



Fade To Midnight

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The "New York Times"-bestselling author of "Ultimate Weapon" and "Extreme Danger" introduces the long-lost sibling of her beloved McCloud brothers, in her steamiest and most riveting romantic suspense novel yet.

Beaten and tortured almost to death, Kev Larsen was found eighteen years earlier in a warehouse alley. He survived his brutal ordeal, but his memories before that night were completely erased, until brain surgery triggers fragmented, terrifying flashbacks. Now Kev is determined to unlock the secrets to his past. Edie Parrish has always been good at not letting anyone get too close to her. If someone were to learn of her unusual gift, her life would be immediately jeopardized. But when Kev Larsen discovers who she really is, Edie has to trust him. And soon, Edie can't resist her desire - even though she knows she'll have to pay a price for it. Now Kev and Edie must race against time and place their faith in each other to stop a deadly legacy.

Fade To Midnight Details

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From Reader Review Fade To Midnight for online ebook

Jill Dunlop says

Fade to Midnight is the long awaited conclusion to Shannon McKenna's McCloud Brother series. It features the long lost missing brother Kev who is Sean's twin, whom they believed has been dead all these years. Sean troubled by nightmares believes his twin is still alive. Kev is alive but has no recollection of his former life. As a self protective mechanism his brain has chosen to forget the torture Kev experienced at the hands of a mad scientist.

Fade to Midnight starts out with a fairly intriguing premise. Kev McCloud can't remember his past but for some reason he continually pictures a beautiful girl, whom he deems his "angel". He discovers that his angel is actually a real person, Edie Parrish. She has made him the main character in her popular graphic novel. Edie had horrible experiments done on her as a child. These experiments eventually lead to her psychic abilities which come out through her drawings. Edie has always been shy and a disappointment to her father.

The best part of Fade to Midnight is in the beginning when Kev and Edie first meet. They come together in an emotional and fiery explosion. If you have read McKenna before than you'll know what I am talking about. Kev immediately knows that Edie is the woman for him and he must have her and protect her at all costs. He struggles with wanting to keep Edie safe and do what is best for her, yet he can't seem to keep his hands off of her which places them in danger. Oh, what a conundrum.

Unfortunately, after Kev and Edie get separated from each other because of the bad guys, the book takes a downturn. I felt like things got dragged out too much. The bad guys are so completely over the top eeeeevil. Actually, why we are on the subject, everything about this book is over the top. Which can be great in small doses, but in this book at close to 500 pages it got old after a while. In the beginning it is exciting and addictive but by the end of the book I was uninterested and ready for it to be over.

I think fans of the McCloud Brother series will not want to miss this conclusion. But do keep in mind that Fade to Midnight is not without its share of problems.

Miss Kim says

Finally! Since I finished Edge of Midnight, I've been dying to know what happened to Kev. Where has he been? How bad is the brain damage? Does he know he has 3 brothers?

18 years ago, Kev was a victim of the sickening mind control experiments of a crazy doctor. He was dumped and presumed dead, but he was found by a man that took him in and let him live with him. Kev is badly scarred, is mute for years. Little by little, he begins to talk again, and realizes there is so much missing from his brain that he cannot remember. He doesn't know who he is.

Liv is a successful graphic artist, who was also a victim of the mind control. She however was not damaged like Kev. Instead, she came away with psychic abilities. This 'gift' causes nothing but more pain in her life.

I won't go into the plot...there are other reviews much better than mine.

I liked Liv at first. She was shy and meek, very talented. She badly wants her father's approval, but he is embarrassed of her. After she meets Kev, she turns into a different character and I didn't like her as well. She became mouthy and at times—I hate to say this—TSTL.

I did get the closure I wanted in the McCloud series, but I was disappointed when they are finally reunited with Kev. It was just like 'Hey you're back. We're pissed at you for being gone so long. Let's kick some ass...'. There was not hugging, tears, etc that you'd expect after an 18 yr absence.

