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Contacts: Julia Prosser, VP, Director of Publicity, julia.prosser@simonandschuster.com

Tracey Guest, VP, Executive Director of Publicity, tracey.guest@stmartins.com

#1 Bestselling Authors Hillary Rodham Clinton and Louise Penny Team Up to Write Thriller

STATE OF TERROR to be jointly published by Simon & Schuster and St. Martin's Press in October

February 24, 2021, New York, NY—Simon & Schuster and St. Martin's Press are proud to publish a novel written by Hillary Rodham Clinton and Louise Penny. A unique collaboration by two long-time friends and thriller aficionados, *STATE OF TERROR* will be published on October 12, 2021.

The story follows a novice Secretary of State who has joined the administration of her rival, a president inaugurated after four years of American leadership that shrank from the world stage. A series of terrorist attacks throws the global order into disarray, and the Secretary is tasked with assembling a team to unravel the deadly conspiracy, a scheme carefully designed to take advantage of an American government dangerously out of touch and out of power in the places where it counts the most.

This high-stakes thriller of international intrigue features behind-the-scenes global drama informed by details only an insider could know.

"When it was suggested my friend Hillary and I write a political thriller together, I could not say yes fast enough," said Louise Penny. "What an incredible experience, to get inside the State Department. Inside the White House. Inside the mind of the Secretary of State as high stake crises explode. Before we started, we talked about her time as Secretary of State. What was her worst nightmare? *STATE OF TERROR* is the answer."

Hillary Clinton added, "Writing a thriller with Louise is a dream come true. I've relished every one of her books and their characters as well as her friendship. Now we're joining our experiences to explore the complex world of high stakes diplomacy and treachery. All is not as it first appears."

In a joint statement, Jonathan Karp, President and Chief Executive Officer of Simon & Schuster, and Don Weisberg, Chief Executive Officer of Macmillan Trade Publishers, said, "When we read Louise Penny and Hillary Clinton's outline for *STATE OF TERROR*, it was immediately clear that when an ingenious novelist goes to work with one of the world's most knowledgeable leaders, the results are kinetic. We are delighted to be part of this exciting publishing relationship, and we expect *STATE OF TERROR* to thrill legions of readers throughout the world."

Simon & Schuster and St. Martin's acquired World and Audio Rights from Robert B. Barnett of Williams & Connolly, who represented Hillary Clinton, and David Gernert of The Gernert Company, who represented Louise Penny in the deal, with Pan Macmillan publishing in the UK simultaneously. Jennifer Enderlin, President and Publisher of the St. Martin's Publishing Group, will edit the novel.



HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON is the first woman in US history to become the presidential nominee of a major political party. She served as the 67th Secretary of State after nearly four decades in public service advocating on behalf of children and families as an attorney, First Lady, and US Senator. She is a wife, mother, grandmother, and author of seven previous books, all published by Simon & Schuster.

Photo credit: Joe McNally



LOUISE PENNY is an international award winning and bestselling author whose books have hit #1 on the New York Times, USA Today, and Globe and Mail lists. Her Chief Inspector Armand Gamache novels, published by Minotaur Books, an imprint of the St. Martin's Publishing Group, have been translated into 31 languages. In 2017, she received the Order of Canada for her contributions to Canadian culture. Louise Penny lives in a village south of Montréal.

Photo credit: Jean-François Bérubé



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