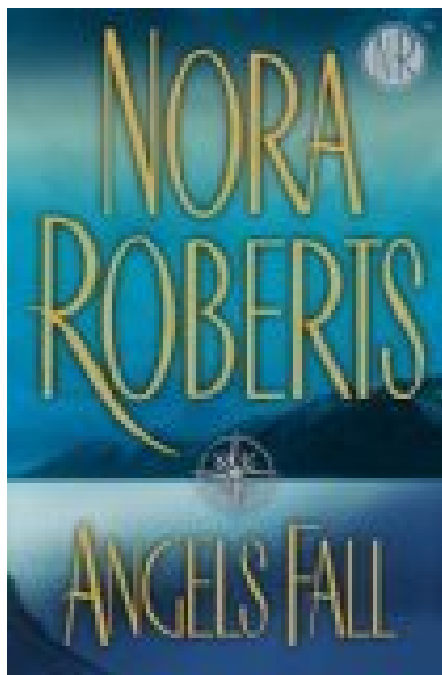




Angels Fall

Nora Roberts

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Angels Fall Nora Roberts

Number-one *New York Times* bestselling author Nora Roberts explores the wilds of the Grand Tetons—and the mysteries of love, murder, and madness—in her engrossing and passionate new novel.

The sole survivor of a brutal crime back East, Reece Gilmore settles in Angel's Fall, Wyoming—temporarily, at least—and takes a job at a local diner. One day, while hiking in the mountains, she peers through her binoculars and sees a couple arguing on the bank of the churning Snake River. And suddenly, the man is on top of the woman, his hands around her throat...

By the time Reece reaches a gruff loner named Brody farther down the trail, the pair is gone. And when authorities comb the area where she saw the attack, they find no trace that anyone was even there.

No one in Angel's Fall seems to believe Reece—except Brody, despite his seeming impatience and desire to keep her at arm's length. When a series of menacing events makes it clear that someone wants her out of the way, Reece must put her trust in Brody—and herself—to find out if there is a killer in Angel's Fall, before it's too late.

Angels Fall Details

Date : Published July 11th 2006 by Berkley (first published 2006)

ISBN :

Author : Nora Roberts

Format : Kindle Edition 460 pages

Genre : Romance, Romantic Suspense, Mystery, Fiction, Contemporary Romance, Contemporary, Suspense

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From Reader Review Angels Fall for online ebook

Kogiopsis says

I never expected much from Nora Roberts. After I was ~~coerced~~ convinced to try one by a friend, I picked up the unremarkable *Time and Again* and was, shall we say, less than impressed. Cordina's Crown Jewel (Cordina, #4) was an improvement; Morrigan's Cross was a misery. After four books, I had only a slightly better understanding of why people liked them so much. I never expected to give one of her novels five stars.

Well, *Angels Fall* deserved every one of them. Everything I disliked about the other books was better in this one. The asshole heroes of *Time and Again* can't hold a candle to smart, reclusive, caring Brody. Neither can the heroines match talented, strong, clever Reece. And the chemistry between them - well. Not long ago, the fellows at *Writing Excuses* did an episode on romance with a guest author, and she told them that a good couple needed to complete each other. Reece and Brody absolutely do. But the best part? They're not cheesy. Their relationship, their dialogue, everything feels completely natural.

I'll get back to Reece and Brody in a moment, because I want to talk about the plot. *Damn*, that was a fun mystery! I admit, I guessed wrong - even though I should have known better. I guessed wrong and the real killer was, to quote *Writing Excuses* again, "surprising but inevitable". The climax was tense and awesome, and the buildup was genuinely scary. I thought Reece was going crazy. I really did. And that freaked me out a bit, but mostly just added wonderful to the tension.

And speaking of wonderful... the writing in this book just sparkled. I actually laughed, four or five times even! Lines like this:

"Well, I'd have more zing with George Clooney and Harrison Ford in a threesome, but neither of us are going to get that wish."

How could anyone not laugh at that?