*I also want to complain that McKenna over uses the word **LUBE**. I really didn't need a lube check update every time they got busy!*

Caro says

Me gusta leer a Shannon cada tanto, aunque no disfruté demasiado con estos protagonistas. Le tenía muchas ganas a esta novela más que nada por Kev, pero no llenó mis expectativas; costó terminarla por todo el rollo mental y bleh, la protagonista perfecta me aburrió sobremanera.

Jane Stewart says

Scary roller coaster ride. Excellent pulling me in emotionally. My frustration was how and why conflicts occurred.

I love this author. I eagerly pounce on every new book she writes. I've given 5 stars to many of her books, but this book gave me problems. Put an outline on the blackboard showing all the conflicts and how and why they occurred, and you get the following. Bad decisions by good people. People being told the truth and not believing it. Good guys knowing they are in danger but going off alone. Bad guys repeatedly lucky. Bad guys' lies repeatedly believed by everyone. Edie's truths repeatedly not believed by almost everyone, and their responses to Edie were abusive. I've read other books which used some of these conflict devices, and I was fine with it. Limited use is ok. My problem here is this particular "mix" and the "quantity" – way too much of it.

There are multiple conflicts where the bad guys get the good guys, the good guys get away, and then the bad guys get them again later. Getting out of conflicts was done well. But WHY the characters were put in danger was my problem.

A couple of times, the author used a "temporary cliffhanger" which I didn't like. For example, Kev enters a room, sees bad guys coming in, Kev takes the first shot, and then the author switches to another scene with other characters for several pages before returning to Kev. I prefer logical endings to scenes. There is plenty of suspense due to content. I don't need this "artificial suspense." I'll accept occasional use if it's helpful to show other things going on, but that was not the case here.

Kev and Edie have some arguments along the way which I didn't care for. They were based on each one thinking they were not good enough for the other.

Something important was missing. I needed a scene or two with all the brothers finally being together and having a heart to heart about the missing 18 years.

On the positive side, McKenna is great at pulling me in emotionally to the characters. In the first part of the book I hurt for Kev, and I was scared to death of Ava. When I read another book "Ecstasy Unveiled," I did NOT hurt for the tortured hero, and I was NOT afraid of the bad guy. In my review of that book, I used "Fade to Midnight" as an example of how to pull readers in emotionally (to the characters). McKenna is great at doing that. She also writes excellent action scenes and events. She shows not tells.

As with several other McKenna books, this was a scary roller coaster ride. It was hard to put down. I wanted to keep reading to find out what would happen. The suspense kept me awake at night. I enjoyed it a lot, even though I had the problems mentioned above.

DATA:

Story length: 490 pages. Swearing language: strong, including religious swear words. Sexual language: strong, including rape. Number of sex scenes: 12. Approximate number of sex scene pages: 22. Setting: current day Oregon and Washington state. Copyright: 2010. Genre: romantic suspense thriller.

OTHER BOOKS:

Of her full length novels, I gave 5 stars to: Behind Closed Doors, Standing in the Shadows, Return to Me, Out of Control, Hot Night, Edge of Midnight, Extreme Danger, and Ultimate Weapon. I gave 4 stars to Tasting Fear and 3 stars to Fade to Midnight. She's done some short stories in anthologies which I rated 3 stars and 5 stars. The 5 star short stories are in the following anthologies: All Through the Night and Bad Boys Next Exit.

Cheri says

Although I had not read the previous novels in this series I got the jest of it. I will eventually read them and the ones after. If they are as good as this title was then I am gonna be in reading heaven. I think this is one of the best books I have read so far this year. It has everything...action, adventure, mystery, sex, humor, murder and tons of great reading. 5 stars for sure for this book and author!

Dina says

*** This review contains spoilers about the previous books in the series, so if you haven't read at least the 1st 4 books (Behind Closed Doors, Standing In The Shadows, Out Of Control and Edge of Midnight), read this review at your own risk. ***

I'm a big fan of Ms. McKenna's books, even though I didn't love all of them - hey, every author has the right to write a "bad" book now and then, right? I love her stalkerific heroes, her OTT wacky villains and the intensity of her stories. Her heroines are hit-or-miss, some are borderline TSTL, but I don't read romances for the heroines anyway, LOL.

