



As in the first two books, Inspector Cassandra McCarthy is based on a friend and real fire inspector in a small, North Carolina town, although details of her life were changed to simplify her story and mask her identity.

All characters within the story, other than Cassandra, are fictional including Detective Campos, Chief, Kelan, and all firefighters.

Silver Heights is loosely based on the town of Raeford, North Carolina, although names of fire departments, neighborhoods, and other identifying places have been changed.

Inspections and fires within the story are loosely based on true stories from the experiences of various firefighters and inspectors I read through books and news reports from around the world. In each case, key details were changed to make them my own, so any resemblance to real life is coincidental.

## CHAPTER 2

The fires I describe in this series of books are based on real fires I either read about in newspapers or learned about directly from firemen and ambulance workers. Occasionally, first responders run across emergencies that they can do little about until the person they are trying to help is in police custody.

## CHAPTER 3

Myasthenia gravis is a chronic autoimmune neuromuscular disease. In minor cases, patients may be weak or tire easily, requiring lots of rest. In more severe cases, it can affect the muscles that control chewing, swallowing, and breathing. Eyelid movement, facial expression, and talking are other common areas of attack for this disease. Caused by an error in the nerve impulse

transmission, doctors have yet to discover a cure, but most individuals with this disease have a good quality of life and normal life expectancy.

## CHAPTER 5

Fire departments across America respond to far more car accidents and medical emergencies than they do fires.

## CHAPTER 7

Five hundred thousand and one chickens really did drown at a chicken farm in our area in the flooding that happened after Hurricane Matthew in 2016. The other details are as I received them: she called the landfill and was quoted \$350,000 to dispose of the chickens then she called the state for help. I visited the farm several weeks after the flooding. The smell was questionable, and the flies were still terrible.