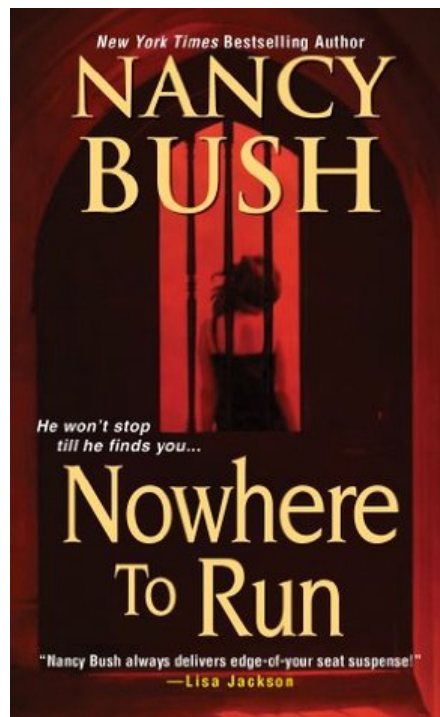




Nowhere to Run

Nancy Bush

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Nowhere to Run

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Nowhere to Run Nancy Bush

Some Secrets

When Liv Dugan ducks out of work for lunch, it's just an ordinary day. When she returns, she stumbles onto a massacre. All her colleagues at Zuma Software have been shot. Only luck has left Liv unscathed, and that might be running out...

Will Follow You

Liv suspects the shootings are tied to her past—and to the package she recently received from her long-dead adoptive mother. Sensing she's being followed, Liv jumps into a stranger's car and orders him to drive. Her "hostage" complies, listening carefully as her story unwinds. Skeptical at first, he ultimately begins to believe all Liv's fears are justified...

To Your Grave

Together, Liv and her unlikely confidant try to uncover the truth about her adoptive family, her birth parents, and her troubled childhood. Because somewhere in Liv's past is a secret worth killing for, and a nightmare she can never outrun...

Nowhere to Run Details

Date : Published July 31st 2012 by Zebra Books

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Author : Nancy Bush

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

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From Reader Review Nowhere to Run for online ebook

Diane says

My first read of this author - who happens to be Lisa Jackson's sister!

I like this book, it took me a bit to get use to her writing and to wrap my head around the story. But once the story got going it was an enjoyable read - a psycho serial killer who remains elusive and unknown until almost the bitter end, and then some - it's a cliff hanger book - UGH.

A bit of romance which you could see coming. Some interesting characters, in particular - twin detectives with cool names ;)

A thumbs up and and 4 stars and a recommendation for people to take a chance on this author, she's worth it.

Denise C says

Nowhere to Run is the first book I've read by Nancy Bush. I wavered between 3 & 4 stars, but ultimately downgraded to 3. That's not to say I disliked the book, or would avoid her books in the future- on the contrary, I liked it well enough to add her to my list of authors to follow. There were just too many issues with the story that I couldn't see myself going above 3 stars (though, if we had 10 stars, this would have gotten 7).

The first third of the story moves quickly, at a pace that feels comfortable. The writing is tight and not dumbed down like many mass market novels and the characters, even the minor ones, are quickly established and developed. By the time the action begins, I already care what happens to Liv and her coworkers (most of them).

Moving quickly, Bush takes us through Liv's flight from the massacre at her work and begins to build the fear and paranoia that follows Liv through the rest of the novel. Her fear of the police who come looking for her, leads her to hijack an innocent bystander and force him to drive her to his house.

The pacing of the middle of the book varies. Bush throws a few surprises into the mix, the main one being the identity of Liv's hostage, Auggie. While it took me by surprise (and really shouldn't have), it also took the excitement down a notch. It didn't make me stop reading, but the uneven pacing and a few contrived plot points slowed me down a little.