I was worried, as a Westerner, that the characters in this book wouldn't sound like they belonged in Wyoming. Well, they absolutely do. My favorite was Joanie, the sharp-tongued entrepreneur who becomes Reece's boss, but all the rest of the characters were spot-on too. The little details, even - at one point Roberts mentions a beer called Buttface Amber, and she didn't make that up. You can really get it out here. It was a nice little touch.

Okay, back to Reece and Brody.

God, Brody. He couldn't have been any hotter unless he was a wizard. (No one knocks Numair off the Throne of Hotness; sorry.) I mean, damn. First off, he's an author, which probably appeals to most female readers right away. Second, while he at first seems cantankerous and possibly rude, he's a softie at heart - as he aptly demonstrated with his patience and his faith in Reece. Third, and perhaps most important, he doesn't think with his libido. When Reece asks him to stop, he stops; and unlike other Roberts heroes, he doesn't think of her sexually from the moment they meet. In fact, mostly when he thinks of Reece he thinks of her strength and her passion for her work. Watching him fall in love with her is just beautiful.

As for Reece herself, well... I was worried she'd be a doormat, especially since she comes with some heavy emotional baggage. My worries were wholly unfounded. Reece is a pistol! She is, as Brody works to convince her, astonishingly strong. She is also very responsible and mature. Case in point:

"What do you want, Reece?"

"To push rewind, I guess. But since I can't, to deal with the consequences."

This girl is awesome.

She really needed Brody, but not in an annoying sappy way - she needed someone who would believe in her,

not pity her, treat her like an ordinary person and not something fragile. She also needed someone to respect her for her strength, and Brody was both. Through letting herself get close to him, she freed herself of a fear of losing someone she loved - and though I won't spoil, that fear was replaced by kickass determination.

Two final things:

If you like Coldplay, put on a big playlist of their music to listen to while reading this. It's pretty much perfect, I think, and Yellow is totally Reece and Brody's song.

I wondered before I started this why it had recipes in the back, and now I know: it will make you hungry. Have a snack or a drink to hand. (I went through a bottle of water, half a bag of Goldfish, a chocolate bar, and dinner.)

Vinaya, recommend me more please?

Jane Stewart says

3.5 stars. Enjoyable.

I read the physical book several years ago and thought it was good - 4 ½ stars. But I changed my mind when I recently listened to the audiobook. The middle dragged too much. Maybe because I knew the ending and who the bad guy was, but I was tired of Reese being oblivious to all the things being done to her by the bad guy - trying to make her lose her mind. Although she did some interesting things, too much time was spent with her being a helpless victim.

The story is about a talented woman chef who was the only survivor of a gunshot massacre. She moves away, is in the process of healing, and witnesses another murder. It's a good murder mystery. The story also has an interesting romance developing between the chef and a writer who helps her. I enjoyed reading about these two characters. I also enjoyed a supporting character, Joanie, owner of the diner. There were some good lines. I'm extracting parts of them here briefly, but they are better within the context of the story. Page 211, after he said her eyes looked tired, she thought "He would always be brutally honest with her. Tough as it might be on the ego, it was better than platitudes and soft lies." Page 266 "a man puts his hands around a woman's throat once, he could do it again." Page 279 "what selfishness you have seems awfully healthy from where I stand."

AUDIOBOOK NARRATOR:

Joyce Bean was fine, although her voice for men was a little weird.

DATA:

Narrative mode: 3rd person. Swearing language: strong but rarely used. Sexual language: mild. Number of sex scenes: four. Setting: current day Wyoming. Copyright: 2006. Genre: romantic mystery.

SB*needs low angst books* says

This was a really good story. I enjoyed the heroine Reece and the hero Brody. I got the audiobook version and I thought the narrator did a decent job telling the story.

Reece is a trained chef who survived a horrible attack and had many mental issues she dealt with afterward which after such an event is understandable.

Brody is a writer that has lived in the town after he quit a newspaper job and has become a novelist. He is blunt, a loner and observant. He doesn't coddle but does care when he lets someone in but isn't a super romantic type of guy but it fits the heroine.

