



## Against the Tide

*Kat Martin*

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**Against the Tide** Kat Martin

**Secrets—and safety—melt under a midnight sun...**

Liv Chandler is running for her life, and the cops haven't been able to do a thing to help. But there's one man who makes her feel safe, no matter what...rugged charter boat captain Rafe Brodie.

To Rafe, Liv is a beautiful mystery, one he can't ignore. He means to unearth her secrets, and in the process, if luck is on his side, maybe the spark between them will ignite.

But Liv's past is more dangerous than Rafe could guess, and when his first mate turns up dead, she fears that she's next. That there's something else coming she can't see. That even Rafe and the remote village of Valdez, Alaska can't protect her forever...

## Against the Tide Details

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Author : Kat Martin

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

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## From Reader Review Against the Tide for online ebook

### [Aengell] says

#### 3.5 stars

This was my first novel by Kat Martin and I must admit that the story is far more enjoyable than I first thought. A gripping and intense romantic suspense with real, deep going characters who actually build up a relationship.

The plot is not something new, it's a well-used receipt in this subgenre, but I don't mind knowing the curse the story will take, and since it's fairly difficult to create a new plot-line here, this 'flaw' will be excused.

The suspense part got out of hand at some points, and also I enjoyed it and was really engaged into the whole mystery thing, it overshadowed the romance and made the story as a whole somehow inharmonious.

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### Sparkymom says

I read and enjoyed the first book in this series. When the opportunity to get a copy of this third book from Net Galley, I requested it despite not having read book two. I really like the three brothers this series is based around and the interesting characters included in the stories. Though all three brothers are included in this book, it focuses on Rafe who is the owner of several charter boats. Rafe has had his eye on Olivia, the local diner owner, for a while but had made a move. When one of Rafe's crew is killed, a tie to Olivia's diner brings the two together in an effort to help find the killer. Even though helping out could expose a dangerous secret from Olivia's past, she can't leave it alone. As the situation heats up, it becomes hard for her to determine whether the danger is coming from her old enemies or new ones. The chemistry between Rafe and Olivia sparks quick and grows. Rafe knows early on that he wants her, but Olivia is opposed to making connections when she might have to run at any moment. Unfortunately for her, Rafe is difficult to resist.

The Alaskan setting makes this series interesting. In my opinion, this third book was every bit as good as the first book. Now I am certain I need to go back and read book two.

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### Kelly says

I usually enjoy Kat Martin's books. This was no exception, the story was well written and had a good mystery. Unfortunately, it had a few components that turned me off. The main characters are not law enforcement, but somehow a boat captain and cafe owner were allowed to investigate a murder. I also had a problem with another instance, one character became angry with a female character. To teach her a lesson, since she was acting like a child, he pulled her over his knees and spanked her. While the characters worked out how they felt about this, I could not. I look forward to the next book, and hope this was a one time occurrence.

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### **Andrea says**

I read the first third and then basically skimmed the last two thirds. I keep trying Kat Martin because I read one book of hers I really liked, but I've struck out with the last two or three and the experiment is officially over. Her heroes are all exactly the same. Being good looking and unrealistically capable is their personality. And, frankly, not that I have much faith in small town police work but the fact that from the beginning they literally completely interfered in the investigation was just uncool. You don't interview witnesses before the police because you've decided you know better than they do. I don't expect 100% realism from my romance, but in contemporary books, you need to be at least in the realm of possibility.

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### **Debbie Oxier says**

This was the third book in the Brodies of Alaska series and in my opinion, the best. Olivia Chandler owned the diner in Valdez, Alaska. Rafe Brodie owned a trio of charter boats. He'd had his eye on Olivia for quite some time but she seemed to have a habit of avoiding him. With his killer good looks and stunning build, Olivia knew Rafe was trouble and that was something she couldn't afford, not when she was running from people who wanted to kill her. When one of Rafe's workers and friends is murdered, he and Olivia end up working together to find the killer. It's Rafe's chance to get to know her better if he can just get her to open up to him. The chemistry between them isn't a problem. Their physical relationship is everything they'd both dreamed of and more but when Olivia's secrets threaten to come between them, Rafe asks his brother to run a background check on her. What he learns is stunning, but that's not the worst of his problems. In investigating his friend's murder, he and Olivia uncover what appears to be a sinister plot to blow up the oil pipeline.

This book has it all, action, danger, suspense, hot, sexy romance and a gorgeous Alaskan setting. Once I started I didn't want to put it down! Olivia was a strong, determined woman, fighting to build a new life for herself. She put others before herself, sometimes risking exposing her secrets in order to protect Rafe and uncover what's going on. Rafe is an honorable man, a man of integrity, fiercely loyal to those he cares about and extremely protective of those he loves. His feelings for Olivia take him by surprise but once he's committed, he's in for the long haul. He will take care of her no matter what it costs him.

