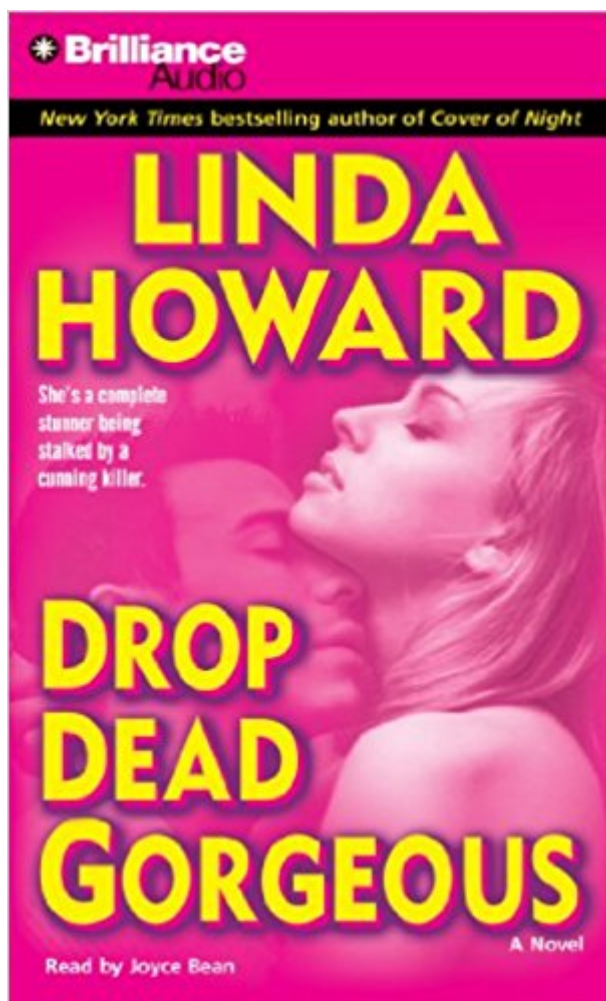




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Drop Dead Gorgeous



Synopsis

Blair Mallory, last seen in *To Die For*, has already survived one murder attempt. Now, while planning her wedding and dealing with holiday-season madness, Blair once again dodges a bullet. Or, more precisely, a Buick. And though the driver's identity remains a mystery, his or her murderous intentions are all too clear. Or are they? After all, Blair's homicidal ex-husband and his partner-in-crime/wife are safely behind bars. And even Wyatt Bloodsworth, Blair's police detective groom-to-be, isn't inclined to believe she's being targeted again. All of which makes Blair wonder if her close call was simply a mishap. But the wondering stops when she narrowly cheats death again in another seemingly innocent accident. Two strikes is all it takes to convince Blair that she's back in someone's crosshairs. And the only thing more frightening is that Wyatt still doubts her. That means this time no one will be watching Blair's back when she sets out to get the drop on her would-be killer - before whoever it is finally drops her.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Although someone is trying to kill fitness salon owner and former cheerleader Blair Mallory yet again, she retains her winning comedic voice in Howard's follow up to 2005's *To Die For*. Southern belle Blair remains perfectly matched with police Lieutenant Wyatt Bloodsworth, who has given her one month to execute their wedding, or else he's taking them to Vegas. Things take a turn when a crazed driver nearly runs Blair down in the mall parking lot; it's not long before Blair starts receiving strange phone calls and spots a car tailing her, but the normally astute Wyatt doesn't put two and

two together. Though the danger is real-and escalates violently-this is no heart-thumping suspense novel, but instead an old-fashioned clash of the sexes: Blair's high-maintenance style versus Wyatt's alpha male tendencies. Funny and sexy throughout, Howard's latest is marred only by Wyatt's shoddy policework, a convenient misstep that propels the plot but rings false. Regardless, fans of this couple will delight in their rematch, and Howard's recently revealed comedic talents are sure to secure her new readers. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Preloaded Digital Audio Player edition.

Linda Howard is the award-winning author of many New York Times bestsellers, including *Drop Dead Gorgeous*, *Cover of Night*, *Killing Time*, *To Die For*, *Kiss Me While I Sleep*, *Cry No More*, *Dying to Please*, *Open Season*, *Mr. Perfect*, *All the Queen's Men*, *Now You See Her*, *Kill and Tell*, and *Son of the Morning*. She lives in Alabama with her husband and two golden retrievers.

