

What Makes A Good Story Great? by Kaylin McFarren

While in the midst of creating a new novel, I recently found myself struggling with the purpose of my story. Was I writing it to educate readers, to entertain them, or to transport them to another place during a difficult time in our lives? Perhaps, in a strange way, I was attempting to do all three without even being aware of it--without concentrating on the basic steps required for good storytelling. And what, say you, was the final result? A longer writing and editing process that no author wants to endure.

So, what's the fastest way to create a memorable, page-turning story? Here is my simple answer. Years ago, while researching the secret to successful writing, I came to the conclusion that the key ingredient to creating great stories is constant practice. While I maintain this habit on a regular basis, I've come to the conclusion that the nature and unanticipated behavior of my characters often dictates the eventual outcome of their stories in any given situation. To further clarify, I have absolutely no control over my endings while I'm writing them. But that doesn't mean they can't be entertaining or well written.

As readers, we seem to be satisfied when stories achieve certain effects, such as moving us emotionally, inspiring us, and encouraging us to think outside the box. With the advent and explosion of self-published books, there are now virtually millions of books of all genres on the market. So, as a writer, how is it possible to make your book stand out or be different? How do you keep readers coming back time and again, searching for your latest novel or upcoming release? Well, after reviewing stacks of notes from RWA workshops and various writing conferences, I believe I've discovered some great suggestions for turning a good story into an unforgettable, compelling one.

Are you ready??

#1) Make the dramatic content of your story strong. Example: 'The neighbor's bacon and eggs breakfast' is not a story idea that is going to have readers clawing for a copy of your book. It is also highly unlikely that this subject matter would sustain an entire novel. But if the bacon is made from human flesh, the story scenario has greater dramatic potential as demonstrated by Thomas Harris' popular Hannibal novels. Once you've discovered the resulting actions and the eventual outcome that develops out of your primary story scenario, you have a real, compelling story idea.

What are the key elements of a great, dramatic story?

Conflict, Tension, Surprise, Extraordinary Characters, Flawed Behavior, Controversy, Mystery and, of course, Suspense. The list is commonly known, however, building a story with these components can be challenging when your goal is to create an intriguing, page-turning bestseller.

#2. How do I keep a reader's attention? Try varying your prose's rhythm and structure. Writing instructors often

advise creative writing classes to write smart, punchier sentences. Short sentences are great for increasing pace and for helping to make scenes more exciting. Yet this could become monotonous for both the writer and reader, if a whole book is written this way. Changing the length of a sentence adds interest and can intensify drama, especially in a narrative story.

Something as simple as this can be intriguing. 'He waited all day. It was cold and growing dark by the minute.

Would anyone come?'

Exploring the rhythm of your writing consciously can help you write better sentences. Carefully crafted, creative prose makes a book better in any genre.

#3. What about characters? It's important to create believable, memorable characters that readers either love or hate. Why do we find some characters more memorable than others? Because they have something that makes them stand out. It might be a unique voice, a persona or expression, a goal or motivation, their distinctive appearance or behavior, a flaw or weakness or perhaps a hidden strength.

Authors such as Charles Dickens is famous for creating larger-than-life, memorable characters. So, what does each character in your book crave or long to accomplish? Why do they desire this and what do they have to do in order to gain it?

#4. Each part of a story needs to be effective in order to make it great. The best openings create fascinating introductions to the authors' setting, characters and plot scenarios. Often times, the middle of a story sags or lacks plot movement. But a brilliant middle, might introduce new characters who help or hinder your primary character. This is good place to add subplots that supplement your main story arc, to reveal why your characters have certain goals, to indicate what's at stake or to reveal the effect outside pressures are causing that hinders your main character's success.

#5. Most important of all, make every line of dialogue count. When characters speak, we gain a sense of their personalities, viewpoints, vulnerabilities, quirks, and attitude about any given subject. Having two or more characters sit at a table talking rarely moves the story forward unless the conversation has a purpose such as deepening or developing connections between them. In a great story, characters get to the point as quickly and realistically as possible. There are very few pleasantries and even fewer filler words because dialogue serves the plot, while holding onto the reader's attention.

#6. Who is the unseen and most influential character in a story? Believe it or not, it's the immersive setting. It's not just a house with shape and color. It's about details--about a place with personality. Is it old and dank, shutting out the light of the world, or is it light, charming and elegant? Besides giving a setting personality, it's important to make

it fascinating, inviting, challenging or just plain frightening.

