



About the Author

Lance Charnes has been an Air Force intelligence officer, IT manager, computer-game artist, set designer, *Jeopardy!* contestant, and now an emergency management specialist. He's had training in architectural rendering, terrorist incident response, and maritime archaeology, but not all at the same time. His [Facebook author page](#) features spies, archaeology, and art crime.

CHASING CLAY

by Lance Charnes

It's pure white, deep blue... and dirty all over.

Nam Ton ware—centuries-old ceramics from Southeast Asia's Golden Triangle—captivated the DeWitt Agency's tech-tycoon client. Now Immigration and Customs Enforcement is on his case for buying smuggled antiquities. To get immunity, he's hired the agency to run an off-books investigation into Nam Ton's source.

Disgraced ex-L.A. gallerist and ex-con Matt Friedrich is in charge. If he finishes within sixty days, he'll earn an early end to his probation. If he doesn't, he may go back to prison for bending the federal criminal code into a pretzel.

Soon enough, Matt's in San Francisco, getting tight with Savannah, the client's beautiful art advisor, to scam his way into the smuggling operation. As the burglary, blackmail, tax evasion, and customs fraud piles up and Matt finds himself sandwiched in a federal turf war, he realizes he's in way over his head with no good way out. And that's *before* he ends up in a real live jungle.

Matt's dealing with a type of art he knows nothing about from an area he's seen only in war movies. Now the fate of some trafficked pottery may decide whether Matt gets his freedom... or spends a long stretch in a concrete cell.

Chasing Clay by Lance Charnes

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Praise for *Chasing Clay*

"...fast-paced with strong tension and a well-constructed plot...Protagonist Matt Friedrich's voice is distinct and believable. Charnes's dialogue is gripping and easily moves the plot forward... Chasing Clay is an entertaining and fast-paced mystery, featuring an everyman hero thrust into a high-stakes spy world." – The BookLife Prize