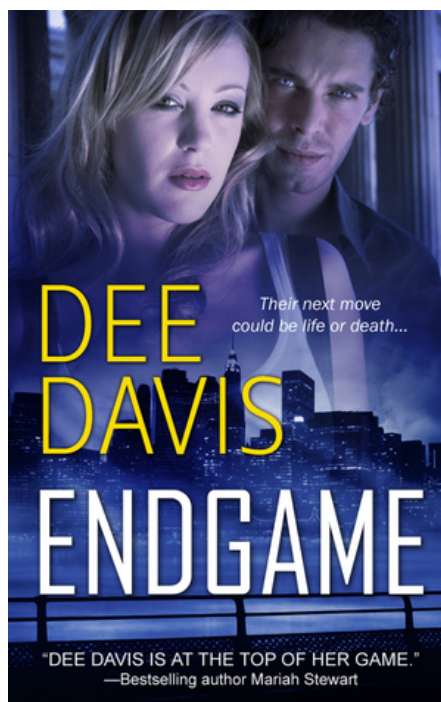




Endgame

Dee Davis

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Endgame

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Endgame Dee Davis

They both know the games killers play...

FBI criminal profiler Madison Harper understands dangerous minds. Tough, tenacious, with nerves of steel, she's the best of the best. So is her new partner, Gabriel Roarke, a crack CIA operative who likes to do things his way. When the two are forced to jointly head up a task force investigating murder in high places – it's no surprise that sparks begin to fly.

As they race through a shadow world of power, politics and deadly secrets, the passion that simmers between Madison and Gabriel soon ignites. But a clever killer at the top of his game has challenged Madison to play to the very end. Now all she can trust is her instincts—and Gabriel, the one man reckless enough to keep her alive...

Rio Award winner, Endgame is the first novel in Dee Davis's newly re-released Last Chance Series. Don't miss the other books in the series: Enigma and Exposure.

Endgame Details

Date : Published July 10th 2012 by Pocito Press (first published 2005)

ISBN :

Author : Dee Davis

Format : Kindle Edition 339 pages

Genre : Romance, Romantic Suspense, Mystery, Suspense

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From Reader Review Endgame for online ebook

Shirley J says

This is the first book in the Last Chance trilogy, followed by "Enigma" and "Exposure." Gabriel Roarke and Madison Harper are assigned to a same special ops team, at the request of Madison's godfather, Cullen Pulaski, to investigate the deaths of several business associates.

If you're looking for a book with a decent plot, some action, and a hefty dose of romance, this police procedural will do.

Could have qualified for a 3-star rating, but I dropped one star because of the writing style, which often had me thinking I was reading a screenplay.

Too often when a character spoke, the author made a point of detailing ad nauseum their next physical move. This tactic doesn't leave much to the imagination and often seemed pointless other than to fill the page with text.

"No," Madison shook her head. "I'm not saying it isn't," Madison raised her hands in defense.

I'm fairly new to this genre and I enjoy the writing style of Sue Henry, MarliSS Melton, P J Tracy or Sharon Sala much more. I won't be moving on to the next book in the series.

Morgan Dungan says

Overall Rating: ??? (4)

Romance Rating: ♥♥♥ (3.5)

Suspense Rating: ★★★★★ (4.5)

Humor: 🤔 (2)

Action: ??? (3.5)

As the first book in The Last Chance trilogy, Endgame did a very good job of allowing you to get to know the characters while still leading into a interesting suspenseful novel. Dee Davis did an excellent job creating immediate tension between Gabe and Madison and allowing it to realistically develop into a romantic relationship while still allowing them to complete the task at hand.

Gabe is a polar opposite from Madison allowing the attraction and the mutual frustration with each other to radiate throughout the book. Gabe was handed nothing from childhood and was on his own basically from birth while Madison was thrown into the political world by her father and godfather. You get to know Cullen, her godfather, very well in this novel and his presence will surely continue throughout the trilogy. Gabe and Madison are obviously attracted to each other throughout the book but Dee Davis does a great job of leaving the relationship in limbo until the exactly right moment in the book.

Overall, I believe this was a very well written book with just the right mix of suspense, action, romance and humor.. This is not my typical style of read and Dee Davis was a new author to me but I must say she has definitely caught my interest and I must read the remaining books in the trilogy to see what happens to my

favorite characters from this novel.

3 Favorite Quotes from the book:

“Yeah, he’d definitely underestimated her. But the jury was still out on whether that was a good or a bad thing.”

“And just like that, Gabriele Roarke fell in love.”

“Whoever said that love was a bitch was abso-fucking-lutely right.”