Fade To Midnight is the long-awaited story of Kevin McCloud, whose "death" had haunted his brothers' lives until they found out he might be alive *somewhere, somehow*. But if he's alive, what's happened to him?

Why hasn't he ever contacted his brothers? Has he staged his own death or is he held prisoner somewhere? So many questions! Naturally, all of them are answered in this book. I'm not going to write a plot summary because the book description says what's important and, let's face it, I wouldn't know where to begin since Kev's story isn't fully contained in this book - hence the need to read the previous books in the series to understand this one.

As I've come to expect from Ms. McKenna's stories, this book was packed with thrilling and suspenseful action scenes. The bad guys were *really* bad: vicious, cruel and completely amoral. Their actions were cringe-worthy and I hated them with a vengeance, but... I must be out of my mind, but I ended up feeling sorry for Ava, the most twisted and perverted of them all. Kudos to Ms. McKenna for making me care for such an evil creature.

Now, Kev and Edie... They were a nice surprise to me. Ms. McKenna's H/h usually follow the pattern I mentioned above, but she broke the mold with Kev and Edie. He was still a strong, protective, dominant alpha male, but he wasn't as keen on playing power games in the bedroom as his brothers. That made him sweeter - as sweet as a McCloud can be, that is - and I liked that. As for Edie, she was stronger and overall smarter than the previous heroines in the series, even though she had a couple of unavoidable TSTL moments. She really annoyed me when she decided to seduce "poor" Kev at the worst possible moment, but I guess a girl's gotta do what a girl's gotta do - whenever, wherever. ;)

Two things prevented me from giving this book 5 stars:

1. Kev's reunion with his long-lost brothers was anticlimactic. Come on, you guys haven't seen each other for 18 years! So you've found each other again in the middle of a "war zone" with bullets flying everywhere and I agree that that wasn't the best time to "play the violins", but there was almost nothing afterwards either. Big disappointment there.
2. The ending was too abrupt. The last chapter ends with Kev and Edie fighting bad and good guys altogether, the police shooting at Kev and Evie's life hanging by a thread. Cut scene, and there's the epilogue, where we are *told* what happened in the 6 weeks between the last scene in the last chapter and the epilogue. Okay, Kev and Edie's encounter in the epilogue was sweet and sigh-worthy, but I still felt kind of lost there.

All in all, I really enjoyed this read and I wish there were more McCloud brothers to keep this series going. I don't know what Ms. McKenna's plans are, but I hope she considers writing Kev's "brother" Bruno's book next. I mean, he's an honorary McCloud brother now, isn't he? :D

jenjn79 says

Man, this was quite a book. After waiting many books and quite a few years waiting to find out what Kevin's story was, author Shannon McKenna sure delivered a doozy of a book!

Series Note:

I HIGHLY recommend reading this series in order. It would be particularly helpful to read Sean's book (Edge of Midnight) as close as possible to this one.

Summary:

Eighteen years ago, Kevin McCloud was assumed dead by his friends and family. It wasn't until a few years ago that Kev's brothers started to find out that something really bad had gone on, and then to wonder if Kev might actually still be alive somewhere out there. If he is, they'll find him, whatever it takes.

Kev has been alive...living with amnesia for eighteen years in Portland. After escaping the evil mind control of a crazed scientist, he's taken in by a Vietnam vet. Kev is severely scarred, brain damaged, can't speak, can't write, and can't remember a thing about himself. Eventually, he gets better and builds a meaningful life, though he still can't remember his past. But then an accident leads to brain surgery which unlocks a few memories and urges Kev to find out the truth about what happened to him.

During the course of his search, he meets Edie Parrish, a little angel from his past. Edie is the daughter of the man Kev begged for help and then assaulted while trying to escape Dr. O's clutches. Edie was there that day, and the encounter led her to later write a graphic novel series about a scarred, battered hero helping people in need. Now they meet again. But Edie has problems of her own as the black sheep of her family. She's a misfit who can never please her father. They all think she's crazy. When Edie meets Kev again, she's finally found someone who can accept her for who she is.

