



## Just Run

*Chris Culver*

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## **Just Run** Chris Culver

Mathematician Renee Carter jokes that she was raised by a hotel maid and a television. It's not far from the truth. She spent most of her childhood following her father from city to city as he played poker in back-alley bars, illegal card rooms and casinos. Those years around poker tables drilled lessons into her that she's never forgotten: always be observant, always be wary, and always watch your opponent. Until now, she's never realized how important those lessons really are.

While investigating a database she isn't supposed to have, she and a colleague discover a pattern no one is supposed to find. Two weeks later, her colleague is murdered in his office. Not knowing whom she can trust, she runs, knowing that her only chance is to unravel a conspiracy that reaches across international lines and deep into the halls of American governance. If she lives, she'll never be the same; if she dies, no one will ever know.

## **Just Run Details**

Date : Published (first published September 22nd 2011)

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Author : Chris Culver

Format : Kindle Edition 260 pages

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## From Reader Review Just Run for online ebook

### Lori says

#### Just so-so

Felt like plot and story could have been stronger and more exciting somehow. I kept reading, hoping for more - like what happened to granddaughter and daughter?

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### Linda says

The book was fast paced, and the mechanics of good writing were fine. The book opened with a grabber, but like Trent and Renee, the good guys, I got tired of running from the Russian mob, the FBI, a potential presidential candidate and other law enforcement agents. All of the characters were acting on agendas of their own separate from their common goals. The book ends with a twist which I did not expect.

Thank you, Mr. Culver, for a good read.

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### Marti says

nook book This was a rather exciting, non-stop story which though implausible, could have happened fairly much the way that it did. A mathematics professor whose father had played poker and taught her, writes a book about beating the odds. The Russian Mafia wants her killed, because it could ruin their business. An offbeat character comes to her rescue, and they speed across the US with the enemy in pursuit. It is fascinating to see how they elude their captors.

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### Monica Rodriguez says

This book was suspenseful and an interesting plot, but as an editor and proofreader, I know that if I'm rewriting sentences in my head, the book needed some more work. Not too many typos, but simply so-so on the writing. But a good enough story that future books have promise. I wouldn't strike the author of your list if you like suspense/thrillers.

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### Walter says

I'd have probably given this 4 stars for the story which is engaging and smart. However, this reads very-much like a first novel. Some parts had strange phrasing and awkward dialogue that really took me out of the book. Also, the ending was quite abrupt. I'm definitely going to keep an eye on this author.

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## **Heather says**

I shouldn't rate it this high, but it is so much better than a lot of the crappily-written ebooks I've read lately. Title is accurate: the whole book is about two people running from place to place away from people who are trying to kill them.

Update: I couldn't live with the 4 stars so I downgraded it to 3. I'd give it 3.5 if I could.

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## **Virginia Childres says**

### **Suspense to the Max**

I really enjoyed this thriller, suspense novel. It kept me turning pages and intrigued as to the next piece of trouble Trent and Ranee were going to find and how they were going to get out of it. I've read Chris Culver's Ash Rashid detective novels and loved those, so I thought I'd try this one. It was different and exceptional.

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## **Carl says**

I was really impressed by Mr. Culver's writing in his first book, "The Abbey." It also struck me that the 99 cent Kindle price for it was really low considering it is a first rate detective novel -- as good or better than most of the name writers who charge far more for their work. Presumably the attractive pricing is a means by which Mr. Culver could build up a readership.

When I saw that his second novel, "Just Run," was similarly priced, I was surprised but delighted at the bargain. This one is even better than his first.

The heroes of "Just Run" are Renee Carter, a female professor caught in the wrong place at the wrong time, and Trent Schaefer, a somewhat mysterious detective who investigates a situation in which Renee's entangled.

It is difficult to say more without spoiling the fast paced and engaging plot. The character development is strong, the story line focused, believable, interesting and compelling.

I've become quite the fan of Mr. Culver's writing and look forward to his next book. According to his blog, at [www.indiecrime.com/](http://www.indiecrime.com/), it will feature the detective and law student main character Ash Rashid who was so interesting in "The Abbey."