Check out my blog: <http://redheadreadingaddict.blogspot....>

Terri Reed says

Riveting

Great plotting and characters to root for. Enjoyed the ride. Lots of suspense and sizzling romance. Kept me guessing until the end.

Kristen says

In Dee Davis's Endgame, the first instalment in the Last Chance romantic suspense series, you'll be thrown and blown away in this novel. When Madison's godfather Cullen Pulaski asked her to join his Last Chance team, this tenacious FBI profiler seeks him out in New York to find out about the problem. When she joins his joint task force team with her friend Harrison, things aren't what it seems to be. And then she met Gabriel Rourke, a man who's intrigued by Madison at first, a man who's kept personal stuff of his own to his chest. It all started to find a thread between the mysterious deaths of members of the consortium who had hopes to pull this accord with the Chinese trade through. Straight from the president himself, Cullen would pull no punches to find out who's taken out the board members. As they worked with the previous deaths, new ones had come along the horizon for them to figure it out. Besides all this, they had to deal with a potential mole in the midst as they're thrown together by enemy fire and potential red herrings along the way. While they grab hold with the feelings for each other, they come closer truth of who's behind the mess, when it hit too close to home for Madison. In dawning realization, she discovers the true culprit and his ambitious MO behind it with a twisted closing as she fought for her life and rebounded with true love.

An Odd1 says

X-rated brain bubble-gum. She's small + he's big = they fit together. She spits sparks + he glares grim = heavenly match. Read between the lines, sex is not love, and preserve virginity forever? What choices do hormone-powered bodies really have?

FBI profiler Madison Harper and undercover CIA Gabriel Roarke are hired by her influential godfather Cullen Pulaski to solve six murders and prevent further assassinations of American board members in a consortium promoting cooperation with the Chinese government. On "Last Chance" team, Harrison Blake is computer whiz, Tracy Braxton forensics doctor, British Nigel Ferris, Payton Reynolds recently deep in Asia. Cullen's consortium peers are Kingston Sinclair and Jeremy Bosner.

The suspense part, meant to thrill, is weak, clues revealed too slowly, magic. Two deliberate red herrings from beginning. Nigel is mole ordered by superiors. "Greed" p 264 led Cullen to where he regrets choices. Motivation, revenge, is flimsy. Villain even closes curtains and apologizes to next victim, but interruption and momentum carry us past. Connections at last-minute are statistical miracle. Tiresome when tech takes deus ex machina role.

I skip over X-rated mis-named "romance". Hormones at "most primitive of levels" make love "Soul-to-soul" p 217? "He was big .. Up, down, in, out .. beyond the physical" p 231. ".. exploded in a symphony of sound and light, the release beyond pleasure, beyond pain .. And just like that, Gabriel Roarke fell in love" p 234. "And then the world splintered into a kaleidoscope of color .. And for the first time in her life, Madison let go, surrendering herself completely to the moment and the man" p 240.

(view spoiler).

Trish R. says

OK read..

You have to pay attention in this book because there's LOTS of characters: Madison, Gabe, Cullen, Harrison, Evan, Nigel, Payton, Sinclair, Jeremy, Tracy Braxton, Philip Merrick (Madison's father), Candace Patterson and Erndardt Schmidt soon became murder victims so they were mentioned all the time, and 6 other murder victims that everyone mentions on a daily basis, and all that was before 50% of the book. So, if you don't like a lot of players in your books this one isn't for you.

This book didn't have to be 384 pages long but this is why it was, "The drapes rippled in the wind as it moaned through the window. Shadows danced on the floor and wall, but other than their ghostly presence, the room was empty." Really? Is that really necessary? So much stupid description throughout the book. I finally started skimming at about 55%, looking for something interesting.

I did like the desire between Gabe and Madison. However, this was a murder mystery/suspense so there might have been a little too much romance. I mean, if I want just romance I'll read one but when I want something exciting I expect it to be that way and not all lust and descriptions of every room, what was outside, just get to the good stuff. As much as I'd like to read Nigel and Payton's stories I can't see that happening. There's just too much unnecessary things that I'm not interested in going on in these books. You could have taken 125 pages from this book and it would have been perfect. AND when they finally had sex it was soooo clinical. I felt like I should have been in a doctor's office: penis? labia? vulva? Seriously? The sex was really bad.

Swearing? All kinds and the F-BOMB was dropped 8 times.

As to the narrator: I don't know what to say. He had a nice reading voice, and every man had his own distinct voice, but his female voices were barely OK. And there's nothing worse than a whisper called for in a book and the reader just reads it in a regular tone. Other emotions I can overlook but when you're sneaking

into a place or up on someone and it says someone “whispered” I expect to hear a whisper or it throws you right out of the book because that was soooo stupid. I listened to 2 other books read by RP and gave them 4 and 5 stars but this one was nowhere as good as the other’s I listened to.

