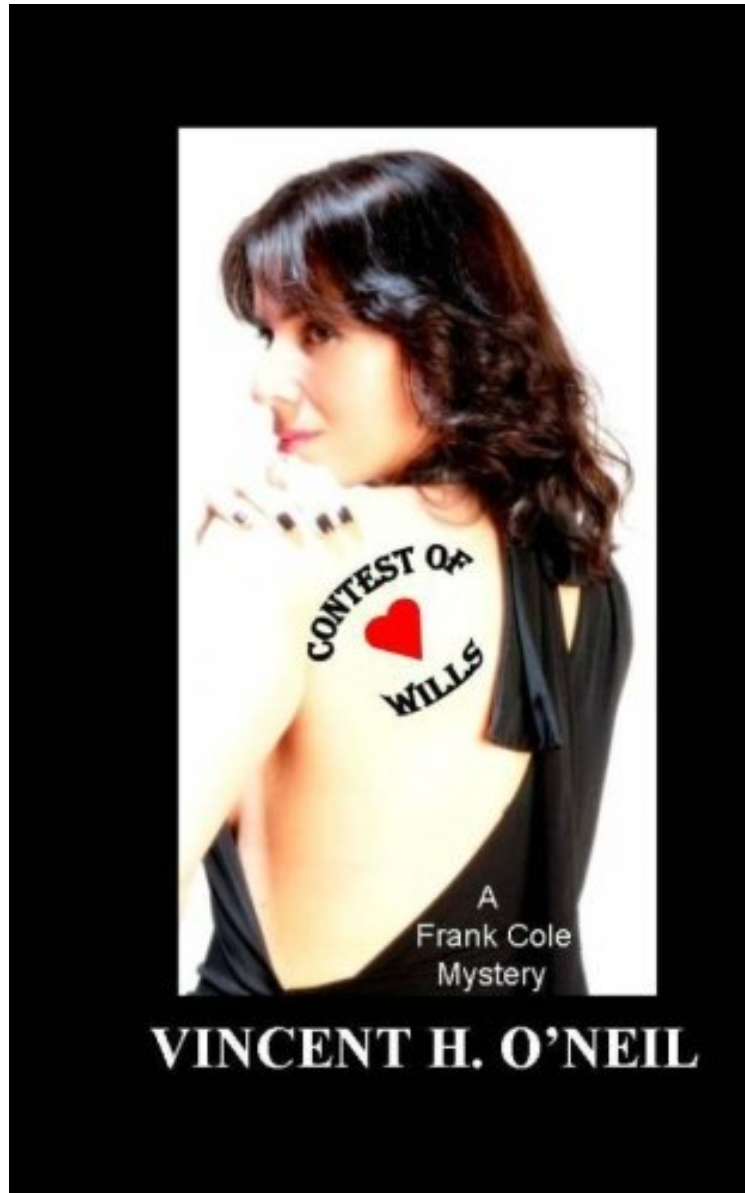


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## Contest of Wills: A Frank Cole Mystery

*Vincent H. O'Neil*

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**Vincent H. O'Neil : Contest of Wills: A Frank Cole Mystery** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Contest of Wills: A Frank Cole Mystery:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent murder mystery "Who Dun It?"By Robert EnzenauerWell since I just finished Book 3 of the author's Sci-Fi series, I am going back to finish up the author's more traditional murder mystery series involving Frank Cole. I really like this author, and this installment is very good. The author has

created some really great "characters" in a dysfunctional family. Lots of devious plot twists and turns that keeps the reader scratching his/her head about who is the murderer. The author also writes very good dialogue. And the "plot device" of looking through party pics is quite good. Certainly the best Frank Cole novel by my estimation. Now I just have to "catch up" with the Frank Cole novels I have not YET read.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.  
A Welcome Return to Exile  
By E. E. Justice  
I've been feeling something missing from my life. I didn't realize what until I read Vincent O'Neil's latest Frank Cole adventure, Contest of Wills. I'd been missing Frank, who after the earlier three episodes, has become like a trusted buddy. I missed his self-deprecating charm - a dude like many of us who has screwed up royally in life but soldiers on. I'd also been missing O'Neil's deft, facile prose. Like the other Exile books, this one made me smile a lot as I followed Frank and his crew through the plot convolutions. Of course, the getting there is all the fun and O'Neil doesn't disappoint. The only bummer is knowing it'll be another year or so till I get to hang out with Frank again. Maybe I should move to Exile.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.  
A Fun Puzzler  
By Ann Meier  
The fourth in the Frank Cole series, is a fun read for mystery fans who like to solve puzzles. Vincent O'Neil provides a manageable group of suspects that are introduced to the reader in a way that makes it easy to keep everyone straight and yet difficult to decide who 'dun it'. The author plays fair with the reader giving the reader all the facts Frank Cole has and plenty of time to weigh the available evidence. The suspects are refreshing and act in ways that you might not expect family members with millions at stake and a missing will to behave. Frank's new partner is an enjoyable character that even Frank knows is upstaging him, but Frank's generous nature makes that okay. Satisfying resolution.

When we last saw Frank Cole in EXILE TRUST, he'd solved a twenty year-old murder and had also helped his good friend Gray Toliver uncover a plot to break into the Exile town bank's safe deposit area. He was still saddled with the massive debt from his bankruptcy, was still working as a low-paid fact-checker, and was still dating local photographer Beth Ann Thibedault. In CONTEST OF WILLS, Frank gets a new job, a new friend, and a new case: When Frank signs on as a fact-checker for a Tallahassee law firm, he has no idea what's in store for him. The firm's lead investigator, brash Jimmy Hanigan, quickly introduces him to the darker side of private investigations work. Then the firm's owner, Walter Daley, tells them that his old friend and client Chester Pratt has died of a prescription drug interaction-and that Pratt's will is missing. Frank and Jimmy soon discover that everyone named in the missing will was at Pratt's birthday party the night he died, and that he'd already had a close call with the same medication months before. Frank's photographer girlfriend Beth Ann steps in when Frank and Jimmy get hold of the pictures from the birthday party, and her help doesn't end in the darkroom: Against Frank's wishes, Jimmy Hanigan soon has her working undercover in places where he and Frank would be recognized. As the trio dig deeper into the case, they learn that Pratt's death may have indeed been an accident, that no one in his family seems to want his fortune, and that an old nemesis from Frank's first case is dogging their steps. In no time at all, it's a true Contest of Wills in sunny Florida.

About the Author  
Vincent H. O'Neil brings a wealth of life experience to his writing. After graduating from West Point, he served as an infantry platoon leader in the 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum, New York for three years and as an infantry company commander in the 1-508th Airborne Battalion in the Republic of Panama for two years. He is a graduate of the Defense Language Institute's aggressive one-year Mandarin Chinese language training program, and holds a Master of Arts degree in International Business from The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy. Among his many different experiences, he has provided consulting services to a software development firm, managed risk in a major corporation, created marketing campaigns, and worked as an apprentice librarian. After writing in his spare time for many years, he won the St. Martin's Press "Malice Domestic" Writing Competition in 2005. His critically-acclaimed debut novel, Murder in Exile, is the first in a mystery series featuring the background-checker Frank Cole. It was followed by Reduced Circumstances, Exile Trust, and Contest of Wills. He has also released the military science fiction novel Glory Main (under the name Henry V. O'Neil) and the Lovecraftian horror novel Interlands, featuring his first female protagonist. All of his novels are available in ebook and print versions, and you can read sample chapters at his website [www.vincenthoneil.com](http://www.vincenthoneil.com)