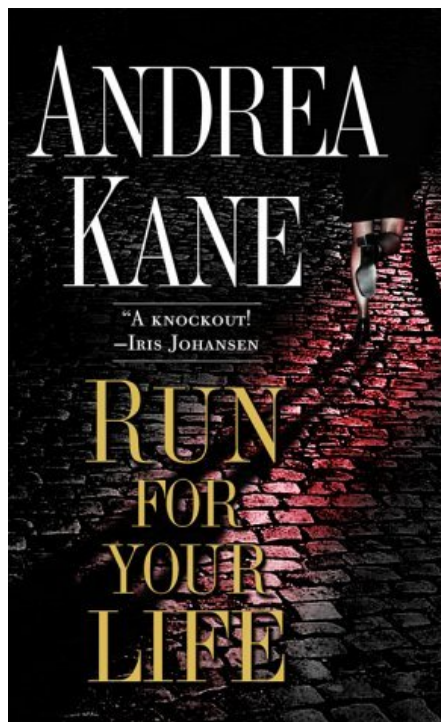




Run for Your Life

Andrea Kane

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Setting: New York City, present day

Sensuality rating: 8

High-powered attorney Victoria Kensington knows how to protect herself. In fact, she's spent her whole life protecting her vulnerable sister, Audrey, from their stern father's disapproval. But when Audrey, who's supposed to be painting in Venice, collapses at Victoria's feet in Central Park dressed only in a hospital gown, Victoria doesn't know what to think. And when Audrey disappears without a trace, Victoria will do anything to find out what has happened to her sister, even if it means allowing FBI associate Zachary Hamilton, the only man she's ever loved, back into her life--and her heart. Even if it means finding out her father knows a whole lot more than he's letting on, Victoria will let nothing stop her from saving Audrey. But when Victoria has several close calls, Zach insists on sticking close to her, really close. Will Victoria find a second chance at having the kind of family she always wanted and maybe even a second chance at love? Andrea Kane creates a knockout of a suspenseful romance, one that will keep readers guessing until the very end.--*Alison Trinkle*

Run for Your Life Details

Date : Published November 1st 2000 by Pocket Books

ISBN : 9780671036560

Author : Andrea Kane

Format : Paperback 464 pages

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

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From Reader Review Run for Your Life for online ebook

erika berry says

It took me weeks to read this book the review sounded great but I just could not get into this book. It's not awful but not great.

Dallass says

It's been pouring rain all morning, and having finished the book I was reading last night, I reached for the book on the top of my nightstand TBR. That book was "Run for Your Life".

Having enjoyed *Scent of Danger*, *Twisted* and *I'll Be Watching You*, I feel quite disappointed. The synopsis sounded so good, yet the reality is that the book drags, the protagonists are not believable, and instead of being drawn into a well crafted whodunit, I was treated to a poor substitute.

Victoria is an annoying character, and her former flame, Zach, just seems to come swanning back into her life (due to an FBI investigation, of course), but it doesn't take long for them to hit the sheets. Her mother is a shadow of a character, and her father is the most dominating, self-absorbed, arrogant, detestable, despot of a man who really needed to end up in jail. However, we don't really even see him at the end of the book - and he is an integral cog in the wheel, so to speak.

There were so many missed opportunities - as obviously the sex scenes were more important than the plot!? - and I found myself skimming paragraphs and pages of boring passages. This is one book that I don't need to re-read, let alone own.

Just out of curiosity, I did check the publishing details and saw that *Scent of Danger*, *Twisted* and *I'll Be Watching You* hadn't been written yet, and felt a little better about not enjoying this book as much as it is clear that the author has developed her craft over the intervening years.

Read this if you love Andrea Kane.

2½ ★

Robert Colquhoun says

I have no need for the gratuitous sex scenes; I more or less skipped over them. That being said, the story is good and the twist in the plot is well cloaked.

I'm not a romance novel enthusiast. However, the romance and rekindling of the relationship between the hero (Zach) and heroine (Victoria) was necessary for the story to tie together and, because they are both very likeable characters, enjoyable. Unfortunately, I can't get past the gratuitous sex. It was totally unnecessary and, in my opinion, brought the whole novel to the brink of being corny. If you want to read intimate details of people having sex, get a Penthouse or Hustler magazine.

Darcy says

This book will give you second thoughts about heading to a hospital. The Hope Institute, on paper, looks like a great place, but once you look deeper there are all kinds of things wrong there. Victoria stumbles upon it when she randomly runs into her sister who is supposed to be in Italy.

As Victoria starts to peel back the layers it kept me guessing. I did not expect the bad guy to be who it was and was surprised for the reasoning behind it. I was also surprised by some of the sort of bad guys reactions.

The romance between Zach and Victoria was great, love lost and found again. I was glad to see that this time around they fought for each other.