Unfortunately, even though evil scientist Dr. O. is dead...a few of his minions are still alive and secretly working on his legacy. Now they want both Kev and Edie to complete their experiments. The two have a lot to survive before they can have a future together.

(...sorry for the long summary, but this is a really complicated book...)

Review:

Where to start this review? There so much to say about this book. Most of it good, but I do have two main criticisms. I'll save those for last.

I think the first thing to comment on is the anticipation level of this book. It was off the charts. The book is a wild, edge-of-your-seat ride that has you constantly waiting and anxiously wondering for what will happen next. And it's not just at certain parts of the book, it's the entire book. I don't think I was relaxed while reading even once. The tension and anticipation is that thick. It was great. And it really keeps you reading and wanting to come back for more when you have to put it down.

For me, the middle-ish chunk of the book was my favorite part. It's where Edie and Kevin meet and instantly connect. These two are both such battered souls. Kev is scarred, brain damaged, suffering from severe amnesia. You just really feel bad for the guy. He's always trying to do the right thing and getting crapped on for it. Then there's Edie. She's a total misfit in her world and has no self-esteem because of it. And when these two get together, it's so sweet. I loved the early parts of their relationship in the book (before all the "bullets" started flying). It was just really great to read about two battered people finding solace in each other. And hey, there's hot sex, too!

The romance takes a little bit of a backseat as the book moves on because of the suspense plot. Plus, Kev gets an attack of Alpha dog syndrome, and Edie gets a little TSTL-ish. Which McKenna readers should be used to ;) But overall, I really enjoyed the romance between these two. I think they were perfect for each other.

The suspense plot of the book was fucked up. And I don't mean that in a bad way. Kinda gives you the creeps, reading it. Mind control, drugs, murder, rape. Ugh. Not pretty stuff. It was definitely a twisted storyline that kept me reading, wanting to know how it all worked out.

For those of you who have been reading the series, the other McClouds make an appearance in the book. Connor, Davy and Sean come riding to the rescue, along with Sean's pregnant wife Liv. Tam's also there...and she's got a great role in the book. Miles is along for the ride. And there are mentions of Seth, Nick Val and all the others. It's great to get to read them again.

Now, my two criticisms.

First deals with all the backstory built up in other books. Kev's story has been building since book 1 in this series, and things kinda came to a head in Sean's book....which I read two and a half years ago. Therein lies the problem. When I started reading this book, I was so damn confused, trying to remember all the details of this and that...what was Kev's situation, how did he initially disappear, etc. I read all the other books in this series mostly in early 2008 so by the time I read this one, everything was rather fuzzy. And unfortunately, this book doesn't do all that good a job at bringing you up to speed on Kevin's situation. I spent so much time wracking my brain for past details while reading the beginning of this book that it was annoying. I think McKenna could have found a way to refresh readers minds to make things a little clearer and less distracting. But either way, this is why you really have to read this series in order. And if you have time, skimming Sean's book or rereading it completely would probably be really helpful.

My second complaint was the ending and in particular the McCloud brothers reunion. This is what readers have been waiting and waiting for. Kev and his family finally reunite. And I was left less than dazzled by the reunion. The brothers meet again during a very tense time in the book and all their scenes together are life and death situations. ALL of them. I was anxiously waiting for a fluffy bunny scene between the brothers, something peaceful and happy, with them catching up together. Just something nice. But there was nothing like that. When I finished the book, it left me rather unsatisfied because this thing I'd been waiting for the whole series was left hanging a bit. I just really wanted a closing scene between these guys.

Hopefully McKenna will bring them back in the next book and gives up that clearer HEA for the brothers. And it looks like there will be another book. Her website intimates that either Bruno or Alex Aaro will be feature next. Can't wait!

Auntee says

Wow, there is no way my review is going to do this book justice, but I'll try.

