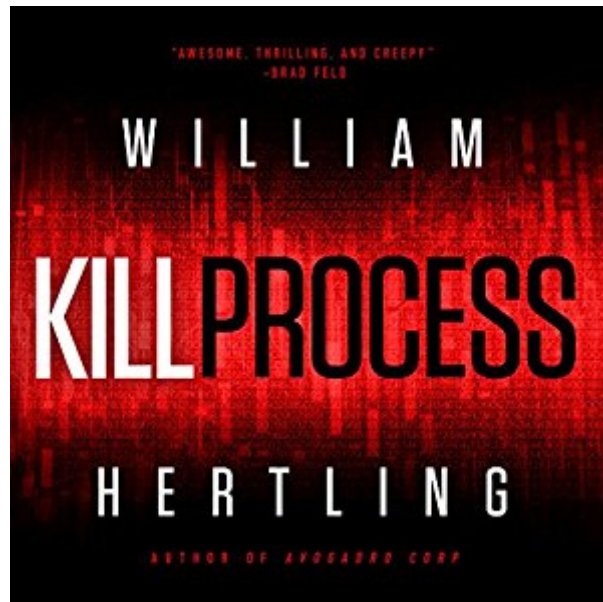


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# Kill Process



## Synopsis

By day, Angie, a 20-year veteran of the tech industry, is a data analyst at Tomo, the world's largest social networking company; by night, she exploits her database access to profile domestic abusers and kill the worst of them. She can't change her own traumatic past, but she can save other women. When Tomo introduces a deceptive new product that preys on users' fears to drive up its own revenue, Angie sees Tomo for what it really is - another evil abuser. Using her coding and hacking expertise, she decides to destroy Tomo by building a new social network that is completely distributed, compartmentalized, and unstoppable. If she succeeds, it will be the end of all centralized power in the Internet. But how can an anti-social, one-armed programmer with too many dark secrets succeed when the world's largest tech company is out to crush her and a no-name government black ops agency sets a psychopath to look into her growing digital footprint?

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I am an enormous William Hertling fan. I think he's one of the best near term sci-fi writers currently writing. He shifted a little on this book and the result is a magnificent techno-thriller with extremely complex issues underlying the thriller part. The reader is immediately plunged into multiple ethical dilemmas surrounding the main character, and incredibly strong female protagonist who is struggling with her own historical personal issues while navigating the complex and challenging world of a startup. This is one of the best books I've read in 2016.

I've read all of William Hertling's books and was anxiously waiting for this newest book as it branches out from his previous series and ventures into new territory. This book doesn't disappoint and it's great to see the author expand his breadth and depth as a writer, as well as to see him apply his analytical & writing style in attacking this new front of near-term techno-fiction. If you're a fan of Ramez Naam or Eliot Peper, you'll enjoy this book.

Kill Process is a story of Angie, who is a former computer hacker who now works for Tomo, a mega online social network similar to Facebook. Angie decides to leave Tomo to develop her own network which will allow users to interact socially with friends and family without the data mining and constant intrusive overwatch that comes with membership to Tomo. The story details the obstacles that must be overcome by a new start-up company while defending against overt campaigns designed to make the start-up company fail and prevent competition. Then there's Angie herself. She's a victim of abuse from her deceased husband who died in a traffic accident engineered by Angie herself, and in which she lost her right arm. She still fights against her PTSD and has trouble getting close to men, both physically and emotionally. Additionally, Angie sees herself as a defender of abused women by engineering the deaths of the abusers through manipulation of computer-based devices. She does this from a distance with no evidence leading back to herself. Yet, she is a murderer, but with a purpose and a pure heart. You just have to root for her every time she goes after a bad guy. Ultimately, Kill Process is a very detailed and complicated tale, deeply rooted in computer speak. The average reader may be overwhelmed with the tech data, which may or may not even be fictional. I have to say that the ending is marvelously demonic. Just remember, never try to outsmart a devious hacker. The story itself is fun, but can be a bit tedious at times. The character development is amazing and the twists and turns will keep you guessing till the end. Great story!

We have a heroine who, without benefit of trial or jury, cleverly executes bad guys (wife abusers). The lady is an unabashed murderess, yet is a 10 on the normal to nerdy scale. She's paid her techie dues, worked hard, and, much against her inclination, becomes an entrepreneur going up against her employer -- a megacorp. And -- that's just for starters! She starts out working for a company, a social site, that is -- reminiscent -- of Facebook or Myspace. Enough so that I wondered throughout how much of the 'megacorp' activity portrayed in the book is currently being done -- or planned -- on my social site! How much did the author know or learn while researching this book? How much is a guess; how much is sheer invention? William Hertling has written a fascinating tale

and one which exemplifies excellence and elegance on several levels. He broaches issues that are exceedingly pertinent -- right now! If you're looking for some light reading that doesn't make you think -- you should probably keep looking.G.

What a great read! You couldn't ask for more than is offered in this story. Very exciting and wonderful characters. I have enjoyed everything of Mr Hertlings that I have read and this keeps the desire to read more alive and well. I am pretty much computer illiterate but this had me on the edge of my seat all the way through. Excellent job Mr H, keep up the wonderful work.

I am a technologist and generally I cringe at authors' lack of understanding of even the most basic technology. Not so with Kill Process though: Will Hertling's tech understanding is spot on, both in terms of today's technology and in his historical references. Hertling's research is excellent. But this book is not just about the technology. It's a well written and absorbing thriller which kept me reading well into the night. I am recommending it both to my techy and non-techy friends. Kill Process is the first book I've read by Hertling but I've already downloaded Avogadro Corp: The Singularity Is Closer Than It Appears to read next.

I've been a fan of the author's "Avogadro" series, but William Hertling kicked it up a couple of notches with "Kill Process". I think this is some of his best writing, with good character development, great plot line with twists and turns and an excellent weaving in of technology. Hertling clearly knows his stuff when it comes to the tech, but it doesn't overwhelm the plot line. I don't think non-techies would have any trouble with the storyline, even if they aren't clear on what a VPN or SQL query is. One of the most enjoyable books I have read in awhile. Hope there is a sequel down the road.

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