The final third of the book felt rushed and contrived. There's a "chase" scene that happened so quickly, I had to read it twice because I thought I missed something. I hadn't. It really went that quickly. I would have liked to have seen way more tension and edge-of-my-seat action than I got, and that alone drove my enjoyment of the book down a full star. And while I am not going to add any spoilers to the ending, I have to say, the conclusion was utterly predictable and disappointing. One of the parts that made me groan happened the moment Liv's brother told Auggie who the killer was; I couldn't help but to wonder why it took him so long to say who it was, and what even sparked his confession in the first place. It made little sense to me.

There were a few other minor points that irritated me about this story. First is the repeated explanation of September's nickname, "Nine". Seriously, I got it. I got it before it was explained. I got it after it was explained. I've lost count of how many times her nickname was explained to someone and still have no idea

why her name is so important that it had to be explained even once.

Second, it really annoys me when authors give their characters such weird names. I understand that authors want their little people to stand out, but some of the more outlandish and hokey names do little more than pull me out of the story. A minor issue, yes, and I know it's not going to change anyone's mind, but a goofy name has made me put down at least one book before.

Third, Liv passes out an awful lot. I worry about her mental and physical health what with all the head injuries she receives. Passing out for more than a few minutes (and more than once) is a sign that something is seriously wrong.

Last point is the relationship between Auggie and Liv. Their love story follows the same arc as so many other mass market novels - starts off with a bang, heats up to epic proportions, ends with the hint of a happily ever after. Except, in their case, there doesn't seem to be anything keeping them together in the ever after. Auggie admittedly goes for the "damsel in distress" and Liv is so damaged that it's hard to believe that she would stay with someone like Auggie. Once she recovers from this book, there really isn't anything keeping them together. I suppose us readers might find out what happens in the next book, but I kind of doubt it. I guess it really doesn't matter, though, which is another thing that bugs me.

All of that is not to say this is a terrible book. It's not. For one thing, Livvie is a deeply flawed character, which is refreshing. All too often, authors want to make their heroines SUPER SPESHUL; tough, but soft-hearted; brave, but falls apart whenever there's a shoulder to cry on; stunningly beautiful, but oh so modest about it. Liv is terrified, hardly brave, stubborn, and I don't recall her description. She's one of us; damaged and average. Nothing superhero about her.

The writing, too, is above average. Bush wields language like a well-honed sword, never pretentious or mocking. She's intelligent, and it shows throughout the story. While her pacing needs work, her prose does not.

So, at the end of my journey with Livvie, August, September, and the rest of the characters, I didn't feel like I'd wasted my time. While not completely satisfied, *Nowhere to Run* kept me entertained for several nights and not once did I feel bored or wanting to skip to the end. I enjoyed the story, enjoyed the characters (and felt sad when one of them died), and though I, personally, did not feel like the ending fit the book, I would recommend this novel to anyone who is into this genre.

Meagan says

This book has gotten a lot of rave reviews from readers, which makes me a little reluctant to say what I thought of it. Not that it will stop me.

First, the book as romantic suspense: I didn't like it. The heroine is terribly damaged, which is fine, but she lets it make her helpless, which is not. Several times she whines at the hero, who she doesn't really trust for most of the book, about how *scared* she is and how she *needs* his *help*! The only thing she did to help herself was to run away, which she didn't do very well. The rest of the time she attached herself to the hip of the hero, who she didn't really trust, and flailed around in random attempts to figure the thing out. And the hero? He likes a damsel in distress. Can anyone say co-dependent? No chemistry. No relationship development. I didn't buy it.

Second, the book as suspense: Rarely have I been so bored by a thriller. I'm a reader who needs a good

character, so maybe I would have been more into it if I had an iota of respect for any character, but I just couldn't bring myself to care what happened. Let me put it this way - I'm an obsessive reader. I read every day. EVERY DAY. But as I drifted to sleep a couple of nights ago, I realized that I hadn't read a single page all day. And I blame this book.

However, I'm clearly in the minority here, so feel free to take my opinion with a large grain of salt.

Lucy Dosch says

In a word...thrilling. I am not going to write too much on this book since this was actually a great murder mystery and I don't want to leak ANYTHING.

It has been some time since I have actually had real hard-to-put-down thriller. Most times I will guess within the first 100 pages where the plot is going, but this one really kept me wanting to read more. There was just enough romance to sweeten the story and bond our main characters.