Also, keep in mind that old neighborhoods change with passing years. Characters might feel different about a place from their childhood. You know, lack a personal connection they thought they would have after revisiting it. If you write about a real, historical or contemporary place in particular, you need to know the landmarks, the demographics, the underprivileged areas and the rich ones. Do the required research to understand what it is celebrated or nefarious for, as readers will recognize inaccuracies and will often point them out.

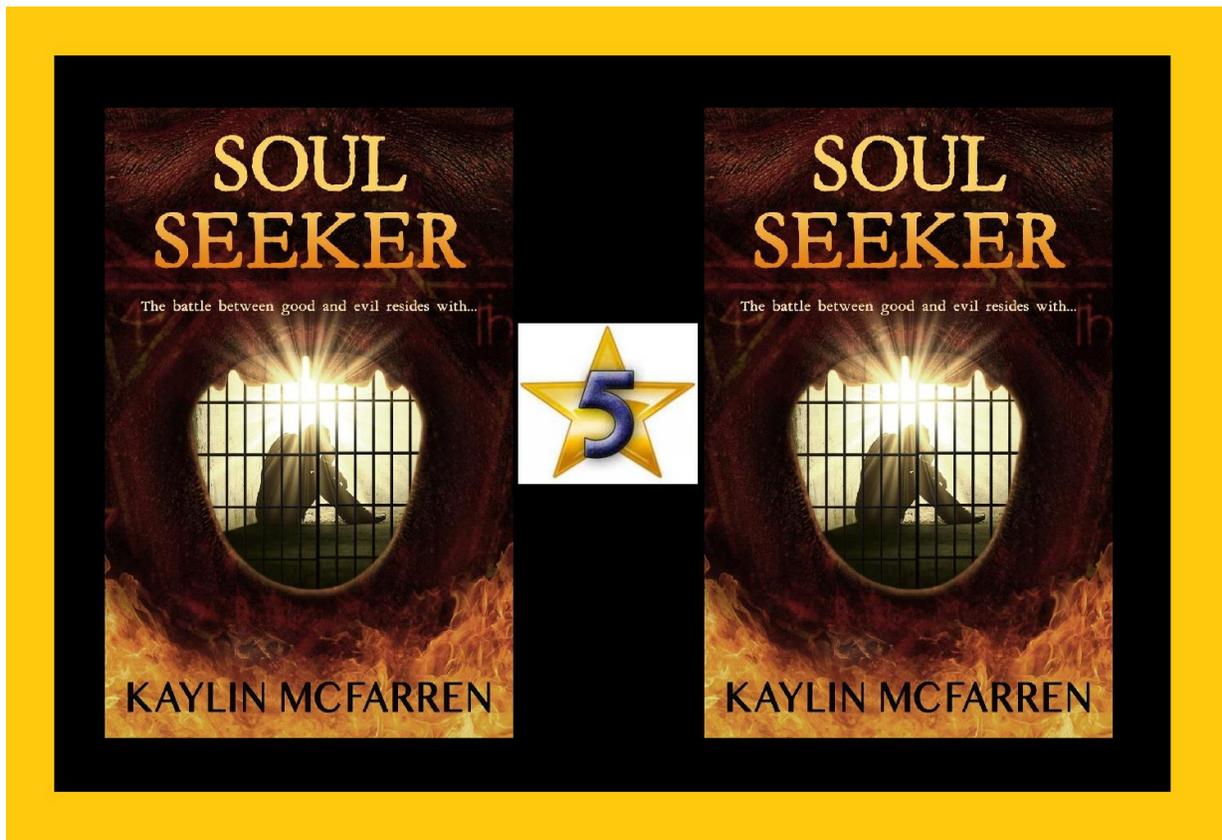
#7. What is the conflict in your story? When we read the word conflict, we often think of harsh words, violence or physical fights between adversaries. But there are many kinds of conflict that can be used to improve a story. Internal conflicts create tension, leaving readers wondering if the characters they're rooting for are capable of overcoming emotional roadblocks or the hurdles in their lives. The same characters might also grapple with their environments or struggle with a natural phenomenon

#8. How do I leave my reader wanting more? The best tip of all is to deliver a knockout ending, as it leaves a lingering impression. The final lines will either entice a reader to seek out other novels you've written or result in recommendations of your work to other readers.

