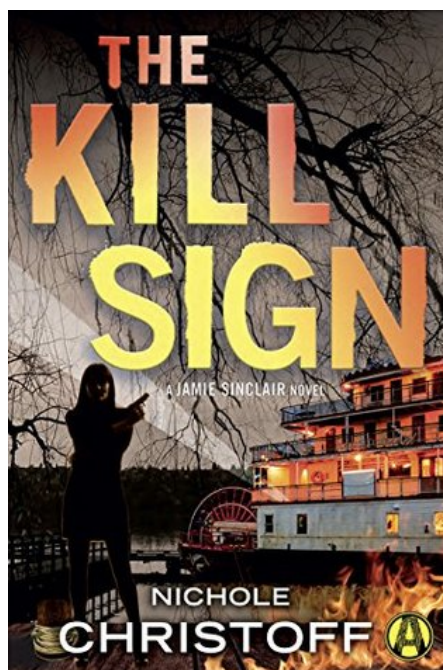




The Kill Sign

Nichole Christoff

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The Kill Sign Nichole Christoff

Security specialist and PI Jamie Sinclair finds herself in deadly waters off the steamy Gulf Coast in this combustible thriller from the award-winning author of *The Kill Box*.

Never in her life has Jamie Sinclair anticipated a weekend getaway more. After four months apart, she's flying to Mississippi to see her would-be boyfriend, military police officer Adam Barrett. Barrett's currently stationed in the same Gulf Coast town where Jamie got her start as a private investigator, and she's equally excited to reconnect with her old mentor, Ray Walther, and his pregnant wife, Corinne, who's Jamie's best friend.

But all hopes for a relaxing and romantic weekend are shattered when a dirty bomb explodes on a riverboat packed with military, killing dozens of soldiers. In the chaotic aftermath, Jamie believes that she spots the bomber—and recognizes him from her past. As Barrett and Jamie race to catch the terrorist before he strikes again, Ray and Corinne become targets themselves. And this time around, Jamie won't let a little thing like the law keep her from protecting the people she loves most—no matter the cost.

The Kill Sign Details

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From Reader Review The Kill Sign for online ebook

Elaine says

This is the fourth book in this brilliant series, all of which feature the Private Investigator, Jamie Sinclair. In this story, she's really looking forward to spending the first weekend in four months with military police officer, Adam Barrett in the town where she first trained to be a PI. She's anticipating a relaxing reunion, but that all changes when she spots someone from one of her first cases. She later recognises him as the person who had been carrying a dirty bomb which explodes on the riverboat restaurant and casino on which they are cruising, killing many and so starts another action packed investigation. Adam is back on duty as part of the investigation team, leaving Jamie alone. Reconnecting with her old mentor, Ray and his wife, and Jamie's best friend, Corrine just add to the drama as these two become targets, too. When Special Agent Marc Sandoval of the Drug Enforcement Agency turns up after seeing Jamie on the news her love life is going to get complicated!

So, prepare yourself for a brilliant read, with that dirty bomb, lingerie shops, military men galore, double dealers, friends who'd like to be more, secrets and so many twists and turns - followed by an ending that I just didn't see coming!! There are plenty of detours, reroutes, dead ends and wrong turns along the way with danger around at every point. Just who is behind the dirty bomb? Who was the real target - and why? Hope do Ray and Corrine fit into all of this? Is Ray's new partner behind it all - just what is his role?

This is a real page turner and a great addition to the series. This is one of those series where I don't think you need to have read the other books first as I believe this will work well as a standalone. Having said that, the whole series is brilliant so I have no hesitation in highly recommending this one and all the others to anyone who enjoys a fast paced, action packed mystery with well developed characters and an intricately devised plot. I can't wait to read more from this highly talented author!

Many thanks to the publishers and NetGalley for gifting me an ARC of this novel with no obligation. This is my honest review.

Sarah Joint says

I didn't realize this was part of a series when I requested it, so this is my first Jamie Sinclair book. I think I would have benefited from starting at the beginning but I could still follow along fairly well.

