

A LUCY GUARDINO FBI THRILLER  
NOVELLA



NEW YORK TIMES Bestselling Author

**CJ LYONS**

**AFTER  
SHOCK**

## After Shock

*C.J. Lyons*

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# After Shock

C.J. Lyons

## After Shock C.J. Lyons

As head of the FBI's Sexual Assault Felony Enforcement Squad, Agent Lucy Guardino has made a name for herself bringing the lowest of lowlifes to justice. Rapists, serial killers, pedophiles—she's faced them all down with her signature grit and determination.

But today is different. Because the man who has taken her prisoner has promised Lucy three things: that before this day is over, she will be dead; that someone in her family will also die; and that he always wins.

Trapped inside her worst nightmare, Lucy faces a ruthless killer as he plays Russian roulette with the lives of those she loves. Wounded and unarmed, how can Lucy defeat a psychopath who doesn't play by any rules?

After Shock is a heart-pounding, lightning-paced thrill ride that will leave readers breathless as they root for the ultimate superheroine next door.

## After Shock Details

Date : Published January 7th 2014 by Thomas & Mercer (first published January 1st 2014)

ISBN :

Author : C.J. Lyons

Format : Kindle Edition 111 pages

Genre : Mystery, Crime, Thriller

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## From Reader Review After Shock for online ebook

### **Bobbie says**

Fast paced thriller. Intriguing storyline. Dynamic characters.

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### **Bernie says**

After Shock is the fourth book in the Lucy Guardino F. B. I. Thriller series written by author C. J. Lyons.

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### **Jennifer says**

It was a quick short book. I liked the main character. The one thing I didn't really like was jumping back and forth. I plan on reading more in the series.

Another book I ready from my library mystery and thriller tablet. I read books I never likely picked up.

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### **Andrew says**

Aftershock, a novella, is the 4th book in the Lucy Guardino series, but the first one that I've read. Fortunately, as a newbie, I had no problem catching up with the characters as the action progresses – and I mean “action”, as the author jumps right into the middle of the short timeframe in which this book is set. (There were a few things that might serve as spoilers for previous books when I get to them, but that is to be expected when you read a series out of order.)

Ms. Lyons jumps back and forth between “then” and “now” as she describes the capture and attempted escape of Ms. Guardino. I found this to be somewhat distracting at the start of the book, but became comfortable with it once I'd set up both the “captured” and “trying to escape” scenes in my mind. (Still, my mind functions better with straight linear plotlines – as such, rather than “ding” ms. Lyons, I give the author credit for not losing me during these time flips!)

It's tough to tell a complete story in 111 pages. Ms. Lyons almost manages to squeeze a novel into this timeframe. Almost. Subplots – subtleties of all types, for that matter – get short shrift. Characterization, surprisingly, may be abbreviated but is not ignored. Unfortunately, some mystery still remains at the end of the book – I found this frustrating as heck. (I'd describe, but there is no way to do that without putting some major spoilers into this review.)

RATING: 4 stars.

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## **Nurse Lisa In Ohio (PRN Book Reviews) says**

This novella is PACKED. Don't miss it if you're a Cj - Lucy Guardino series fan like I almost did! It wasn't offered by my usual Barnes and Noble (on my nook), but when I checked the authors website, I was happy to find a link to the Kindle store! Whew! ;)

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## **John W. says**

Before I began reading AFTER SHOCK by C.J. Lyons, I knew it would not be a full Lucy Guardino novel. More is packed these 111 pages of Lucy's adventures than anyone will find in many other suspense stories. Lyons uses the flashback concept to walk the reader through the two time lines filled with suspense, unexpected twists and changes to Lucy's mindset.

At any given time, the readers know Lucy's point of view on the case she is working and how the time constraints will affect Lucy's family. We see Lucy's family at the center of every moment as Lucy shares what she is thinking. Lyons take the reader down the path with Lyons helping readers see Lucy's focus on her family and her commitment to her job. These two commitments are the foundation of the story line. AFTER SHOCK involves us from the first sentence on the first page to the last word in the epilogue.

Lyons brings her readers up to speed on the case closed by Lucy in the KILLING ZONE 15 months ago. The result of bringing down the drug cartel helped establish Lucy as head of the Sexual Assault Felony Enforcement Squad. She established a reputation of facing down the lowlifes bringing them to justice. Lucy's determination and perseverance helped with her career growth and helped her find more time to spend with her family

It may have been the job visibility that brought her family life to the attention of some unsavory people. The plot builds suspense and mystery around her family and cases she has wrapped up. Lyons helps readers see Lucy's family activity as an important part of her day. We see Lucy flashback, as she deals with finding a solution to her problem she visualizes her family gaining strength and determination to keep moving. Lyons gives readers via flashback an understanding of what Lucy has been through and how she deals with the problem.