Briana says

Another awesome book by Dee Davis. Extremely well written with an amazingly intriguing and intricate plot. I usually manage to figure out the bad guy beforehand but I was caught by surprise this time around. Loved the romance between Gabe and Madison & the bit of strength they showed in overcoming their own mindsets/perspectives.

Lauren says

Endgame

3.5 Stars

Members of a consortium involved in economic discussions with China are being picked off one by one. FBI Profiler, Madison Harper, is partnered with CIA operative, Gabriel Roarke, and together the two must overcome their differences to stop a determined killer before he strikes closer to home.

An action packed plot and a steamy romance, but it does require a certain suspension of disbelief.

The Last Chance team is tasked with investigating a series of murders, but none of the group’s members is actually an investigator. A profiler, two CIA agents, an MI6 operative and a computer geek do not have the necessary skills to solve a murder and this becomes obvious as the team follows one false lead after another and the body count rises.

The mystery is good although it can get confusing at times with too many twists and turns to easily follow. The multiple POVs does not help with this as the information comes from several different directions. Nevertheless, there are some exciting action scenes and the climax and resolution are compelling.

The romance is the strongest aspect of the book. Gabriel is the typical dark and moody agent with a chip on his shoulder and Madison has obvious daddy issues and a desire to prove herself in a man’s world. That said, they are likable characters and their love-hate relationship results in amazing chemistry. It is fun watching them give in to their attraction against their better judgement.

The secondary characters are engaging in their own right. Payton, in particular, appeals to my scarred and tortured hero fetish.

In sum, solid writing despite the tendency toward information dumps, an interesting mystery and appealing characters. Will definitely pick up the next in the series.

Samantha says

I found it somewhat laughable that Madison is apparently this badass profiler, but spends most of the book saying she needs more evidence before she can profile the killer. Not to mention, her contradictory 'gut feelings', and the fact that some of her intuitions turn out to be completely wrong. Then, lo and behold, she stumbles upon the killer having absolutely ZERO clue that they are the killer, until they try to kill her. GO FIGURE.

This had potential, but ultimately left me wanting and expecting more.

♥ Vonda M. Reid ♥ says

Overall Rating: 4.35

Action: 2.0 / Emotion: 3.0 / Romance: 3.5 / Sensuous: 2.0 / Suspense: 4.0 // Laughter: 1 / Giggle: 1 // Tears: 0 / Teary: 0

Endgame: 4.35:

Davis, a favorite author, knows how to tell a suspenseful story. She immediately draws readers into this book with well-written, descriptive scenes, richly described characters, and keeps them turning the pages to see what is going to happen next -- not only with regard to the investigation, but also to learn how she is going to develop the relationship between the hero and heroine.

Hero: 3.50:

Gabriel "Gabe" Roarke. A pretty typical Romantic Suspense-type hero. An ex-Delta Force, hunky, gorgeous, strong-willed, self-sufficient alpha male who struggled with his emotions of guilt, was strong enough to overcome a parentless childhood, and displayed moments of vulnerability. It would take a very tough hero to partner such a strong heroine.

Heroine: 3.50:

Madison Harper: An extremely intelligent, intuitive, capable and attractive FBI profiler, who was constantly "reading" people. She earned her way in life and did not use her connections to a rich and powerful father and godfather to climb the professional ladder.

Story Line: 3.50:

A convoluted tale about three undercover agents, an FBI profiler, and a computer genius trying to determine if the demise of six people tied to a very important business consortium (that is trying to negotiate a lucrative trade agreement with China) in, in fact, murder rather than accidental deaths. The tale involves misdirection, betrayal, and a lot of file reading and brainstorming between the primary cast of characters, while the hero and heroine strike sparks off one another that eventually leads to love.

Action: 2.00:

This book was filled with more procedural activity (rather than a lot of action-packed, adventurous events), which moves the story along at a steady pace.

Emotion: 3.00:

Davis failed to create that really strong emotional connection between Gabe, Madison, and the reader. The kind of connection that makes for an outstanding read.

Romance: 3.50:

A marked degree of romance inhabited the story as the unwanted, but undeniable, attraction sparked between Gabe and Madison.

Sensuous: 2.00:

The inclusion of sizzling, heated, passionate lovemaking scenes added plenty of sensuality to the story.

Suspense: 4.00:

The suspense, while not nail-bitingly intense, included lots of twists and turns as the task force tried to discover the motives and the identity of the killer, including plenty of intriguing rabbit-trails to throw confusing shadows on the investigation.