So, what exactly goes into a great ending? The best answer is the resolution of the primary conflict. But it's also important not to make the story's closure so tidy that it's predictable or a cop-out by ending the story as quickly as possible or with for a happily ever after resolution when it's not needed. Sometimes, leaving a reader guessing is the best ending of all. Just make sure that any dramatic tension is held off until the end. This can be done by keeping your readers guessing or not revealing the identity of a villain until the very end. However, if you use a surprise plot twist, remember to keep the surprise believable and the last line as powerful and remarkable as the first line in your story.

Written and Submitted by Kaylin McFarren

Stories that touch the soul - www.kaylinmcfarren.com



Soul Seeker (Gehenna Book 1) by Kaylin McFarren

While awaiting his execution for murdering his son, Benjamin Poe confesses to his lawyer the true story behind his crime, a harrowing tale of a manipulating, soul-collecting demon named Crighton.

Following Poe's death, Crighton continues his malevolent duties, until he's kidnapped by members of The Sovereign Sector. This group of scientists, notorious for experimenting on supernatural creatures, forces Crighton into a soulmate relationship with the very angel he was sent to capture for Lucifer.

However, with secrets revealed and loyalties shifting, Crighton soon becomes the target of Lucifer's revenge, and his journey to redemption and freedom—or eternal enslavement—begins.

5 Star Review: The story is told by Firefighter, Benjamin Poe. The location is the Lochton Correctional Institute. Within the concrete walls of this maximum-security prison, Benjamin Poe waits on death row. Legal Counselor, Pierce Beaudoin has agreed to hear Benjamin's account of who his intended victim was, when he put six shots into his son, Gabriel.

****For those of us who follow Award Winning Author Kaylin McFarren, her new paranormal mystery "Soul Seeker" will resound, as one of her best.

****Chapter One opens as Benjamin Poe goes about his normal routine. That is until Benjamin's fire house responds to multiple alarms at 2381 Hudson Drive. The Fire at the College Inn was the beginning of the end. This event will mark the time Benjamin Poe discovers that the world is full of monsters, with dark souls, waiting to devour humans. This tale examines the role of a "soul seeker" as it reveals the impending fate of Benjamin Poe.

****I bring you into the story in Chapter 21 where Lucifer is "pacing before his massive throne".

His bare feet pounded the chiseled stone floors, echoing throughout the room. Demons in the royal hall kept their heads down, avoiding eye contact while keeping a safe distance. Lucifer was in such a foul mood that he would kill them on the spot if they drew any negative attention.

Crighton's mother, Acadia, stood at the side of his throne, fidgeting with worry. For more than forty-nine human years, she had stood by him, a trophy in his dark kingdom for others to envy and admire. Time had no relevance, and each year in Hell was twice as long as Earth years, and a hundred times harder for Acadia.

The devil's voice boomed out from the darkness. "Where is he? If your son tells me he failed, I'll cut off an arm."

He halted his steps and turned to his assistant. A glimpse of satisfaction sparked in the devil's smile.

"Is he right or left-handed?"

"Lucifer, just give him a few more hours!" Acadia pleaded. The devil's threat was causing her hands to tremble. "You know that humans have been capturing our kind more than ever before. I've heard rumors that the Sovereign Sector is active again. They are responsible for the deaths of more than fifteen of our kind, and I fear for Crighton's safety."

"Hmm . . . a few more hours? Your son hasn't failed me yet, but do not defend him if he comes back without a soul. If that happens and humans are responsible, a swift punishment will be delivered. He's been training for decades and should be able to handle anything those weak fools could throw at him. He even had theology training to use scripture against foolish, religious beings."

*****Within this one man's story, Author Kaylin McFarren creates a new narrative, about the battle between good and evil. In "Soul Seeker" by Kaylin McFarren, the author uses fantasy, to explore a theoretical world, where relationships between angels and demons exist.

*****This compelling story will draw you into the plight of Benjamin Poe. I hope you enjoy this book as much as I did. I invite you to read all Kaylin McFarren's books: "Soul Seeker", "High Flying", "Severed Threads", "Buried Threads", "Banished Threads", "Twisted Threads", and "Flahertys Crossing".

Review by Theodocia McLean (Book Marketing Global Network).

From The Author: We would all like to believe that a heavenly being is ever present in our lives -- watching over us, whispering messages of hope, protecting us from threatening situations, and guiding us through the inevitable stupidity we inflict upon ourselves. When it comes to subjects regarding these feathery benefactors, there are a remarkable number of books written regarding near-death experiences and visitations, often in the most unlikely places. There are also a great many books that concentrate on the battle of good and evil and, occasionally, a fallen angel or two that we tend to sympathize with, even though we're not supposed to.