PI Jamie Sinclair is supposed to be on a romantic getaway. She's come to her old town in Mississippi to see her boyfriend for the first time in months. He's stationed there, and they plan to make the most of the brief time he has off. But first, they must attend the "mandatory fun" that is Dining Out. It seems to be an enjoyable evening at first... They'd rather be alone, of course, but the riverboat they're on is beautiful and they're surrounded by friends. That all changes in a blur. A bomb goes off, killing and injuring soldiers. Jamie and Barrett are okay, but shaken and determined to find the culprit. Having recognized a figure from her past as the owner of the bag with the bomb, Jamie sets off to find justice... by whatever means necessary.

The story features many characters that I'm sure we're introduced in earlier books. While I didn't know their whole history, I could still get a feel of them. This is an action packed suspense with a bit of romance. I liked the unpredictability of the plot and enjoyed a lot of the characters. I could do with less of the love triangle, but I know a lot of people enjoy that and it probably features in the other books.

I received an ARC of this book from Net Galley and Random House Publishing Group - Alibi, thank you! My review is honest and unbiased.

Sharon says

Alibi and NetGalley provided me with an electronic copy of The Kill Sign. I was under no obligation to review this book and my opinion is freely given.

Jamie Sinclair has not looked forward to a weekend away more, especially considering the nostalgia of going home to where she got her start as a private investigator. Jamie hopes for perfect reunions with Adam Barrett, as well as her old mentor, Ray Walther, and his pregnant wife, Corinne, are soon dashed when a violent attack on a riverboat packed with military personnel brings the full force of the government to the area. As the investigation ramps up, questions from the past may have an important part to play. Will Jamie be able to help solve the case or will her involvement bring more issues to the surface?

The biggest problem that I had with The Kill Sign was the love triangle, as it was not essential to the plot nor was it realistic. It just did not seem likely that Jamie Sinclair, who is focused and driven in her professional life, would lose all control in her personal one. The twists and turns do a good job of confusing the reader, but there are too many side plots and characters in which to focus. The end result is muddled, with a good premise gone awry. The Kill Sign would have been a much stronger book had the author focused on the situation at hand and left the personal relationships mainly out of it. Readers who are new to the series may have a few moments of confusion, as The Kill Sign hinges on interpersonal relationships that were forged in previous books.

Jay Williams says

Once again Jamie Sinclair is the hypotenuse in a love triangle with her soldier sweetheart and a hunk from the DEA. The story has all the local color and intrigue a reader could wish, coupled with suspense and action. Aspiring writers should study this book as an example of how to get it right: a perfect level of detail, a growing sense of foreboding, an occasional red herring, and on-going action to keep the pages turning and the heart pounding. This book is worthy of more than one read, and will trigger a desire to re-visit the earlier adventures.

Patrice says

This was a really good story that; had I had the uninterrupted time, could quite easily read in one sitting (yes, I found it to be that good). I have read the previous books in this series; but, I don't think that you would need to read the earlier ones first.

In my opinion, the author writes very well, the characters are believable, it has action, and the story flows well.

I received an uncorrected proof, in e-book format, from the publisher, for an honest review.

Debbie says

This was a great read. It definitely held my attention as I was not able to put it down. A dirty bomb set off on a cruise boat where 41 people died set the main characters off to find out who did it and why. Was it a terrorist attack or something else?

This leads to a huge "private" casino where one can get anything they want. However, you better be careful because those wants could come back to haunt you.

I thoroughly recommend this one. It takes off from the start and doesn't stop until the end.

Thanks to Random House/Alibi for approving my request and to Net Galley for providing me with a free e-galley in exchange for an honest review.

Jordana Bastos says

Spoilers. Spoilers Everywhere.

I really don't know why I had kept on going with this series. I should have stopped on the first one. It only went down hill from there. I hate love triangles with a passion. And that's what we had since the beginning. And what's even worse is that there's no romance at all. She's going to sleep with one and they are interrupted and then she's going to sleep with the other one and they are interrupted again!!! Woman, chose one already, it's the 4th book for the love of God. Jamie it's so stupid for someone who is allegedly an specialist in security, she makes rookie mistakes and she is unable to see obvious clues that are on her face. When you have a man that is wanted for terrorism and was seen (BY YOU!!!) throwing a bomb that killed 41 people in a bolt and you know where here's hiding, what you do? Call the police, right? WRONG! You kidnapp and torture him with the help of a DEA agent?!? DID YOU HIT YOUR HEAD WHEN YOU FELL ON THAT DITCH ON THE LAST BOOK? DID YOU HAVE BRAIN DAMAGE? Those are the only answers I would find acceptable... *Deep breath*. I am done with this series. Because I know in my heart that Jamie is gonna end up like Makkedde on the series Makkedde Wanderwall by Tara Moss and I am still having nightmares with that ending. I Can't. I Just Can't. #EuNãoSouObrigada