This book was the perfect blend of romance and suspense, something the author is very good at combining. She's also very strong on characterization. It's the characters that draw you in, that keep you turning the pages. You feel like you are a part of their lives and have a vested interest in their well-being. I so wanted Rafe to convince Olivia to trust him and Rafe refused to give up on her, certain he knew the person she was, someone he was willing to fight for.

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I understand the story about the Brodies isn't over, that they'll be making a return appearance in the next book. Can't wait to read more and see what happens to this band of brothers next. This was a top notch read and one I recommend!

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## **Trudy Miner says**

Accused of a crime she didn't commit, Liv Chandler is running for her life. Thinking that maybe she's found a place at last that's safe in Alaska, she buys a cafe and starts to put down roots. Rafe Brodie, local charter captain, is intrigued by this beautiful woman of mystery. Then his first mate is murdered and Liv is afraid that she's been found, again. As Rafe and Liv work together to solve the murder of his first mate, the truth of his murder is even more dangerous than the people of Valdez, Alaska can even imagine. Can they solve the mystery in time to stop the hidden danger from happening?

This is an excellent contemporary novel from one of the best novelists around. It's fast-paced and keeps you guessing the whole time as to who exactly is behind the murder and why.

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## **Julie says**

Against the Tide by Kat Martin is a 2015 Kensington publication. I was provided a copy of this book by the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

Kat Martin is a seasoned author with the ability to write across more than one romance genre. However, she seems to have found a nice niche in the romantic suspense category and usually turns out solid dependable stories.

Sadly, 'Against the Tide' is not one of her stronger novels.

Liv Chandler is on the run from the law, but has settled down in Alaska, running her own diner. But, when a local man, who was loved by all, is inexplicably murdered, Liv finds herself helping Rafe Brodie, a boat captain, find out what really happened to his colleague and friend. But before long, the chemistry between them, that had been simmering just under the surface, boils over, making Liv happier than she's ever been, until her past finally catches up with her. Now, Liv is in real danger and once the whole truth comes out, she will lose Rafe forever.

I really struggled with how to word this review. The plot is a little murky, and has some gaping holes in it. But, I can tolerate a fair amount of implausibility, so that's not necessarily a deal breaker.

What really turned me off of this book was the attitude of nearly every single male character in the story. I'm not kidding, the word 'male chauvinist' was actually used once, which made me think the book was written back in the 70's or 80's. If that had been the case, I would have chalked everything up to the time era, and would probably have laughed it off, but this book is not all that old.

Rafe was a caveman, and while I'm not a card carrying, flag waving feminist, I didn't find his bossing Liv around all that sexy. I think being swept up in the strong arms of a man sounds romantic sometimes, but being picked up and thrown over his shoulder against my will ... not so much.

There were secondary characters that behaved far worse though, making me wonder if this was the best message to send on how mature adults treat one another in a relationship, and again, I had the feeling I had been transported to another decade, especially since the women seemed to lap it up, which bothered me even more.

So, since this is a book review and not my personal platform, suffice it to say, the combination of plot holes and my issues with the characterizations took me out of the story.

I have a new release by Kat Martin in my TBR pile and I so I hope this was just a one off.

2 stars

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### **Anita says**

ARC provided by the Publisher via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

I have read all of Kat Martin's books and this is one of the best. Scorching romance and a suspense plot that has you wondering where it is all going to lead. It just doesn't get any better than Against the Tide. As #3 in the series, you get references to Rafe's brothers, but the part they play is very small in this story. It can be read as a standalone if you haven't read the others.

Olivia has owned the diner in Valdez, AK for about 6 months. She came here to hid and her backstory is heartbreaking. Rafe has been admiring her from afar but she ignores him. The last thing Olivia wants is a relationship with a man. Early in the morning Rafe's first mate, Scotty, is found dead on the dock next to Rafe's boat. As a small town it is difficult to believe that a local did this. Olivia also knows Scotty and is mad as hell that this could happen to such a nice young man and she is determined that his killer will be caught. She feels she owes it to him for one she couldn't help. She and Rafe join together to find out why. Rafe is all for anything that will put Olivia next to him in any way, but especially in his bed. As they follow the meager clues in Scotty's death they come across something much more sinister and deadly. Something that could lead to big trouble for Olivia.

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### **Kjen says**

3.75 Stars. A compelling and engrossing read. The characters were well fleshed out, and the story had good flow. The romance was well done. I questioned Liv's motivations at times, but still a worthwhile read. The setting was beautifully done, as well.

