

Introducing *Odell's Fall* by Globe and Mail Bestselling Author, Norman Bacal

*"A page-turning potboiler of a read from the author of the bestselling book, **Breakdown.**"*

-Robert Cooper, Former President, HBO Pictures

From one of the most esteemed entertainment tax attorneys in the world and the best-selling author of *Breakdown*, comes a heart-pounding, never predictable murder-mystery that mirrors Shakespeare's tragedy, *Othello*.

Odell's Fall asks what lengths partners at a leading Manhattan law firm will go to in the quest for success and love. Bacal's fiction debut features the highly successful African-American attorney Odell Moore, along with his Iago-like colleague, Jackson Sherman, and a surrounding cast of scheming characters. Love, jealousy, and deceit lead to murder in a penthouse apartment and Odell is the prime suspect. Did he commit the crime or was it a plot launched by Jackson Sherman? The answer is not clear until the last pages of this captivating novel.

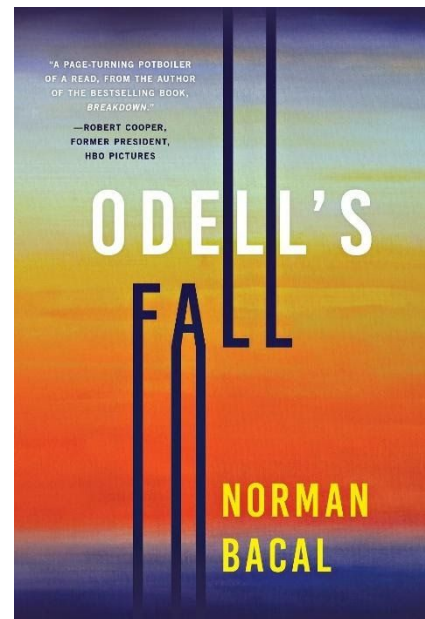
"I've always loved storytelling," says Bacal, who believes the secret of good storytelling lies in authentically connecting the reader to the emotional tests faced by the characters and holding that interest to the very last page. "The key to fiction is taking your characters and giving them a choice between two impossible options."

"If you look at most lawyers-turned-fiction writers, you are almost always looking at criminal lawyers who write murder mysteries," says Bacal. "I think I'm one of the few writers who comes to this with both boardroom and management experience. What I can bring to a reader is what a real lawyer might be like if forced to make difficult ethical and professional decisions, and how those decisions impact their personal lives."

There are countless such conflicts in *Odell's Fall*, as members of a fictitious law firm in Manhattan vie for bigger money, more responsibility, and unreachable promotions while the story also touches on topics such as race relations, child abuse, and blind ambition.

Bacal says part of his motivation in writing *Odell's Fall* lies in making the works of Shakespeare more accessible to readers. "What I want is for somebody to read my novel and then read *Othello* and understand what is happening in the play. They may not understand all the language, but they will understand where the story is going."

Bacal's next book in this series, due out in 2020, is based on Shakespeare's play, *Hamlet*.



Praise for *Odell's Fall*

“With the insider knowledge of an experienced corporate lawyer, Norman Bacal has written a powerful debut. He’s created a world of lethal and legal intrigue.”

- Robert Rotenberg, international bestselling author of *Old City Hall*

A gripping legal novel with superbly crafted twists and turns that rivet attention up to the final page, this is one extraordinary debut novel by an author who gains leverage on the platform of the finest writers of the day.

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- Grady Harp, San Francisco Review of Books

“An edge-of-your-seat murder mystery packed with countless heroes and victims.”

- John J. Kelly, Detroit Free Press

“If you love mystery and love the old tales of Shakespeare, then you are going to love this book as much as I did.”

- Kimberly Love, Author and Radio Host

Odell's Fall - ISBN 9781988025438, \$18.00 Paperback, \$7.49 ebook, 2019, Norman Bacal, 350 pages, available via [Amazon.ca](https://www.amazon.ca) and [Chapters.ca](https://www.chapters.ca).

To learn more, please visit www.NormanBacal.com. If you would like to request a review copy (e-pub or print) or wish to speak to Norman Bacal about his new book, please contact:

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About Norman Bacal

Norman Bacal is the author of the nonfiction debut Globe and Mail bestseller, *Breakdown*, about the meteoric rise and devastating downfall of prestigious Canadian law firm Heenan Blaikie. Bacal founded the Toronto office of that firm in 1989 and in 1997, became the national co-managing partner and built it into a national and international force.

Bacal brings to writing his experience as one of Canada's leading tax attorneys in the entertainment business. He has helped to finance countless Canadian films and television programs and a number of Hollywood studio pictures. Bacal retired as managing partner in 2012. In addition to writing, Bacal is a frequent speaker at law schools and forums. He regularly delivers keynote speeches at corporate retreats, and has taken part in several roundtable discussions featuring prominent experts in firm management, growth and development. Some of his topics include, "Learning to Lead," "Building a Firm", "The Importance of Culture and Values," and "Building a Career."

Born in Montreal in 1956, Bacal graduated from McGill University's Faculty of Law in 1980. He currently resides in Toronto with his wife, Sharon, a portrait artist. The couple have four children.