In this story, Reece is going across country on a journey to try to keep healing and find herself again. She stops in a town called Angels Fall and her car breaks down. Her money is running low and decides on whim to take a cook position at a local diner and meets many of the townspeople including the hero, Brody. On a hike, she witnesses a murder and runs and bumps into hero Brody who she tells what she sees and they report it.

After this happens, the townspeople find out her history and doubts of her sanity are planted in the minds of some while her she is having things happen to her that make her think so too. Brody and her boss Jodie help keep her steady thru all the rumors and things that begin happening to her. Her and Brody start trying to solve the case while they get closer and they develop a more serious relationship.

I enjoyed watching their relationship develop and the mystery unfold. I loved Brody personally because I loved his matter a fact ways but loved that he cared. I loved Reece and loved her trying to overcome and succeeding.

I didn't like the secondary characters Lo and Linda Gail relationship development. I really felt Linda Gail was super immature. Her comment about him being a whore was stupid especially when you want to marry him. I mean really. And her ways to get him just annoyed me. This part is what brought it down for me.

Mo says

Another fine read from this author. 4.5 stars.

The sole survivor of a brutal crime back East, Reece Gilmore settles in Angel's Fall, Wyoming—temporarily, at least—and takes a job at a local diner. One day, while hiking in the mountains, she peers through her binoculars and sees a couple arguing ... suddenly, the man is on top of the woman, his hands around her throat...

By the time Reece reaches a gruff loner named Brody farther down the trail, the pair is gone. And when authorities comb the area where she saw the attack, they find no trace that anyone was even there.

No one in Angel's Fall seems to believe Reece—except Brody, despite his seeming impatience and desire to keep her at arm's length. When a series of menacing events makes it clear that someone wants her out of the way, Reece must put her trust in Brody—and herself—to find out if there is a killer in Angel's Fall, before it's too late. (less)

There was a rough, rugged look about him with a scruff of beard over rawboned features

...

There was a Lifetime movie made about the book. This guy was cast as Brody, which I can totally appreciate. Heather Locklear was cast as Reece, which I can totally NOT get. No way is she going to be my Reece. LOL.

Spooky woman with those big, doe-in-the thicket eyes. Pretty though, and she'd probably edge up to sexy with another ten pounds.

Wouldn't you love to give away the extra 10 lbs you have to some needing individual!!

I was second guessing to the end. Did not have a clue who the bad guy was. NR is good at setting your mind in a certain direction ... you suspect someone but it turns out that you are completely wrong.

Mists flowed along the ground, she noted, thin as tissue paper, and the lake still as glass ...

That part of the country sounded beautiful. The Tetons. Might get to visit there one fine day!

"You're a rude, insensitive, insulting son of a bitch."

Will be checking out more by Ms Roberts. But might just stick with her Suspense books.

Cyndi says

Not my favorite of the great Nora. Of course its still Nora so...

I think its the characters that bothered me. I liked Reese. Not loved because I kept thinking she should just leave Angel's Fist. But, hey, no story then.

Her good points were many topped off with a love of cooking. Not my favorite thing to do, so anyone who wants to cook for me is my friend. ??

As for Brody? Didn't like him in the beginning and barely liked him in the end. Did I mention she liked to cook? Why did it take him so long to fall in love? His way of handling her panic attacks was to tell her to stop? Reese, you can do better!

He tells her they can move to another town, then in the end he plans to buy the cabin and stay in Angels Fist. Small town, she is going to have some people against her because of who the murderer is. Move on, Reese!