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### **Jonel Boyko says**

This was a polished, enticing read that I was quite excited about. Martin brought Alaska to life in a big way that really allowed me to experience it alongside her characters. It was emotionally turbulent from beginning to end. Martin developed a low-key suspense that really packed a punch. I found this novel quite enjoyable, but the pace was a bit slow. Until the end, of course, when it raced forward. It was a great read but for me was missing that 'can't put it down' quality.

Olivia is a very linear character who wants everything to fit into neat boxes. Life just doesn't work that way so she takes to avoiding things that don't conform for her. Paired with Rafe, who goes for exactly what he wants, readers are in for some intriguingly comical and extremely romantic moments. These two were

actually a real joy to get to know. The parallels between Liv's past & present lives add a lot of context to the story as a whole.

Overall, this was an enjoyable read that I'm definitely glad to have read. Martin brings Alaska & suspense to life in a big way, along with some explosive romance.

Please note that I received a complimentary copy of this work in exchange for an honest review.

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### **Dawn says**

I love all of Kat Martin's books. I was excited to get this book. It starts out a little slow compared to the others but picks up pace fairly quickly and I love the way the Brodie brothers stick together and take care of one another.

Rafe, mister yummy but serious has finally determined the he is going to get to know Olivia and that also includes her secrets. All of them. He doesn't quite know what he's in for yet but after studying her for weeks he doesn't care what they are. Olivia (Liv) is trying her best to be polite but never get to close to Rafe. Unfortunately, that isn't going to last much longer and that gives me and you a really good story to read!

The death of someone close is what brings these two together and makes them both determined to work to find out who killed their friend. It doesn't take long for that to pull them together and Rafe decides he isn't going to let her go, she just doesn't know it yet. She knows that spending time with him is dangerous but is having a hard time staying away and her determination to find their friend's killer makes sure, at least for the first while, that she stays close to Rafe.

In uncovering the killer they uncover more than they bargained for and require help. Help they get. In the process her secret is revealed and she is going to run again.

I love these characters, the dog (Khan), the settings and the ending. I only rate this 4stars because it took a bit to get into this book. Please bring us more, Kat Martin.

\*I received an ARC in exchange for an honest review of this book.\*

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### **Kimberly Rocha~ Book Obsessed Chicks says**

Against The Tide by the incomparable Kat Martin is a veritable roller coaster ride of action and suspense with a sizzling romance that grabs the attention.

Olivia Chandler has been on the run from a criminal element and ends up in Valdez, Alaska as the new owner of the Pelican Cafe. She tries to lead an under the radar life, but when it comes to boat captain Rafe Brodie, under the radar is a bit difficult.

Rafe Brodie is not going to sit idly by and let the murderer of one of his boat hands go free. When Liv and Rafe combine forces to hunt for the murderer they are in for a more than they bargained for including an attraction to one another that cannot be denied. For as much as Liv has been attempting to steer clear of the

attractive Rafe, he welcomes the most evident sparks that ignite quickly.

Along with the imminent danger that follows the pair, the budding romance that drifts between Rafe and Olivia makes Against the Tide a must read. Rafe and Olivia are strong characters with a lot of conviction and determination. They play well off one another and following along with their trials and tribulations is a thrilling quest.

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### **Jamie Arledge says**

Incredible Book, Great Story, Amazing Chemistry, Fun Adventure...

Unfortunately I didn't read the first book in the Brodies of Alaska series but I did read the 2nd one and really liked it. This one (3rd in the series) sounded good so I decided to read it as well. These books can certainly stand alone even though it's more enjoyable when you read them together, in order.

I thought this book was absolutely Amazing! I found it really hard to put down at the end of the night to get some sleep. The book was filled with excitement and adventure. It was packed full of never ending chemistry between the 2 main characters. Then thrown in some of the characters (Noah & Derek) from previous books that are always over-the-top enjoyable. I just couldn't get enough.

The storyline was very fun and interesting. I enjoyed every minute of the adventure to find and stop the bad guys and to unveil Liv's secret and do something about it.

I've read many Kat Martin books and this one is probably my favorite so far. Highly recommended!

ARC provided free of charge through NetGalley for an honest review.

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### **Cathy Geha says**

Wrapped in a contemporary love story this book includes false identities, secrets, murders, and a terrorist plot - it's fast pace kept me interested from beginning to end.

Rafe Brodie and Olivia Chandler have been eying and circling one another for months while trying to avoid the chemistry that exists between them. The two are well matched with wonderful back stories; their romance is believable and all that this reader could ask for. All of the characters in this story are well developed, interesting and each adds to the story in his or her own way...including the two four legged ones with fur.

This is the first book I have read by this author but I do not believe it will be my last.

Thank you goes to Net Galley and Kensington Books for giving me the opportunity of reading and reviewing this wonderful book.

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**Cheri says**

Last book of this series. I loved reading all the brother's stories. Very good series!

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