The worst part of this book was the fact that I zipped through the first 200 pages, but when the clock struck midnight and I still have 178 pages left, I had to give it up for the night. Like I am going to sleep with a good book running through my head. Ugh!!

If you like an engrossing murder mystery, I HIGHLY recommend picking up Nowhere to Run. I put in a request for an ARC of the 2nd book Nowhere to Hide which comes out August 31st, as soon as I finished this one. Really looking forward to it.

See more at <http://ebookobsessed.com>

Robin Priddy says

On Olivia Dugan's sixth birthday she finds her mother hanging in their kitchen. At the same time there was a serial killer in their town. Several of the bodies were found in the field behind her house. Everyone has always told her that her mother took her own life, but now that she is older she doesn't believe it. Olivia and her younger brother went to live with her father. Her brother suffers from mental illness and Olivia herself suffers from a little paranoid. It seems that Olivia's mother left a package with a lawyer to be delivered on her twenty-fifth birthday. Not wanting anyone to know where she lives, she has it delivered to her work address. Olivia left the office to go out to lunch she comes back to find everyone dead. It seems that someone came in and shot each of the employees. Olivia believes that the shooter was after her and the package her mother sent her. Olivia takes off. Detective August "Auggie" Rafferty is ready for some time off after coming home from being undercover in another state. When his boss calls and asks him to watch for Olivia and when he finds her to bring her in so that they can question her. Auggie spots Olivia going into a coffee shop. Image his surprise when Olivia carjacks him and takes him hostage. After listening to her story and seeing the package that was sent by her mother, Auggie believes her. He talks her into letting him help her, but he never tells her that he is a cop. Olivia doesn't believe she can trust the police. Will Auggie be able to help her and keep her safe? As they find themselves drawing closer to each other, will Auggie be able to forgive for not telling her that he is a police officer?

Ms Bush brings a action-filled page turner of a book. This was a great story. It will keep you on the edge of your seat. I didn't want to put this book down until I got to the ending. I am looking forward to the next book about Auggie's sister, September. It is Nowhere to Hide, which will be out in September.

Babydoll says

The plot is a bit far fetched and the ending felt rushed but I was thoroughly entertained. Had a hard time putting it down.

Pat says

I received this novel as an ARC from Kensington Books through The Romance Man's Blog.

To be honest, I had a difficult time first getting into this story. The first few chapters explain her childhood, which was terrible, and introduces us to multiple characters, with whom I had a hard time keeping up with. Saying that, once the action started, I really could not put it down!

The hero and heroine of this novel is a most unlikely couple! August Rafferty, known as Auggie, is an undercover cop, just coming off a long dangerous assignment. Olivia Dugan, is a young woman, in her own opinion "damaged" from a childhood spent in a mental hospital. She had, on her fifth birthday walked into the family kitchen and found her Mother dead, apparently having hanged herself. Apparently, because Olivia refuses to believe her Mother would kill herself. She is now an adult, working an unexciting job in a software company, as a low level bookkeeper. On this particular day, she has received a package from her mother's attorneys that was to be delivered on her twenty-fifth birthday. It is a quite mysterious package. She heads out to a late lunch to ponder the contents. When she returns, she opens the door to a blood bath.

She panics and starts running. She ends up in a coffee house to sit and gather her wits. While standing in line, she hears people discussing "the massacre" that had occurred at a nearby office. She immediately rushes out of the shop, and sees a man getting into his car right in front of the shop. She jumps in his car, pulls a gun she was concealing in her backpack (unloaded), and orders him to drive. Now, our hero and heroine have met!

There are twists and turns on every page. Olivia has a brother, who is brain damaged, and somehow, seems to be involved. Auggie has a twin sister, September who is a homicide detective assigned to the case. Her nickname is Nine, just another quirk in this wild ride of a story. While being held hostage Auggie starts to believe Olivia's reasoning. He tries desperately to keep her from knowing he is also a detective assigned to keep an eye on her. The excitement, and danger continues till the last page. Thank goodness there is an epilogue.