Anna Catharina says

Ich habe mich wider besseren Wissens durch die Inhaltsbeschreibung verführen lassen und bin recht schnell enttäuscht wurden. Die Grundstory (ortsfremde Frau beobachtet Mord und niemand glaubt ihr, sie selbst zweifelt an ihrem Verstand und es geschehen merkwürdige Dinge) war ja an sich nicht schlecht, nur waren 2/3 der Geschichte mit hölzerne Dialoge, idiotisches Sexgedöns und langweiligen Nichtigkeiten angefüllt. Die Personen waren mir alle ausgesprochen unsympathisch, was sicher auch an den grottenschlechten Dialogen und dem sehr seltsamen Verständnis von "Liebe" lag. Und die Sexszenen bzw. das unterirdische Gelabber darüber waren die schlechtesten, die mir in der Welt der Literatur je untergekommen sind. Ich geb es einfach auf, Nora Roberts (bzw. ihre Pseudonyme) und das "Romantic suspense"-Genre (welches interessanterweise nichts mit Romantik zu tun hat) haben für mich ein literarischen und unterhalterisches Niveau unter Zimmertemperatur.

Vinaya says

It seems fitting to conclude Nothing But Nora Week with my absolute favourite Nora book of all time. Why do I like Angels Fall so much? Maybe because it is inspired by my two favourite psychological thrillers, Gaslight and Rear Window. I've watched both movies a million times, but I still get that goosebump-ey feeling as the dénouement approaches.

Reece Gilmore lands up in the little Wyoming town of Angels Fist while she's running away from the ghosts of her past. She finds a job as a short-order cook in a diner and slowly begins to settle down when she becomes a witness to a murder in a remote spot. Reece's claim regarding the murder are dismissed by the town sheriff when he can find no evidence of such an attack taking place, and her credibility is further compromised by her troubled emotional state. Her only firm ally is reclusive writer Brody, whom she teams up with to prove that she is not deranged, and that a murder really DID take place as claimed.

Angels Fall was, for me, a very different book from the run-of-the-mill romantic suspense/thrillers I've read so far. Reece is a great character, troubled, disturbed and clinging onto sanity by a thread. The plot is fast-paced and thrilling. The mind-games that the murderer plays with Reece are chilling and satisfyingly convoluted. And the final dénouement is everything a whodunnit fan could ask for.

All-in-all, this is a book that is definitely worth reading, for all fans of romantic suspense. To be honest, I kind of skipped over the romance part quite a bit because I was so caught up in the story, but for the not-so-jaded, the romance between Brody and Reece is definitely sigh-inducing. Must. Read.

On a side note, I'm told the TV movie of this book is crappy, so you might want to avoid that...

Nothing But Nora Week, Book 7

Karla says

3 Stars! Not bad, but after listening to The Witness and being blown away by the narrator, plot and characters, this one didn't quite measure up. It took me a while to get used to the "voice" that was narrating

this story, and I wonder if I had "read" the book, would I have enjoyed it more...I'm not sure.

The plot was intriguing, but at mid-point I guessed who the killer was. Nora Roberts tried so hard to direct your attention to another character and make it obvious it was him, that it was obvious it was not...does that make any sense?? I also had issue with how mean and blunt everyone was towards Reece, the woman who believed she witnessed a murder and was the survivor of a VERY traumatic event. I know they were doing the "tough love" thing with her, but it came off nasty and not at all loving. Brody, her love interest got better over time, but initially I didn't care for him at all. And Joanie, her know-it-all boss...blech!!! I couldn't stand her!! Again, was it the "voice"? All I could picture was this wrinkled old woman with cigarette in her hand, rasping out commands and insults at Reece! This contradicted her character description as a business savvy, BEAUTIFUL woman!! Not the way I saw it, or rather heard it!

Not my favorite read, but not horrible either. I like Nora Roberts style, love the audiobook format and look forward to reading and listening to more of her books.

Jacob Proffitt says

This book was a light, but entertaining mystery/romance and about what you'd expect from Nora Roberts--i.e. well-written, with interesting characters, and a firm sense of place and people.

I really like Reece as someone recovering from a truly awful, traumatic experience. She's been nomadic for a while and settles in a small Wyoming town when her car breaks down there. It isn't long before she finds herself integrating into the town, making friends, and setting down the beginnings of roots.

I'm less sanguine with the leading man, Brody. He's a bit caustic, in an alpha male, take-charge kind of way. He fights falling for Reece a little too assiduously and seems randomly emotionally immature. It ended up working, I guess, and I buy their eventual HEA, but with the occasional needlessly exasperating moment.