****Possible spoilers if you haven't at least read Edge of Midnight, read no further.....

After a bit of a confusing start (maybe the first 50 pages) due to the fact that it's been almost three years since I read the book directly connected to this one (Edge of Midnight), everything sort of fell into place and I was able to figure out where this one was heading. Do yourself a favor (as I should have) and reacquaint yourself with Sean McCloud's story--at the very least read the chapters that lead up to the climax, or you'll be searching the cobwebs in your brain like I did trying to remember names and facts and just what happened when Sean and wife Liv fought off the evil Dr. Osterman and what his connection was to the missing (and presumed dead for the past 18 years) twin Kevin.

So if you're about to read this book, you know that in one of the past books (which one, I don't know) the McCloud brothers figured out that their missing brother Kevin may in fact be alive. **Fade To Midnight** is 40-ish Kevin's story. It tells what happened to him that day he got away from the evil mind control

machinations of Dr. O, how he survived, who helped him, why he never made it back to his brothers (he's suffering from a type of amnesia, and doesn't remember anything past 18 years ago), and how he was living his life now. This part of the book made me very sad--Kevin went through a heck of a lot both physically and emotionally, and my heart ached for him. The book starts out with Kevin about to go over a waterfall after he heroically tried to save a couple of kids, and gives you a good idea about the man he has become as he relives the past 18 years of his life while he braces for his imminent death. Well miraculously, Kevin survives, but his body and brain take a beating. But the brain beating starts to jar loose some bad, *bad* memories...

Kevin's future lady love is a 29 year-old heiress named Edie Parrish. Edie can do no right in her family's eyes. She's clumsy, meek, a bit of a misfit, is psychic and is prone to blurting out warnings to people about their futures that no one takes seriously but irritates her uppity parents. Her father has all but disinherited her because she refuses to toe the line. She works as a graphic novelist and lives in a run down part of town which annoys her father to no end. Edie's novels focus on an heroic character named Fade Shadowseeker, whose adventures (and features) are strikingly similar to one Kevin Larsen (Kevin McCloud). Now how can that be since they've never met?

As Kevin starts to get fragments of his memory back, including his memories of Dr. O, he does some research with the help of his 'adopted' brother and business partner Bruno, and they link Dr. O to the wealthy Charles Parrish, whose foundation provided funding for evil Dr. O's mind control research, and who just happens to be Edie's father. More research on Parrish, who Kev now remembers as the person who he tried (without success) to get to help him stop Dr.O, turns up a picture of Edie. Hmm, she looks vaguely familiar. Kev figures he needs to speak with her and decides to attend her book signing at a local bookstore. What happens after that...oh my.

That's all I want to say about the plot. Just know that although Dr. O may be dead, he's left behind some minions who are determined to honor his legacy of mind control research in the most *evil*, despicable way, and Kevin and Edie are their targets. There's a scorching hot, and I mean *hot* romance between the two outsiders, Edie and Kevin, there's plenty of I-can't-believe-this-is-happening action and brutal violence; there's wonderful drama as Kevin slowly regains his memories and his brothers realize that he's alive and come looking for him, and there's plenty of tears (both happiness and sorrow) as Kevin and Edie try to figure out if their relationship can make it through all the roadblocks put in their way.

Now, fans of this series will want to know that of course those wonderful, crazy McCloud brothers make an appearance in this book, with Sean (and wife Liv) probably having the largest roles. Besides Davy, Connor, and Sean, we also get Miles (who has some humorous scenes), mentions of Seth and Nick and Val, the brother's wives, the cute offspring, and how could I forget Tam! Tam has a *very* pivotal role in the exciting, exhausting conclusion. Go Tam! There was a very heartbreak scene involving Kev's 'adopted' family, where one of the members makes a huge sacrifice that had me whispering "*no...*", and this was all part of a nail biting finale that must have taken over 100 pages to tell, but moved at a break-neck pace. And just when I thought all the harrowing action was over, there was **more!** My heart almost couldn't stand it!

