

THE VATICAN DEAL — CHARACTER GUIDE

Welcome to *The Vatican Deal*! This award-winning international crime thriller takes Marty and Bo from Portland, Oregon, to the heart of Italy, where art, money, and power collide behind the walls of the Vatican.

Many readers have told us they love the twists, the atmosphere, and the intrigue—but with so many Italian names and international players, it can be hard to keep everyone straight. This character guide is here to help you navigate who's who without giving away any spoilers.

RETURNING CHARACTERS

Marty Schott — Clever, impulsive, and quick with a sarcastic remark, Marty once again finds himself in deep trouble—this time on foreign soil.

Bo Bishop — Marty's business partner and steady counterpart. Reliable, practical, and quietly brave, Bo's loyalty grounds the chaos around him.

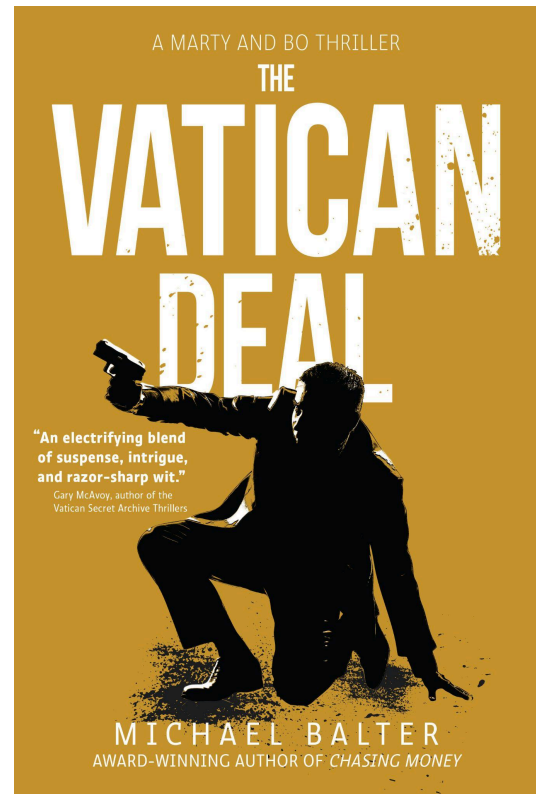
Natalya Danilenko — Elegant and composed, the Russian art dealer returns with her trademark confidence and mystery—along with new dimensions of warmth and vulnerability.

Dante Scava — A sharp-tongued artist and forger, still burdened by guilt over his brother's death. His humor offers relief when situations go awry.

INSIDE THE VATICAN

Leo Giacobbe — An ambitious American working for the Vatican who knows how to get what he wants—until the game turns against him.

Cardinal Bartalemo Bertolini — Soft-spoken head of Vatican Economic Affairs. Gentle, wise, and never without purpose.



Cardinal Claude Rautan — The intellectual head of the Vatican Library. Scholarly and weary, he has seen more secrets than he'll ever reveal.

Angelo Caloia — President of the Vatican Bank. Formal yet approachable, he navigates the delicate intersection of faith and finance.

THE ITALIANS

Alessio Rosa — Gruff manager of the Chiurazzi Foundry, a man of few words and many scars.

Lamberto Liuzzo — A charming yet prickly lawyer whose polished edges hide sharp motives.

Gabriele Liuzzo — Lamberto's father, a calm, seasoned lawyer skilled in the gray zones of finance and law.

Vincenzo Vincenzi — Discreet hotel manager whose quiet efficiency hints at powerful connections.

Porn Guy — A large, scarred enforcer for the Di Lupo family, all menace and muscle.

Tadpole — His lean, jumpy partner—sinister and unpredictable.

Spina Paulo — Confident, alluring, and educated in England; her loyalties are her own.

Cosimo Di Lupo — Elder Di Lupo brother, handsome and ruthless, ruling Naples's underworld.

Gemma Di Lupo — Ambitious, mercurial daughter of a Mafia boss—beautiful and deadly.

Franco “Cicciotto” Di Lupo — Cosimo's younger brother—bloated, menacing, and armed.

Raffaele Casertani (“Il Secessionista”) — A rival mob leader waging war to reclaim power from the Di Lupos.

THE RUSSIANS & OTHER THREATS

Dmitry Chernyshevsky — Russia's sixth-richest oligarch—polished, powerful, and coldly calculating.

Valentin “Valya” Kovalev — Dmitry's interpreter and trusted right-hand man—calm, educated, and quietly commanding.

Sergei Sidorovov — Dmitry's head of security. Hard, loyal, and lethal.

Brody Lynch — An Irish mercenary with dangerous charm—once an enemy, now something far more complicated.