SON OF THE MORNING surprised me. I thought the book was a typical romance novel...but it started out more like a murder mystery. I knew 'whodunit,' but the 'why' was the big question. The heroine, Grace, a sheltered, loving, very intelligent scholar, is forced to flee after witnessing the double murder of her only family: her beloved brother and her husband--by her boss! Traumatized, she runs for her life with some documents she has to translate immediately--because there seems to be a strange connection between the two. She needs help. And the help she gets can only be given from a man who has died six hundred years in the past...This new take on time-travel romance kept me glued to the story, so much so, that when I finished the book, I read it again! It would make a fascinating movie; it has pathos and drama, and an interesting 'what if?' vibe to it...and anyone ever intrigued by the Knights Templars might find this interesting! Well worth getting. A gripping tale, told very, very well.

*A great storyline by bestselling author Linda Howard in book 2 of 2, of the Blair Mallory thrillers.....After escaping the wrath of an ex-husband and his crazy wife from nearly getting killed two months earlier, Blair Mallory could finally rest easy and plan her wedding to no other than lieutenant homicide detective Jefferson "Wyatt" Bloodworth, or so she thought. While shopping for the wedding and forgetting the time, Blair not only left the mall in total darkness but was nearly run down by someone in a buick aiming to kill her. She couldn't believe it was all happening again as she called upon the police with Wyatt forcing her to go to the hospital and leaving with a concussion. Who was trying to kill her this time? When Blair starts receiving some prank phone calls, she is

almost killed a second time around in her car causing Wyatt to take her to his house for her own protection but when Blair is totally convinced that she is being followed, she is devastated when Wyatt refuses to believe her causing her to return to her own house. Realizing he made a terrible mistake by not trusting her, Wyatt not only looks into her story much deeper but his heart nearly falters when he's called to a crime scene and he witnesses a blazing inferno only to be Blair's house, the woman he doubted and would never do again. Relieved that she was all right, Wyatt ignores all her protests and once again takes her to his house permanently. When all the clues start mounting up, Blair decides to do her own investigating without her drop dead gorgeous fiancé knowing about it but before she can act on it, she is suddenly faced with a shocking clue of all as she looks into the face of a cold calculating killer only to pray deep inside that Wyatt not only will figure it out but he gets to her in time before the night is over for her life depends on it!.....these two books were highly entertaining.....thank you.....

This well-conceived thriller/mystery/romance deserves 5 stars despite stringing the reader along about the issue of the "treasure" of the Knights Templar. Gold, power, faith? Whatever. It's just annoying. But along the way the story is beautifully and intelligently woven. No matter that it appears to suck off Gabaldon's work. The contemporary part is very very well drawn, especially Grace's plight and her gradual street education. That will keep any reader delighted. And then *bam* back to medieval Scotland where the picture is also skillfully painted, not to mention the sensual part of it. I guess you can't expect this kind of novel to make complete sense but Linda Howard gets close. Perhaps the final disposition of the bad guy was hard for her to put together. Anyway, this is good escape reading, about as good as it gets, with oh so many memorable scenes. I've read it three times so far.

Grace's husband and brother are murdered in front of her and she goes on the run for the next year to escape the same fate. She has worked for the Foundation of Unending Power, researching Black Niall of Creag Dhu, up until the murders of her family. Now she delves into secret manuscripts, trying to find out about the Treasure of Creag Dhu before her family's murderer can track it down. A well done time travel tale along with being a suspense thriller and a romance, "Son of the Morning" is a rollicking good story and a sexy read on top of that. I've liked author Howard's books for many years now. This one was published in 1997 so there are a few outdated ideas in it but the story is a fine one regardless.

The book has well written moments when it pulls the reader in to the story. For the most part, however, I found myself flipping quickly through the pages in order to spare myself exposure to one dimensional characterizations. The author's concrete explanations of settings and events, followed by a two-by-four to the head, just in case the reader was too dense to get it the first time through was annoying. At times the writing was adult and sophisticated. At times it seemed the author had given a sheltered adolescent with no experience of life a free hand at writing the book for her. The plot line is an intriguing one. Too bad the book fell so very short.

Gave a 3 star because the effort put in on a long historical Romance, I think this genre is not for Linda yet. So keep up the great works.

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