Fortunately, there was a HEA, but if I had one *teeny tiny* complaint with this book, it would be that I thought it needed an epilogue of some sort. There was a sweet epilogue between Edie and Kev that took place 6 weeks after all the mayhem died down, but I sure could have read a couple of more pages that included the entire McCloud family. Maybe I'm being greedy, but I can't get enough of that crazy family. I just love the way the brothers are with their women. They're alphas, sometimes arrogant, bone-headed and stubborn, but ultra-protective, possessive, sexy, loving, and can be down-right sweet. You know that they'd do *anything* for their woman, and they let them know that their woman has their heart. Love these guys.

There's plenty of set-the-sheets-on-fire sex in this book, as well as romance (with brother Bruno offering his expertise), and some humor (the brothers interacting with each other and their wives, Kev's adoptive family--especially his 'Aunt') and you'll be rooting hard for Edie and Kevin's relationship. I loved how the character of Edie grew from a sort of afraid-to-say-the-wrong thing girl to almost a kick-ass get-out-of-my-way heroine--Nice! Both Kevin and Edie were so likable, and had been through so much before they even met, and they were put through the wringer in this book, so anything less than a big, fat HEA would have been a major disappointment.

Fans of this series this is a *must read*--you'll truly enjoy it! Sadly, it seems like this is the finale of the series. There's no more McClouds to write about, and as for their friends...? I suppose Shannon McKenna can come up with a story about Bruno, or perhaps a character she added late to the story, former Army Ranger Alex Aaro will get his story told? I don't know, but if SMcK's writing it, I'm reading it! 5 stars

Melissa Levine says

I found the beginning of this book to be very confusing. I didn't totally understand what the hell was even going on. So the first...eighth? haha was hard to get in to. There were also several errors throughout the book, I can't help but notice. Most involved repeating words or forgetting a letter in the word/using the wrong word.

The story itself was sorta interesting. I felt like the author could have shorten the story, (my version was 619 pages long)...there were way too many descriptions of things aka fluff, that I didn't really need to be said or repeated multiple times.

Questions/Comments:

I couldn't stand Edie. It's like she wants to have more sex than Kev does...especially during inappropriate times. I get she feels what Kev is feeling or something when they have sex, but at the same time, why must she continue with the crying during and afterwards? Something about her just annoyed. She didn't seem all that smart either.

I wasn't a fan of how long it took before we got a somewhat good description of Kev. (Page 76)

Ava? Complete psycho. She sounds like a completely fake person, I'm surprised people still fall for her crap.

There was a part at the beginning where Ava is reminiscing about Dr. O. "Even when it broke your bones, and hacked off your limbs and sucked your blood." I get bad things happen when controlling another person, but hacking off limbs?

'Thugs' came for Bruno when he was younger, while eating at his Uncle's diner. After Kev fought them and whatnot, how were there tons of dirty dishes to clean? Hadn't they just opened basically?

When Kev shows up at the book signing, how did none of Edie's fans notice him? That part didn't make sense at all.

Ava knocks Keira out, she forces her to sit down... "Ava accompanied her body down (Keira) into the chair, forcing her to bend at the waist. Thud, she landed heavily." Is Ava sitting on Keira at this point?

When Tom arrives at the lab, what exactly does he end up testing? Ava was in control of Keira while what? She allowed the one guard guy to fuck Keira? What was with the juggling? So Tom wears the crown...hence being in control of Keira while what? Having his goon fuck Keira again while he experienced it too?

Prior to Edie and Kev having sex, why did she get so mad at him? I was clueless there.

After all Kev tells Edie about how his life is like her book series, how can she still play it off like it's just a coincidence? I didn't get that.

What was with Edie always demanding something? Couldn't she just ask?

I didn't understand how there didn't seem to be anything Edie could have done to get her father to leave her alone? I mean, if he's embarrassed of her and whatnot, she's not inheriting any money...why didn't he just walk away? Was it all for show?

At the ceremony for her father, we're told that Aunt Evelyn and Tanya kept pushing Edie down every time she went to stand up. Making me think they were on either side of Edie. Yet, Edie was able to pass her cell phone sim-card to her sister, who sounded like she was sitting right next to her.

Edie ends up putting the wine soaked napkin into her purse, then leaves it under the table. Did she seriously think the waiter wouldn't come back for it? Very stupid!