Darcy says

I found parts of this book funny, but it probably shouldn't have. I'm amused when it seems like Barrett and Jamie are finally moving forward with their relationship but something happens and they are one again at odds. At some point wouldn't both of them realize that maybe it's not meant to be for them? I also find it funny that Marc showed back up. This time around Marc was very bold in his pursuit of Jamie and almost succeeded. At this point, I'm rooting for Marc.

The drama with the explosion sure ended up in a place I never thought it would. I hated what Jamie learned at the end and have a feeling this case will leave deep marks on her soul.

Debbie Oxier says

Another winner from this author!

I really enjoy the Jamie Sinclair stories. She's gritty, she's tough, and the word "quit" isn't in her vocabulary. When she gets a hold of a case she sinks her teeth into it like a dog with a bone. In this story, Jamie heads south for a weekend getaway with her military boyfriend Barrett. However, before they get the chance to spend time together, she's embroiled in a case. And it appears her mentor, Ray, the man who'd taught her everything she knows about being an investigator, is involved as well. Since Jamie last saw Ray he's taken on a partner, Bran, and his wife, Jamie's best friend, Corinne, is about to give birth to the couple's first child. Then, to complicate things for Jamie, federal agent, Marc Sandoval, shows up. He'd seen her on the news, learned she'd been on board the riverboat that blew up, the target of apparent domestic terrorists. He offered her his services. And that's not all. He has strong feelings for her. They'd previously worked a case together and in spite of Jamie's relationship with Barrett, Marc makes no secret of the fact he's out to get Jamie to dump Barrett and take up with him instead.

This book was non-stop action from start to finish with plenty of twists and turns to keep you interested. I didn't want to put it down. I liked both Barrett and Marc and the fact they're at odds over Jamie adds another facet to the story. While she cared for both of them she wasn't ready to settle down, wasn't sure marriage and family was in the cards for her. This was especially hard for Barrett to hear since he's on the verge of proposing.

Although this book can be read as a standalone, I would recommend you read the other books in the series first in order to get a good feel for where the characters are coming from. A big thumbs up for me.

Jennifer says

"The Kill Sign" eases you gently into the story but leaves you breathless at the end. The action in this one gets more intense the further you go. I was exhausted by the end. Jamie Sinclair is one of those female characters that I love. She can be gentle and caring with those she loves without sacrificing the toughness she needs for her job as a private detective turned security consultant. She needs all of her skills for this one. A nuclear bomb has exploded on a riverboat casino in Mississippi with Jamie, her boyfriend Adam Barrett, and much of Barrett's military unit on board. When Jamie realizes that someone from her past placed the bomb, she knows she can't rest till he is found. The riddle of this mystery involves Jamie's former boss and mentor Ray whose wife is pregnant, and also Jamie's best friend.

This is book 4 in the Jamie Sinclair series but I didn't feel like I was missing anything. "The Kill Sign" works very well as a stand-alone. That being said I enjoyed it so much that I think I will have to go back and read the first three. I felt an instant connection with Jamie and was as comfortable with her as I would be with an old friend, even though we just met. This is an excellent book in the mystery/thriller genre and I am giving it 5 stars.

Monnie says

Generally speaking, I'm a start-at-the-beginning kind of reader when it comes to books in a series. So when I

was offered a chance to read an advance copy of this one (the fourth in a series featuring security specialist and private investigator Jamie Sinclair) in exchange for an honest review, I hesitated - but only for a moment. Simply put, the description just sounded too intriguing to pass it up.

And happy to say, I made a good decision. I still stand by my general advice that it's better to get in on any series from the start, but I certainly didn't feel left out with this one, which stands on its own just fine.

Jamie is an interesting character in and of herself; the daughter of a former military bigwig turned powerful state senator, she's got an ex-husband and in this book, two hunky guys falling all over her (reminiscent of Stephanie Plum, the Janet Evanovich character who, even after all these years, is torn between two lovers, as the old song goes). Truth is, that waffling back and forth - particularly since it's coming from an otherwise strong, extremely independent woman - never fails to get on my nerves in that series, and it does here as well. But a fast-moving plot loaded with knock-down, drag-out action made up for it by grabbing and holding my attention throughout.