Lin S. says

I think the hospital story line was good. The entire book was way too wordy and certainly descriptive, if you know what I mean.....

Booknblues says

he theme of Run for Your Life by Andrea Kane sounded so intriguing that I bought this book. Seeing a sister in a yellow hospital gown in a state of distress only to have her disappear. Your father insists she is still in Florence painting rather than New York. All this is quickly explained and is not as intriguing as it sounds. Reunited lovers with very little tension between them doesn't sizzle for me.

The book didn't work as a suspense or a romance for me, but I understand that others who appreciate the gothic romance formula more than I, would enjoy the reading.

Andrew Langert says

This book was written in 2000. I had read one other Andrea Kane novel, written in 2011, and liked it (4 stars), so I picked this one up expecting similar satisfaction.

Many books start out slow and then get saved by the author in the second half. This book is the opposite of that. It starts out very credibly and suspensefully. A young female attorney thinks that her younger sister is the unwilling victim of a drug trafficking ring and she sets out determinedly to protect her sister and bring justice to the bad guys.

A good mystery needs to be believable. The characters need to be like people you see in real life. For the first 1/3 or 1/2 of this book, I bought into the characters and the plot. But then it went sharply downhill and the characters and the plot were pure make-believe and my enthusiasm for the book dwindled with the turn of every page.

Too bad. But, remembering that her 2011 book was better than this, I won't write this author off. She writes well and maybe her more recent works are more worthy of attention.

Emma says

Nice story with believable main characters and interesting plot. At times I found the writing a bit too earnest and overcautious, which stifled the romance a bit and made it feel too directed along the publisher specified correct path, but we are soon compensated with excellent scenes between hero and the heroine. The sex is slow coming but when it does is hot and delicious (note to those, few, reviewers of this book who were shocked about the bedroom scenes; if you don't want bedroom scenes, if the mention of what happens to the private bits down there when one person is overwhelmed by another, don't read romances, not RS not any kind, except inspirational . Simple really, and no need to thank me for the tip) The story is ok. I like the fact that there are no super-human villains who have at their disposal means greater than the FBI have, or bloodbaths and sadistic killers, just ambitious people whose ambition drives them into crime. I guessed the guilty parties about 70% in , but it did not make me lose interest in the book.

Andrea Kane does write well and the dialogues between the two lovers are so good I often exclaimed, at last, 2 adults who don't lose their individuality in their togetherness! Their passionate love and desire feels much stronger and palpable because of this fact, because we are dealing with two flesh and bone people and not cardboard props who spout declarations of love and fidelity. The characters are also good in following logical processes, common sense and deduction. They also plan with their brain not with their muscle (although the hero has that too). My only complaint is (apart from the obligatory, thankfully just one, TSTL moment the heroine had) that what the heroine did towards the end of the book was never addressed by the FBI authorities or the hero. What she did could have compromised (it almost did) the FBI's long and well conducted investigation, yet nobody seemed that bothered with her actions towards the end. I thought someone somewhere in the hierarchy would have charged her with something.

Overall a nice story with a great couple. Recommended to all those who like to read RS.

Mojca says

Victoria Kensington is jogging in Central Park one morning, when her sister, the sister who's supposed to be in Italy, collapses at her feet, wearing a yellow hospital gown, stammering a phone number, and warning her of danger. When Victoria returns to the site after summoning help (no one carried cell phones everywhere in the nineties), there is no trace of her sister anywhere.

Stubbornly determined to find Audrey, despite the obstacles in her path, one of them being her father, adamantly claiming her sisters is still in Italy, Victoria starts digging...But little does she know her investigation will put her life, and that of her sister, in peril, and put her back in the orbit of the only man she's ever loved.

I read a few of Ms Kane's historicals, and I was curious as to see how she manages in the romantic suspense department. She does a pretty good job. So good, in fact, I decided to re-read some of her RS I read a few years back, and dig into the others I haven't.

This book wasn't one of those in-your-face romantic suspenses you can find everywhere these days. It was very understated, both in the romance and suspense elements. Subtle, yet precise and very, very effective.

At first glance, it could appear wordy, every conversation seemed prolonged, the descriptions lengthy, and yes, wordy. I guess this is Ms Kane's narrative style, and while, in the hands of another author, the wordiness would kill the plot and the pacing, with this particular author, her style, and her voice, it worked perfectly, enhancing the subtleness of it all.

Unfortunately, I cannot think of another word by subtle to describe this book. Everything was so utterly elegant, everything seemed to move in a slow motion, the pacing being much slower than one would expect from a suspense book. But despite the leisurely pace, nothing seemed dull or boring. Quite the opposite, in fact.