Kev and Edie are getting busy in the car. At one point, Edie ends up between Kev's legs...while kneeling in front of his seat. Um, how was that possible? I get some cars have more leg room than others, but yeah...

When they get to the motel, why was Edie surprised that Kev didn't want to have sex with her?

When they're in the cabin, Bruno arrives with breakfast. He ends up talking about how Edie is crazy for Kev. Kev seems unsure though. Why? I mean she's already told him that she loves him, wants to stay with him, yadda, yadda, yadda...what more could he want?

Kev arrives to go through the archives. "Twenty-five, thirty big boxes..." Huh?

What was with the huge age gap between Edie and Ronnie?

Who refers to a text message on a phone as an 'sms message'?

So the shot that Ava had given Charles caused his blood vessels to burst. Why would she be glad that his brain was mush? Making it seem as though there wouldn't have been any evidence of the burst blood vessels? The blood vessels are throughout the body.

How did Kev end up with Dr. O?

"The only person whose opinion mattered was dead." That was Edie's thought after finding out her father was dead. I didn't get it. He was horrible to her most of her life, why would she care?

How did Bruno, Tony or his Bruno's aunt not recognize Kev's brothers? Especially his twin brother?

What was the point of the jewelry?

I could understand if Edie ended up going crazy, killing her father and handcuffing her family and whatnot...but when Ava pulls a chunk of Edie's hair and sprinkles it on the family....um? That just seemed weird. Was she suppose to be so stressed her hair is just falling out?

Why were the cops shooting at Kev when he'd already put his gun down? This was when him, Edie and Ava were on the roof.

Dekaydreader says

I would rate this higher except for a few annoyances that detracted from what was quite an exciting story/series:

- Never thought I would find myself saying this, but - too much sex. It's like seasoning; a touch is nice, but this is like chili with a quadruple helping of heat, hold the other ingredients.
- I'm also rather offended by the word choices involved - a little too low-rent for me. Occasionally calling a breast a tit, okay. Employing "tit" at every turn is like listening to an adolescent boy.
- Overuse of one adjective to the point of ridiculous: "puffy" - add "pink", and after awhile it gets gag-some. Puffy pink lips, puffy pink eyes, puffy pink hands, puffy pink jacket...

If McKenna had edited out about half the sex scenes and upscaled the rest out of the gutter porn zone, and made use of a thesaurus, this would have been 4- even 5-star worthy.

willaful says

Warning: inevitable spoiler for Edge of Midnight. If you've read this book's summary, you already know it.

Whew, this was a trip.

Kevin McCloud, brother of Davy, Connor and Sean, was long dead when their stories began. Though being a mystery reader, I knew from page 8 of *Edge of Midnight*, when we read that "Kev's body had been charred beyond recognition," that he wasn't really dead. And sure enough, by the end of that book, the McCloud brothers know it too. Though fairly inexplicably, when this story begins three years later, they have yet to do anything about it.

The first feeling I had reading this was... well, perhaps "disappointment" isn't the right word, because it was a disappointment I pretty much *expected*. Kev sounded like such an interesting, different character in the previous book -- though naturally he never actually appeared -- but here, sure enough, he's pretty much just another incredibly skilled, hard-fighting, hard-lovin' uxorious McCloud brother. He's super-smart but we're mostly told about that, we never really see how it affected him as a person.

I also found myself reluctant to keep reading. All of McKenna's romantic suspense books are dark, but there's usually a bit of distance to keep the reader from getting overwhelmed. Here, many horrible things had already happened to Kev and his love-interest Edie, and I strongly suspected more horrible things were going to happen. (I wasn't wrong.)

But I kept on and in the second half, things got... good? Well, they got something. There's a lot going on with the Kev's brothers as they slowly discover what's been going on, a lot of feelings for them, and for Kev. That was powerful. And there's some poignant sacrifice and redemption in the ending, especially for a character who had made some dubious decisions.

