EXCEL (ADVANCED): VLOOKUP TO RETURN A FUNCTION RESULT (and shameless self-promotion (below ↓))

Those familiar with Vlookups know that they are a handy way to look for one value (or name) and return the corresponding value in a table. But what if you want the result of a function – instead of the lookup value?
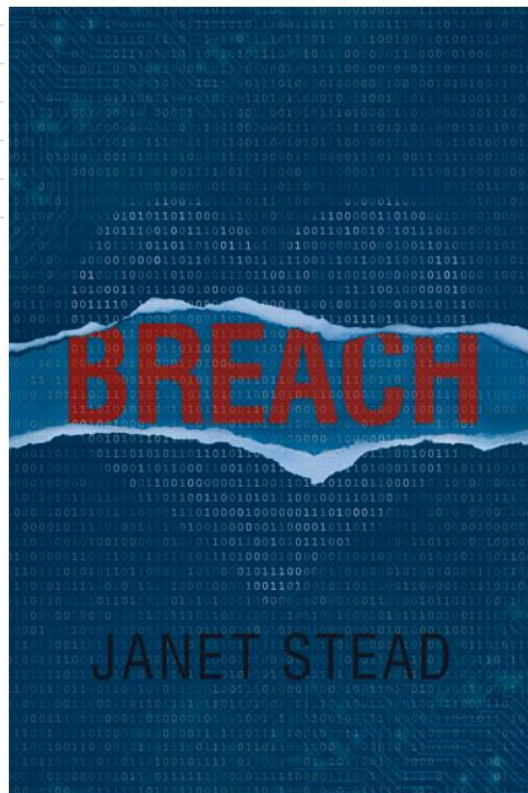
In the table below, we want to know (in cell C1) *who* made the largest sale. The MAX function, on its own, would only tell us the *amount* of the largest sale. We could *sort* by Sales – but what if that wasn't an option?

To find out who made the largest sale, we want to embed the MAX function in a VLOOKUP: instead of a single cell or entry as the LookupValue – you use the MAX function. (You can also use it for MIN and AVERAGE).

=VLOOKUP(MAX(A4:A14),A4:B14,2,FALSE)
=VLOOKUP(LookupValue,Range,ColIndex,Match)

	A	B	C
1	Hightest Amt of Sales:		
2			
3	**Sales**	**Associate**	
4	12	Joe	
5	14	Barb	
6	15	Evan	
7	11	Joe	
8	11	Toomi	
9	8	Rick	
10	6	Barb	
11	23	Toomi	
12	19	Joe	
13	16	Evan	
14	20	Rick	
15			

	A	B	C
1	Hightest Amt of Sales:		Toomi
2			
3	**Sales**	**Associate**	
4	12	Joe	
5	14	Barb	