At the beginning, Jamie seems to have settled on one of the hunks - military police officer Adam Barrett. He's stationed in Beauville, Mississippi, where Ray Walther, who took a chance by hiring Jamie at his PI firm years ago, is located. Now, she's got her own investigative firm near Washington, D.C., but she's flying down to the coast in hopes of hooking up with Adam as well as seeing her mentor (and her close friend, Ray's pregnant wife, Corinne) again.

To say things don't go as planned would be an understatement. At the git-go, as Jamie and Adam try to get away from a mandatory military party on a riverboat, a dirty bomb explodes. Because they had fled the boring party and headed for privacy on another deck, they escaped the brunt of the blast in which several were killed. But then, Jamie catches a glimpse of the bomber and recognizes him. Her desire to get to the bottom of things - and Adam's military responsibilities to that same end - put an instant kabosh on romance and set the pair on an investigation fraught with danger.

Enter Marc - the other hunka-hunka who also is part of the investigation, and the romantic tension begins to build. As for the case, the more Jamie learns, the more she suspects some kind of connection between the bomb and her former mentor, his new partner and even his wife. Are their lives in danger? Or could any or all of them (gasp!) be involved in a more sinister way? The chase is on complete with wrong turns and dead ends, and Jamie, Adam and Marc find themselves fighting not only for the lives of her friends, but their own as well.

Conclusion? Very enjoyable, and I've already put the next installment of this series on my to-watch-for list.

Beth Peninger says

Jamie Sinclair is back to her roots - where her roots as a private eye began. Anxious for a weekend away with her...boyfriend?...she gets about 2 minutes of normality before something happens to upset her weekend plans. The boat she's on explodes. And from that moment on the search is on to answer the 5 w's - who, what, when, where, and most importantly why. Her mentor is helping her although not really - he seems a little checked out and that's got Jamie concerned. Between her mentor, her maybe boyfriend, another man vying for her attention, and a killer on the loose Jamie's weekend just took a hard left.

Breakaway Reviewers says

Gung-ho private eye, Jaime Sinclair.

When Jaime goes to Mississippi intending to have a romantic weekend, things don't quite turn out as she had planned. On their first evening out aboard the floating casino 'Lady Luck' Jaime and Lieutenant Colonel Adam Barrett are caught in an explosion that kills forty-one people. This leads to a manhunt for the bomber with Jaime managing to stay one step ahead of the NSA due to information from her old cases that she worked on working for her previous boss Ray Walther. But Ray does not seem like his old self, is something more going on?

When Special Agent Marc Sandoval turns up to help Jaime, things become even more interesting and complicated for her as she now must juggle the attention of two men as well as unofficially working the case. I found the ending a bit unbelievable, almost as if the author rushed to end the book off without giving it too much thought but otherwise the book was an enjoyable read that I would recommend.

Saphira

Breakaway Reviewers received a copy of the book to review.

CL says

Jamie Sinclair left behind her life as a PI to now work as an analyst for the military. She is visiting Barrett, an officer who has been assigned to desk duty for defying orders to assist Jamie in a previous story. While out for a romantic evening together a bomb goes off on the Riverboat where they are attending a party. Jamie knows the man responsible for the bomb and now they need to find out if the is an act of terrorism or something more. Great read. I would like to thank the Publisher and Net Galley for the chance to read this ARC.

Christen says

I have enjoyed each of these books more than the last. I think I have hit the tipping point where they are now on my "must read" list. This book is a convoluted story where we can't be sure who is guilty and why. Christoff does a great job of keeping us guessing with misdirection. I have finally gotten used to the romance being stuck in the middle of my mystery book, which is present in all four books.

Funny and somewhat frustrating ending. But really looking forward to the next one.

There are some things that you may miss if you haven't read earlier installments. But Christoff does a great job of writing stand alone books. You should be able to fill in the blanks if you haven't read the others.

Overall, a nice read. Kind of a beach read, because it is not overly heavy in terms of plot and content. Pick up a copy for your Kindle. It would make a nice book club read as well.