For this 99 cent strategy to work, there should be hundreds of positive reviews for Mr. Culver's books, with massive sales to encourage and support him to keep writing. I don't know how volume marketing of novels works through Amazon, but I wish him the best on this as I want to keep reading his work for years to come.

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### **kent says**

What can I say, I'm a sucker for books set in Southwest Ohio with cameo appearances at the Dayton International Airport (we have a non-stop to Toronto, hence international airport) and name dropping Wright Patterson AFB.

The book is a genre novel, innocent math teacher gets caught up in international intrigue after writing a paper about online poker. She winds up on the run with Trent (detective Schaefer) twists and turns, seedy motels, living out of vending machines. Of course there are unbelievable elements but it's fiction and I enjoyed it

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### **anne says**

I read Culver's first book, *The Abbey* and loved it. I thought *Just Run* was even better. I'm hoping to see more of Trent and Renee in his next book, I really liked their characters. Will definitely buy his next book.

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### **Bridget says**

This was either a freebie or a 99-cent-er for my Nook. The descriptive blurb made it sound interesting, so I figured what the heck. Turns out, it was quite a read!

Dr. Renee Carter is a math professor at a small Ohio college. We learn that she has written a research paper proving that online poker games are rigged. As the book begins, she is going to her colleague's office and when she arrives, finds the colleague dead, and she herself is attacked. Detective Trent Schaefer is called in from Cincinnati to help the small-town police force investigate. Turn out, the men who attacked her are with the Russian mob.

Needless to say, things start moving pretty fast after this. When Renee's life is threatened, she and Schaefer hit the road. They try to keep a few steps ahead of the Russians and an FBI agent who are trying to find them. Schaefer turns out to be quite resourceful, and though Renee is suspicious, she sticks with him since he is the only person who seems to be interested in saving her life.

I'm not going to say much more, because if you are going to read this book, I don't want to ruin any of the suspense. The book is fast-paced, and covers a lot of ground (literally and figuratively), while also making the reader wonder how good their own instincts are.

If you like suspense, I can recommend this book.

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### **Becky says**

Right after finishing "*The Abbey*" I saw this book and immediately purchased it. Amazing, fast paced storyline, great characters, insane plot twist at the end! Loved everything about it. Writing sometimes still a little amateur, but nothing that totally jerks you out of the story you're immersed in. Can't wait to see what Culver brings to us next!

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### **Penny says**

There is a lot of action and tension in this book as the protagonists stay one step ahead of the bad guys. It was easy to read with a carrot dangled that promised answers to a conspiracy mystery. At the last twist of the story, the plot suddenly made no sense. Who were the bad guys, and who where the good guys? Why were these people running and what were they running from? Were they running or being herded? I confess that I have no idea how to answer these questions. I liked this book as I read it but am unsatisfied by the ending.

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### **Joy says**

What a great romp! After reading Chris Culver's debut novel "The Abbey", of which I wasn't so terribly fond, I gave this one a try because the \$1 price was right and the reviews were good. Boy I'm glad that I did. It was fast paced and kept me guessing until the very end, with twists all the way through the last paragraph-leading one to ask, "Is a sequel perhaps a possibility?" After a female math prof stumbles into the murder scene of her gay colleague who had her laptop in his office, her life becomes a nightmare of fleeing Russian mobsters, cops, feds and all sorts of people. She's not sure who she can trust, even the one man helping her escape and keeping her safe. Taught as a child by her professional poker player dad to learn "tells" in others when they lie, she notices that this man's eyes often betray his verasity, but he's all that she has. Who is he really? What's his real purpose in helping her? Or is he? Keep reading and find out. You won't be disappointed.

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### **Eric\_W says**

Many reviewers will complain this book is formulaic, and it is, but what a great formula. Two good guys (male cop and female victim) are forced to flee and hide from the bad guys and authorities who have been bamboozled by the bad guys. The ultimate outcome is never in doubt, so it's how the author gets there that keeps us reading.

Of course the idea that a researcher would have only one copy of a large important database on a laptop is preposterous, but as with all such books some suspension of rational thought is required.

Good dialog, interesting characters, fun read and cheap Kindle price.

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