The mystery of the novel was a bit awkward, too. I guessed the real culprit relatively early, though there's a real paucity of information through most of the book so it's never possible to be sure. By about the three-quarters mark, I was ready for that part to be done--or at least show some progress. The nature of the mystery meant that once any details came out it wouldn't take long for the rest to fall into place, though, so Roberts really had no choice but to string it out a while. As I said... awkward...

In the end, this was a good romance with a relationship that worked, if rocky in places. Not my favorite Nora Roberts, but certainly worth the time.

A note about steamy: On the light side for Roberts. One full-on explicit sex scene, on the short side, and a handful of playful interludes.

Fareya says

Sometimes, when I can't decide what to read next, I just pick up one of Nora Roberts' romantic suspense novels and I am never disappointed. Nora sure knows how to leave her readers satisfied. Angels Fall is one of those exceptionally well written, engaging NR style thriller with just the right pace, fast enough to keep one interested, but taking its time to build up the plot and characters.

Based in a picturesque little town at the foot of the Grand Tetons, the story revolves around Reece Gilmore, a survivor from Boston. Desperately trying to cope up with the after shocks of a traumatic event, Reece has been on the road for a while. One day she stumbles in a small Wyoming town. Charmed by the majestic mountains surrounding it and the fresh, crisp air she decides to stay for sometime. She takes up the job of a cook at a local diner and works towards getting on with her life.

One day while hiking on a mountain trail, she witnesses a man strangling a woman down by the river. Reece reports the crime, but when the authorities investigate, they find nothing. No signs of struggle, no trace that anyone was even there. As she is a newcomer, emotionally fragile with a reputation of being skittish, nobody in town believes her, except for a reclusive loner and writer, Brody.

Its an engrossing mystery-romance. The character development is remarkable. Reece, even though vulnerable and a bit paranoid, manages to hold her ground and works on getting stronger, more confident and is also making friends in town. The way she coped by keeping a clear head for the most part with all the mind games that the killer was playing on her was impressive. Brody, even though some what pushy was exactly what Reece needed. Beneath his hard exterior and grumpiness he is a kind and caring person. The chemistry between Reece and Brody was amazing and very believable which is usually not the case in most romance stories.

With entertaining secondary characters, witty dialogues, small town drama and a murder involved, Angels Fall is a captivating read. The lush descriptions of the mountains, the lake and the natural scenery in general was like a virtual brief vacation in the Grand Tetons. Overall a solid romantic suspense novel and a satisfying read. Nothing less than what I expect out of a Nora Roberts book.

Glamdring says

Buddy read with Blacky <3<3<3

4,5 stars

Another great romantic suspense by Nora Roberts. I loved everything, the characters, the build up and the general plot.

The characters:

Reece is the only survivor of a traumatic event, she's roaming the country doing small jobs trying to find her way back to a "normal" life. Before that she was a successful chef. Because of what happened to her she's fragile, but mostly she's strong and I loved her temper tantrum.

Brody is a reclusive writer. He's snarky, borderline rude, commitment shy, but mostly he just speaks his mind and I **l o v e d** him.

I **loved** their conversations and how Brody always believed Reece and how despite his cantankerous nature he always stood up for her. I also loved how he reacted when Reece was having her panic attacks.

The secondary characters were interesting too.

The build up:

Be it for the romance or the suspense, the built up has the perfect pace. Not too fast, not too slow.

The plot:

I have to admit that the killer was so obvious that I dismissed him from the beginning. Because of that, I kept

guessing the whole book about his identity.

"I've put you to a lot of trouble today," she began.

"Damn right you have. Get in."

She stopped, and gratitude warred with insult, outrage and exhaustion. Gratitude lost. "You're a rude, insensitive, insulting son of a bitch."

He leaned back on his car. "And your point is?"

[...]

"And, just FYI. Guys can't be snippy. We're physiologically incapable of snippiness. Next time use *callous*. That works."

