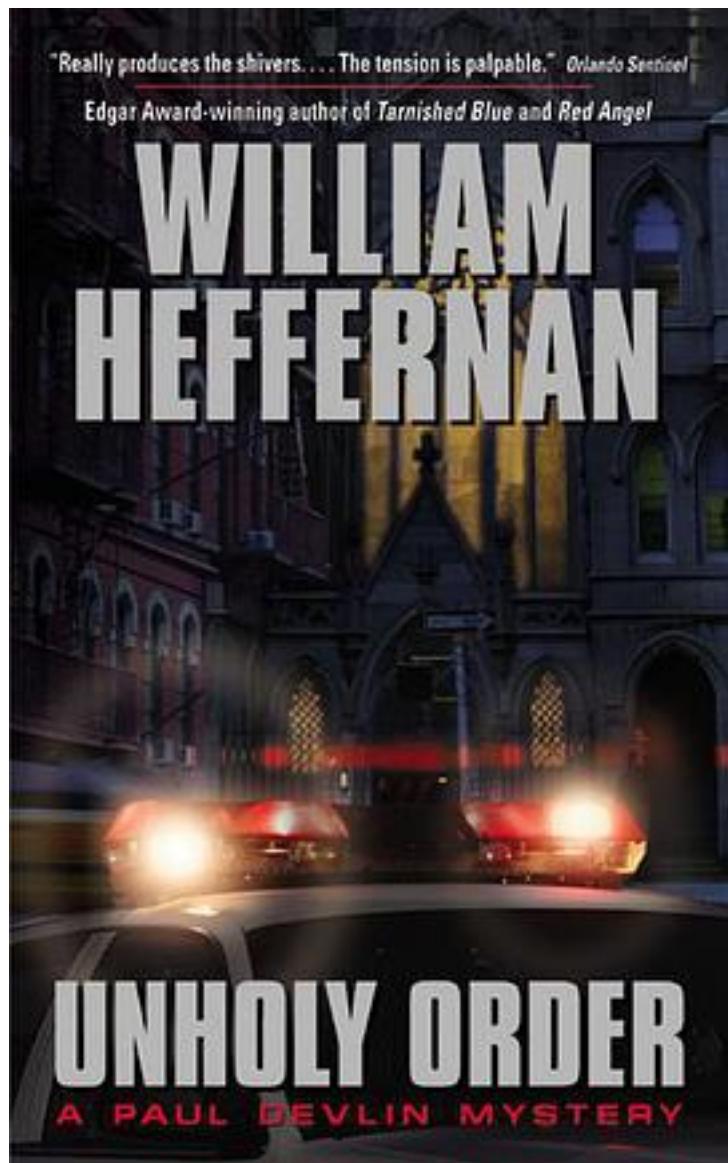


# Unholy Order: A Paul Devlin Mystery



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The leader of an elite squad of NYPD homicide detectives, maverick man-hunter Paul Devlin returns in an electrifying novel of suspense that plumbs terrible secrets hidden in the untouchable world of the righteous. **UNHOLY ORDER** No evil is more frightening than the horror that masquerades as good. In a city as huge and unpredictably dangerous as New York, murder is sadly unremarkable. A new slaying, however, has tossed the red ball squarely in Detective Paul Devlin's lap. This victim is a woman, her throat and midsection viciously slashed open, a lethal dose of heroin found in her system. But this outrage is different. This corpse was that of a nun. With the press turning the killing into a carnival -- with blistering heat coming down from the mayor's office, One Police Plaza, and the Archdiocese -- Devlin needs to find a murderer, and fast. But suddenly walls are being erected in his path, and powerful threats are being made to stall an investigation that is leading Paul Devlin and his people in a shocking direction: into the secret, fortified heart of the Catholic church itself -- and toward a terrifying conspiracy cloaked in silence, piety, and blood. And death keeps coming. A seemingly uncontrollable plague of carnage is cutting down those who have dedicated their lives to a fierce, vengeful God. As the body count grows -- as the pieces of a fiendishly twisted puzzle slowly fall into place -- Devlin realizes that the web of terror extends wider than anyone ever imagined, into virtually every level of society. In domains sacred and secular -- among the city's top cops, priests, and politicians -- no one is incorruptible. And no one is safe, least of all Paul Devlin, as a desperate hunt for a nightmarish truth sparks a bloodchilling vendetta aimed at one dedicated policeman . . . and those he loves most dearly. Never before has the dark, urban wasteland of cops and maniacs been more vividly portrayed -- and never have the saber-sharp storytelling skills of Edgar Award winner William Heffernan been as expertly wielded -- than in this intensely riveting tale of sin and sacrifice that solidifies the author's standing as a true master of the crime thriller.

作者介绍:

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