There was still a lot I didn't much like. Edie's family and everyone associated with them are just over-the-top awful. They're not the super-villains of the piece, but they don't seem to have a speck of humanity towards her. And we don't see enough of what happens between Kev and his brothers, after all the action is finished. That is so big, where did it go?

And saddest of all... this is Shannon McKenna and I *didn't like the sex scenes*. That's like ordering a banana split and getting bad ice cream. They seemed out of place and out of character, especially Edie's persistence and aggression. I was kind of relieved when the couple were mostly separated for the last half of the book.

Ultimately I guess I was glad to have read it and finished up the series. But it's well named, because the McClouds sort of fade away... not with a bang, but a whimper.

Kathleen says

This book to me was F-A-N-T-A-S-T-I-C! My favorite book of the year to date. The action in this book blew me away. How in the world did Shannon come up with the idea's in this book, I'll never know. I don't think there was a thing that I did not love about this book. The H&H, The secondary charters, The bad guy's/girl, the plot, the action, the love scenes, the ending, The whole darn book was fabulous. I'm sorry to see this series end but I'm sure that whatever Shannon write's next will be just as great as this series was and I will be waiting very impatiently for it to be released.

Sonia Cristina says

4.5 estrelas

Não consigo arredondar para as 5* porque acho que faltou qualquer coisa especial.

Depois de "Edge of Midnight", o livro de Sean McCloud, foi-me impossível não ir espreitar os livros seguintes para saber se o seu gémeo, Kevin, estava mesmo vivo. Desde que soube que sim, Kevin estava vivo, entrei em euforia para chegar ao seu livro.

É, sem dúvida, um livro espetacular. O momento mais aguardado, o reencontro dos irmãos McCloud, foi uma cena espetacular, cheia de ação, euforia, emoção.

Gostava que o final tivesse um pouco mais de qualquer coisa com os 4 irmãos, as suas esposas e filhos, acho que foi o que faltou.

~V~ says

What a great book! I have thoroughly enjoyed this series SO MUCH! The intensity level is off the charts! I swear...every time i pick up one of these books i truly have a hard time putting them down and my stomach

is in complete knots the entire time i'm reading them. The suspense and the action, the romance, the SEX!?...WOW!

I would not hesitate to recommend these books to anyone looking for one heck of a thrill ride, as long as you don't have a problem with quite a bit of sexual content...there is a LOT of sex in these, however, having said that...these are by no means books that have more sex than story..there is definitely a LOT of story...and really great story at that!! Her characters are just very sexual beings..I mean..really...when you're being chased down by psychotically scary villains who work for the Russian mob...or you're constantly on the run from evil, depraved scientists looking to experiment on you...who wouldn't need all that sex to release some tension! ;)

One thing that Shannon Mckenna does, that i recently mentioned loving about Shelly Laurenston's books..is that she brings back ALL her characters for each book, whether it's an actual McCloud brother, or one of their friends...everyone still plays major roles...with each release, we are kept up on everyone's on going lives and we get to meet all the new "little additions" to everyone's families...you're never left to wonder what ever became of a couple once they've gotten their HEA..it's really great!

I was a little bit sad when this book came out, thinking that it would wrap up this series, being as how it was about the last McCloud brother, but apparently Shannon McKenna is not done w/ this wonderfully dysfunctional group of characters! She continues to introduce us to new characters along with being able to keep each book from becoming a repeat of the previous ones..so far she's succeeded in keeping things fresh, interesting and very exciting! She has another book in this series coming out this fall and i can't wait! This is a series that will remain on my keeper shelf and one i'm hoping i will be able to keep adding to! :)

Zeek says

Kev's story was abit of a letdown- the baddies are completely eeevil and I wanted to smack her family for being so selfish and rotten. (Totally cliched on both counts.)

BUT I loved Edie- smart, a bit backwards socially but oh so fierce and Kev's a McCloud- so of COURSE he's oversexed, uber alpha and extremely intense. (Kev is the epitome of tortured hero (literally) and exactly the kinda romance hero I adore. Yes he's finally reunited with the rest of his family but this story is all His and Edie's- which was my letdown- I wanted more of him with his brothers.)

(More review to come)