"You're an irritating, confusing man." But she climbed in the car.

"That works, too."

LOL!

Maria Clara says

Bueno, más bien es un tres y medio. No he leído muchos libros de esta autora, pero los pocos que han pasado por mis manos me han parecido mejores. La historia está bien, el tema muy bien tratado, pero he encontrado que faltaba algo más de suspense. De los personajes no puedo decir nada, salvo que me han parecido muy bien definidos.

Lisa Kay says

Five full stars! ★★★★★ I love books about chefs! Whether they are romances or mysteries; I just love the culinary theme (guess this explains my fascination with the Food Network!). Put the three together, and Wow! I've never been a huge Nora Roberts fan (though I do like her writing as J.D. Robb); nevertheless, I've picked up one or two of her books over the years and enjoyed them.

However, I've always liked Heather Locklear (I swear my sister-in-law could be her twin). Ms. Locklear starred in the wonderful 2007 "made-for-TV-movie" adaptation of Ms. Roberts' *Angels Fall* and I really relished it. When I saw this volume available from my library on audio download, I went for it. I am glad I did! Wow! It was even better than the movie (isn't the book *always* better?)!

Well worth the read – or listen!

P.S. Almost forgot: Joyce Bean does an excellent job of narrating the audiobook!

Nicola O. says

I'm a bit undecided about a 3 vs. 4 for this one. I have a certain devotion to Nora Roberts that some might find irrational, but generally I find her characters interesting & distinguishable, and their conflict/relationships satisfying. My 3.5 rating rationale would go something like this:

*Never saw the 'whodunit' coming-- that's good!--4 stars!

*Plot holes that would enable the culprit to do what was done-- uh, 3 stars.

In the end, I'm giving it 4 because I like NR. If you are picky about mystery plotting, you may find it frustrating. If you're in it for the characters, it's really good. I especially like the sort of grouchy Lou Grant voice of the hero.

Mimi says

Not bad, but also not good either.

I mean, there are good parts, but they're offset by little things I find annoying and there were a lot of these little things which accumulated at the end. So it was a bumpy read. The Montana setting and vivid descriptions of a small town sitting at the foot of the Grand Tetons were a nice touch though, and the main character was sympathetic. Easily my favorite part of the whole book was the setting. Everything else was mostly filler.

A couple of weeks ago my neighbor got a new job out of state and I "inherited" her library. Normally this would be exciting—I love sorting through books—but this time, not so much. She and I don't have much in common book-wise, and her collection consists of fiction, lots of mysteries and thrillers and quite a few romances. All contemporaries and not a single sci-fi or fantasy in the bunch. All huge door-stoppers too. Majority of these will go to charity because I have my own pile of similar fiction that I still haven't been able to chip at no matter how much I avoid it try.

Anyhow. I now have a huge stash of Nora Roberts books and it's been a real-chore?-experience sorting through them.

I went into this book expecting—well, hoping—it's like *The Witness* which was a pleasant surprise and I enjoyed it more than I thought I would. This book has a similar set-up: small town, picturesque backdrop, lots of wilderness, nosy busy-body townsfolk, protagonist with a traumatic past who is on her own, and a murder mystery plot in the background. What's different from *The Witness* is the uneven pacing and utterly unlikable love interest who is actually quite an ass. This turned out to be the sticking point with me because I could not get over how much of an ass he was. Moreover, I could not see what she saw in him, and so I couldn't get into the story whenever he appeared, being all ass-like.

More on this book in particular when I get home.

* * * * *

I'm home now, but still don't have much to say about this book. Maybe with a little more time it'll come to me. For now though, all I can say is this book makes me angry, and not in a good way, because the set-up is good and there is so much potential for the rest of the book to be good. But unfortunately Nora Roberts had to go and be all Nora Roberts all over the damn book. I wouldn't say she ruined it, because I've read worse, but she got very close. So much potential, all wasted.

angry muttering

It could have been SO GOOD.

Originally posted at <https://covers2covers.wordpress.com/2...>