Not wanting to provide any spoilers with regards to what Lucy is going through, I am certain any reader of Lyons' AFTER SHOCK, will find suspense, thrills, mystery, and chills running up and down their spine as they read the novel. Fans will find all sorts of excitement as they follow the story to the surprising conclusion.

As I have mentioned, I enjoyed how Lyons tells her story from a fresh point of view made possible by use of the flashback time line. Lucy Guardino is truly challenged on each page. Lyons reminds her fans our Lucy is strong and has a will to win. It isn't a coincidence for Lyons to have psyched her fans into looking for and needing action and answers. We turn the last page and find we have lots of questions. Lyons makes it a point to tell us to put her next Lucy Guardino adventure THE HARD FALL on our wish list.

As a longtime Guardino fan, I hope we won't have to wait long for the release of THE HARD FALL. Some fans will want to hold their breath to see how long they have to wait to find out how Lucy and Nick resolve all the challenges they face. Lucy is fortunate she has a great family, and that is the main reason she will

overcome the problems at hand. **AFTER SHOCK** is Lyons at her best.

Like all Lyons' Lucy Guardino books, the opening page hooks you and you keep turning until you get to the last page. Now we want to know what comes next. As a fan of Lucy's strong character, perseverance and creative thinking, I look to see Lucy and her FBI team prove they are smarter and can be one step ahead those villains and beat them at their own game.

It will be worth the wait.

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### **Jay Williams says**

From the very first page your heart is in your throat as you join with Lucy in a severe test of her will. The twists and turns keep on coming. This may be a novella, but it has more packed in it than a typical 300 pager. While Lucy and her family are familiar to readers, the new menace is dramatically different. I guarantee you will not be able to stop reading as Lucy careens from one peril to the next in a desperate effort to protect her family. Lyons' fertile imagination keeps delivering new and different adventures. As in all her books, the reader is captured, captivated and emotionally drained as the action continues. It is well worth your time to read.

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### **Diane says**

#### **Thriller!**

This adventure of Lucy Guardino really keeps you on your toes. The switching from present to past tense makes for an especially tense read. I really enjoyed it.

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### **Kirsten says**

I'm typically not a fan of novellas and this one was no exception. I only read it because it seemed to give quite a bit of info to set up the next book. Yeah, it only took me about an hour to read it, but I still wish novellas weren't a thing.

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### **Kelly says**

Lucy is a soccer mom with a glock. She is a bad-ass FBI agent. Lucy's morning starts out like every morning but before she can even get into her car, everything changes as she is kidnapped by a psychopath. Lucy struggles to free herself from her captor to save one of her loved ones. The psycho told Lucy that someone she loves will die first and then he'd return for Lucy and make sure she suffers before she dies and he always wins. This story will keep you riveted to see if Lucy can even escape from the crazy man or people who have her. It's not your typical Lucy Guardino novel, but the story is still full of suspense and excitement;

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## **Faye Mathews says**

### **Great**

Very good. Could not put this down until the very last word. You'll love it as much as I did.

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## **DeeAnn Garner Williams says**

I love the Lucy Guardino series. Lucy is tough on the bad guys but loves and protects those around her. Will she be able to save/protect one of the people she loves?

Lucy's morning starts out like every morning but before she can even get into her car, everything changes and life as Lucy knows it will never be the same. She is kidnapped by a psychopath who wants to hurt and punish her. Will Lucy be able to free herself from her captor before the time-frame he gave her and save one of her loved ones? He told Lucy that someone she loves will die first and then he'd return for Lucy and make sure she suffers before she dies and he always wins.

This story will keep you riveted to see if Lucy can even escape from the crazy man or people who have her. It's a riveting story full of suspense and excitement; you won't be able to put the book down. I highly recommend you read this book as well as the other C.J. Lyons books. She is a very talented author!

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## **Paul Fish says**

### **Novellas never read them**

Never thought novellas were worth reading to few pages. Well how wrong was I read three chapters fell asleep awoke at 4.55 book on my mind. Finished at 6.30 am absolutely brilliant the way the story was written and unfolded kept me expecting more and wasn't disappointed. One story not to be missed.

A novella turn coat.

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## **Gina Basham says**

I love the character Lucy and all the troubles she finds herself in. The book starts fast paced and doesn't let up. I'm writing this review assuming readers are familiar with the Lucy Guardino series, which you should be before you read this novella. I am sure other readers will concur that we can't get enough and this was a Lucy teaser. Another great CJ Lyons read.

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**Maz Tucker says**

**Great short story**

I really love Lucy Guardino, a strong tough woman, this story shows her weaknesses, and how she overcomes them.

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