Secondary Characters: 4.00:

The inclusion of several well-developed and interesting supporting characters added interest to the story: {1} Nigel Ferris, {2} Payton Reynolds, {3} Cullen Pulaski, and {4} Harrison Blake. Also, the addition of lesser-developed supporting characters that added depth and realism to story: {1} Philip Merrick, {2} Kingston Sinclair, {3} Jeremy Bosner, and {4} Tracy Braxton.

A more in-depth, detailed, spoiler-ridden review of **Endgame** appears at Wolf Bear Does Books.

Sherri Hayes says

4.5 Stars

Years ago I used to read a lot of romantic suspense. It was my go to in romance. During that time, I read a few of Dee Davis' books and remember liking them. Then, this past summer I ran into Dee Davis at a conference. It was after we'd both just finished signing and she was walking by my table. I saw her badge and said, "I've read you." She smiled, and responded that hearing that never got old. We chatted for a few minutes and at the time I wished I would have had one of her books with me so that she could have signed it. That's why when I saw Endgame come across my timeline, I hopped over to Amazon and downloaded it.

Endgame is a romantic suspense that will have you trying to figure out who done it.

I enjoyed this story. Madison gets recruited by her godfather to help head a team that has been tasked to investigate a series of deaths. She finds out that she has to share her leadership role with Gabriel, a CIA operative who is used to working alone. It was obvious that these two would be the love interests of the story, but I was unsure how the author was going to make it happen. Both were likable characters, but they came from very different backgrounds.

The suspense was also well done. There were lots of twists and turns to keep readers guessing and trying to figure out who was behind the murders. A red herring was thrown into the mix as well. I wasn't fooled, however. I knew it couldn't be so obvious and that there was something else at work.

While reading this story, I was reminded of why I don't read romantic suspense very much anymore. It has nothing to do with the author or the story itself. This is one of those cases where 'it's not you, it's me' applies. Over the years I've discovered that I really enjoy seeing the interaction between the couple and getting a step-by-step progression of their relationship. In romantic suspense, there are too many other things going on

that draw attention away from the couple. It's almost as if the mystery/suspense is the main driving force and the romance is a sub plot. This isn't necessarily a bad thing, but it isn't what I'm personally looking for when I read a romance.

That being said, if you like romantic suspense, I highly recommend Endgame.

April says

Fun mystery...

Will keep you guessing until the end. Plenty of drama and a bit of romance. Of course its fantasy but had a good pace and the characters keep you engaged.

Julie says

Really, so many characters you want to smack upside the head. It was a good read though. May just have to keep reading the Last Chance, Inc. series.

Emilyandherlittlepinknotes says

Endgame it's the kind of book that you should read on a friday as you'll probably end up staying up all night, generally speaking I don't appreciate when the male character it's a moody dark special agent, Gabriel Rourke is a classical example of exception to the rule.

We have the "two opposites attract theme" in here, on one side is FBI profiler Madison Harper, Madison is a steely cold professional, very talented at what she does, her family has power and money which means she had to work really hard at building her credibility. On the other side is special agent Gabriel Rourke, Gabriel worked in Iraq, was undercover for many years, has very little faith in human nature and a natural attitude at leadership.

When the two are forced to jointly head up a task force investigating murder in high places-it's no surprise that sparks begin to fly.Both Madison and Gabriel want to assume leadership of the operation and their initial cooperation isn't exactly smooth.

The plot is actually interesting but obviously if I wanted an excellent thriller I would stick to Joseph Finder (he never fails to keep me awake as long as it takes to unveil a mystery), unluckily Finder doesn't do romance in his books while Davis is very skilled on the subject.

Dee Davis is a master at keeping the reader on the edge, this is a proper romance with lots of passion on the steamy side, sex & international espionage, it won't disappoint who is looking for a not-another-boring romance.

Chemistry is good, dialogues are entertaining, Madison is not a wimp, sometimes she falters a bit but overall she is no whiner.

You won't probably think about this book once you read it but it's pure escapism and really well done.

Marilyn Groves says

From Amazon: They both know the games killers play...

FBI criminal profiler Madison Harper understands dangerous minds. Tough, tenacious, with nerves of steel, she's the best of the best. So is her new partner, Gabriel Roarke, a crack CIA operative who likes to do things his way. When the two are forced to jointly head up a task force investigating murder in high places – it's no surprise that sparks begin to fly.

As they race through a shadow world of power, politics and deadly secrets, the passion that simmers between Madison and Gabriel soon ignites. But a clever killer at the top of his game has challenged Madison to play to the very end. Now all she can trust is her instincts—and Gabriel, the one man reckless enough to keep her alive...

I didn't do the review when I read the book, but I remember it being at least okay for the genre