I enjoyed this book, but felt there were unnecessary characters. It would not keep me from trying another Nancy Bush novel. I would recommend this novel to people who love romantic suspense, with a little quirkiness on the side.

Victoria says

Two stars, yet I'd be interested in reading the next in the Nowhere series. I downgraded this for three reasons. One, this was a download onto my phone rather than my NOOK which made it more unfamiliar and more awkward to flip back pages when looking for something that I wasn't really sure where to find it (plot points). Times like this make me miss a paper book. Why was this a problem? Because it was either sloppy editing or I have become a lazy reader; I kept thinking that certain things were inconsistent. Still have that

feeling even after finishing the book and going back to re-read a part at the beginning that had been bugging me. And that was just one plotline. Two, I did figure out Who Done It though not too long before the reveal. It was pretty obvious, contrived almost, so disappointing in some respects. However, when I went back to re-read that first part, I realized that the clues had been there pretty much from the beginning so perhaps I judged the author more harshly on this point than I should have. Three, this book ends with a maddening cliffhanger. There is the typical free sample chapter of her next book (which I always hate to read if I don't have instant access to said new book) but it wasn't immediately obvious that it was the follow-up to Nowhere to Run. It did convince me that I would read more Nancy Bush books in this series. I liked the cast of characters, primarily the police department personnel. A nice mix of personalities and expertise. And the fact that two of the detectives are twins (male, female) adds a little quirkiness. Her characters are her strong point, I feel; her plotting, her weakness. I too often felt like there was an implied remark from the author: "OK, I'm going to drop this little fact in here now. You might remember I mentioned it one other time, 20 chapters ago." If you like this genre, you'd probably be satisfied with this read.

Danielle The Book Huntress (Back to the Books) says

Quick, interesting read. The romance part made this more of a four star book for me.

Reviewed for Affaire de Coeur magazine in the August issue: <http://affairedecœur.com>

Mlbane says

All I could think while reading this book was that the police department was made up of people who wanted to play cop but never bothered to actually train to be one. And they were the homicide detectives.

It really reminded me of the Steve Martin movie Roxanne when he's talking to the fire department and tells them that if some sees a fire and says "what ever you do don't call the fire department" it would be bad. That's the perfect example of how I felt this police force was described. Don't call them because they'll just mess things up.

There was also no romance. This was the story of an extremely damaged woman being taken advantage of by someone who should know better. Liv acts like a child and has the mental processes of one. She doesn't think, breaks down at the drop of a hat and can't reason or really be reasoned with. She has impulse issues. She needed help not a boyfriend. Through out this book she doesn't grow or change.

Claude says

Le mystère était intéressant!
L'histoire d'amour très simple.
Bouquin sympa!!

Ricki says

Picked this up because it seemed like a bit of a light read. I did get all the way through the book, but I'm unsure why. When the killing spree at her job happened, Liv immediately assumed (rightly) that it was about the pictures she received, but there really wasn't much of a connection with them in the end. (Other than the killer thought her digging into her past would spark her memory.) Given how much her adoption was mentioned, I kept thinking it would have something to do with the mystery, but there seemed to be little relevance to it.

The cops seemed to interview people without gaining any insight. I also kept thinking of how horrible Gretchen was as a cop when she alienated so many of the people whose trust she was supposed to be gaining. And there was very little that actually pointed to the real killer.

As for the romance, it was hard for me to take them seriously when everyone kept saying that Auggie had a thing for damsels in distress. Kept thinking this wasn't a great foundation for a relationship.

A preview of the next book was provided and that's when I realized that I had seen book #2 years ago and had passed on it. But if you are interested in August and September, the next book seems to delve into their family.

Darlene says

I received this book from the publisher in exchange for an honest review. I did not receive any compensation for my review, and the views expressed herein are my own.

Bush brilliantly hooks the reader right at the beginning of the book with a suicide...or is it? The story then follows the daughter of the suicide victim, who was just a young child at the time of her mother's death. The event traumatized Liv, then six years old, and her younger brother, Hague, who was only a year old at the time. Both children require psychiatric counselling, and Liv is shipped off to live at a group home when she is in her teens. Her brother is institutionalized in a state facility.