The characters were nicely fleshed-out, the plot well-developed, the pacing spot-on throughout the entire book (slowly picking up pace the closer we got to the big finale). The romance was believable and hot with the two leads actually communicating; talking things through, never dwelling on a problem long enough for it to create unnecessary conflict or miscommunication, and they were actually equals. And the suspense was nicely layered, deceptively light at the beginning, but maintaining constant tension, with the intensity building and building the more layers of truth were revealed.

The main villain was a huge surprise (I guess I forgot a lot about this story since I first read it), and the resolution to the story, both investigation- and romance-wise very satisfactory.

Understated, subtle, elegant, well-written, well-paced...Loved it.

Rashika (is tired) says

This woman is a fucking genius
'nuff said.

Read the book or don't, it'll be your loss.

Angela says

Cross posted from Touch the Night

Victoria Kensington is on her morning run through Central Park when her sister, who's supposed to be in Italy, stumbles into her path. Audrey is wearing a medical gown, obviously sick, and warning her sister about danger. When Victoria goes to get help and returns, her sister is gone - without a trace.

Ignoring all threats, determined to find her sister, and unsure whom to trust, Victoria vows to get answers. Then the only man she's ever loved, Zach, shows up in New York, assigned to investigate the worldwide drug syndicate, their missions leading them to the same place.

Despite their tangled history, Victoria trusts Zach, so they work together against the clock to find Audrey, and break the deadly drug ring. But the truth may just tear Victoria's family apart.

As they dig deeper, the electric chemistry between them flares to a fever pitch, and the feelings they thought

were in the past just won't stay there. Can Zach and Victoria navigate all the deceit surrounding them, and deal with the emotions that are unwilling to die?

This book is one of my favorites, and I love to go back and re-read it. Mostly because it just makes me happy.

It's hard not to like Victoria. She's a strong, smart, independent woman, who loves unconditionally.

Zach is a brilliant surveillance expert who's a driven, caring, gentleman. As Victoria says, "She'd always marveled at how he could treat her as an equal and yet always make her so acutely aware that she was a woman." His actions prove that over and over again.

One of my favorite things about this book is that the hero and heroine are evenly matched. Both are strong, intelligent, and they can rely not only on themselves, but also on the other. They match wits, even sometimes disagreeing, and neither is afraid to admit when they're wrong...even aloud.

Also, this is a reunion story done right. They were separated for four years, for perfectly understandable reasons. One of my biggest pet peeves in romance is the "Big Misunderstanding" between the main characters. Fortunately, that doesn't happen here. There's definitely opportunity for it, but confusion is easily avoided because Zach and Victoria actually talk to one another.

This is another thing I love. Not only do Zach and Victoria talk about what happened four years ago, they talk about everything...the intervening years, their fears, desires, hopes and thoughts. There's no misunderstanding about what each wants. They both have eyes wide open, and make themselves, and each other, face the obstacles in their path so they can find happiness. They, understandably, have some concerns about renewing their relationship, but honest thought and discussion lead them to what they both desire.

Obviously, what I love most is the characters, their development, and the road to happily-ever-after. I suppose I should mention the suspense part of the novel, as it is intricately tied to Victoria and Zach. I keenly felt Victoria's fear for her sister, and her worry that she wouldn't be able to help or protect her, comes through clearly. Finding out how Zach's case and Victoria's sister is linked, makes for an interesting journey, with a few twists thrown in. There are some aspects of the story that are not entirely "real world" accurate, but I honestly didn't notice them. You are so caught up in the story, that you just keep turning pages wanting to read more.

This is definitely a favorite of mine, with a strong suspense plot weaving around the characters and providing the motivation for their objectives. By far the best thing in this story is Zach and Victoria's love. This book is a must read!

Grade: A+

Angela says

4/18/2013 Update: Finally available on Kindle! I've been waiting years for this. My paper copy is falling apart I've read this so much, but it's definitely time for a re-read.

Original review:

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Italy, stumbles into her path. Audrey is wearing a medical gown, obviously sick, and warning her sister about danger. When Victoria goes to get help and returns, her sister is gone - without a trace.

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Maura says

I like that it's a full romance novel (including sex scenes) while being a suspense novel as well. It was a very good balance. Too often, one is sacrificed for the other. The author is able to pull off what Tami Hoag once did, before she gave up on the romance part of the suspense (only she's not quite as good as Tami Hoag was). The book is fairly decent, if somewhat forgettable. I didn't feel like anything stood out here. Another thing I'm torn over is whether or not the angst of the romance should have gone on longer... But this is something I've noticed about Andrea Kane novels - her characters usually have the romance figured out by about 60-70% and the suspense works itself out afterwards. This is great because I don't have to worry about the romance, but part of me wants to anyway. A good beach read :-)

Tami says

Too much in the sex department, not my kind of read. Although the plot of the hope institute's practices was quite good. This was the first book from this author that I've read, and it was a free to me book. If the rest of her books are like this I think I'll pass.

Lily says

for books that i enjoy tremendously i tend to reread...this is another one!