On her 25th birthday, Liv receives a mysterious package that contains some photos, a personal letter from her mother, and her original birth certificate. Liv was aware that she was adopted, but she does not understand the importance of the photos and who the people are in them. While Liv has stepped out for lunch, an armed gunman walks into her place of employment and massacres her co-workers and boss. Liv returns from lunch to the bloody scene and calls 911 for help, but she leaves before they arrive because she is afraid that the madman is after her. She leaves her office and returns to her apartment to retrieve her gun. She decides to leave on foot to make it more difficult for her to be followed and make it easier to lose herself in the crowd. She goes to a café but then gets scared off by the customers talking about the breaking news of the massacre. As she exits the café, she impulsively lets herself into a vehicle that is standing at the curb and demands at gun-point that the owner drive her away. Liv's instincts are right, and she has to stay one step ahead of the person who is after her or she will be his next victim!

I really enjoyed Nowhere to Run! The story moved along at a good pace, and the ending was a shocker that I didn't see coming. I felt very sympathetic to Liv's plight, as did the man who she kidnapped! The romance that developed between the two was quick and fiery, but a little too predictable. My only complaint with Liv is that I didn't like her dependency on Auggie. I would have rather seen her as a stronger protagonist than a damsel in distress.

Bush is a new-to-me author, and she did hold my interest right until the end of the book. I am looking forward to reading the companion novel, Nowhere to Hide.

This review was originally posted on my blog:
<http://darlenesbooknook.blogspot.ca/2...>

Terri Lynn says

This is my first Nancy Bush mystery though I have read books by her sister Lisa Jackson. Liv Dugan's adoptive mom was thought to have committed suicide on Liv's 6th birthday but was it murder? Liv found her, saw someone through the open door, and promptly embedded it deeply in her mind so deep, she can't retrieve it. Her 2 1/2 year old brother Hague saw it too and was made crazy by it, so crazy he needs a caretaker as an adult, never leaves his premises, and goes into fugue states. Their father remarried swiftly, a woman who didn't like either kid and had them sent off as teens to mental hospitals.

Now, 19 years later, Liv has turned 25 and Hague is 21 1/2. A law firm shocks Liv by saying her dead mother Deborah had entrusted an important package to them to be delivered when she is 25. She has them deliver it to the office and its contents are so shocking, she takes them to show Hague who becomes so disturbed he goes into a fugue state. All in all, Hague, his caretaker, their dad and stepmother, and Liv's next door neighbor see the contents.

What happens the next day is a copycat of the 1975 movie Three Days of the Condor and the book it is based on from 1974. Liv leaves work for a late lunch and goes out the side door unseen. She carries the package with her and studies the contents. When she returns to work, she finds all of her co-workers on the first floor shot up- some dead, others dying. She calls 911 and reports it then flees. She goes home, packs some clothes and supplies- and a gun- and flees on foot. At a coffee shop, she abducts a cop (no she doesn't know he was watching her or that he is a cop) to help her get away just like Robert Redford did Faye Dunaway in Three Days of the Condor and has him take her to his place (really a police safe house) and ties him up.

Then the fast paced action goes on. The officer August has a sister on the force named September (in a cutesy manner, they are twins with him born at 11:57 pm on August 31 and her born at 12:06 am on September 1 thus being twins born minutes apart but on different days in different months) and seduces a very emotionally distraught Liv which I equate to raping someone mentally ill or passed out drunk. The neighbor who saw the package is murdered as is Liv's stepmother and others associated and some new murders happen to re-open the death of Liv's mom and the women killed and buried in a field behind their house. August and Liv rush to solve who is after her and killing people while hiding her from police and the unknown killer. The answer to the puzzle is in Hague's head but he is so far out of it, he can't say it. In the end, the killer is a shock but so is the fact that September gets a shocking package herself which will lead us into another book!

Tamara Clark says

I couldn't put this book down at all. Excited to start the second one today.