Years ago, as an avid reader, I thoroughly enjoyed picking up a racy novel from time to time, especially when the story dealt with forbidden love. I found myself, as readers often do, beseeching the bad guy to see the light and end his evil ways. Or the handsome, musclebound rogue to curtail his philandering, after meeting the love of his life. Every action-packed romance story is an escape from reality -- a way to live precariously through characters in an imaginary world where the victorious hero walks away with the prize of his or her victory.

Every book I write includes a large serving of suspense and adventure, and there's always a romantic encounter to top it off, simply because I enjoy the uplifting feelings these invoke. However, this book, in many ways, is very different from anything I've written before. While bringing together these page-turning genres, I also incorporated a touch of fantasy, by creating a surreal, theoretical world in which relationships between angels and demons exist. This is done purely for the enjoyment of my readers and not a declaration of my religious beliefs. So please enjoy this story with an open mind and overlook any errors in my imagination.

You Tube Book Video:

https://youtu.be/yJG9_9xUQUA

Product Details:

Gehenna Series Book 1

Paperback: 393 Pages

Publisher: Independently Published (September 30, 2020)

Language: English

- Global Library: Paranormal (Ghost Mystery Thrillers)
- Global Library: Paranormal (Mystery)
- Global Library: Paranormal (Supernatural)
- Global Library: Fantasy (Urban)

Amazon Print:

https://www.amazon.com/SOUL-SEEKER-Gehenna-Kaylin-McFarren/dp/B08KFWM631/ref=tmm_pap_swatch_0?_encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=

Kindle:

https://www.amazon.com/SOUL-SEEKER-Gehenna-Book-1-ebook/dp/B08KGZ2FK8/ref=tmm_kin_swatch_0?_encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=



High Flying by Kaylin McFarren

Skylar Haines has struggled with personal demons most of her life, going to dark extremes to subdue anxieties rooted in her tragic past. On a perpetual hunt for the next adrenaline hit, she discovers a passion for flying and becomes a hard-edged stunt pilot, verging on obsession.

In the sky, following her most daring airshow, she encounters a mysterious storm and almost collides with another aircraft, sending her into a perilous dive. Guided by a mysterious voice, she manages a safe landing but finds herself transported to another time.

Eight months before she was born. One week before her father was murdered.

Though baffled by her circumstances, Skylar soon arrives at a single certainty: Before her lies a remarkable chance to change her family's destiny drastically for the better — or possibly even worse — depending on the choices she makes, before her window of opportunity closes.

5 Star Review: High Flying is a suspense thriller, action drama that takes the reader into the life of Skylar Haines.

*****If you have ever known someone who struggles with mental illness (or perhaps struggle yourself) you understand the dangers associated with inadequate coping skills that lead people to do dangerous acts that affect them and those around them. This book will stir compassion for the main character, Skylar Haines.

*****Although High Flying is fiction, the author draws on years of writing experience, strong characters and detailed research to deliver a very compelling story. Time and space are elusive and family history has inherited chains.

*****I love this quote from the author: "In the beginning, God created man, but things didn't get interesting until man created the airplane and a strong-minded woman to fly it."

*****Throughout the book the author uses quotes that are thought provoking and leads into each chapter.

*****With some creative latitude that author brings her main character, Skylar Haines to a point of decision. Having read the authors Threads Series, I am looking am looking forward to where Kaylin McFarren will take us (readers) on down the road.

Review by Theodocia McLean (Book Marketing Global Network)

Special Message from The Author: "About seven months ago, my husband came up with the wonderful idea of tackling a story about flying that involved time travel as well. It seemed that the perfect opportunity to turn my creative juices loose had presented itself with the completion of my Threads series. Thus, I went to work, creating this romping adventure/romance with an unexpected twist or two that I hope readers will enjoy."

You Tube Book Video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xyQ1hxX4BjE>

Product Details:

Stand-Alone

Paperback: 277 Pages

Publisher: Independently Published (May 3, 2019)

Language: English

- Global Library: Fiction (Crime Action and Adventure)
- Global Library: Fiction (Crime International Mystery)
- Global Library: Mysteries (Supernatural)

Amazon Print:

https://www.amazon.com/High-Flying-Kaylin-McFarren/dp/1091374791/ref=tmm_pap_swatch_0?encoding=UTF8&qid=1556123185&sr=8-4-fkmrnull

Kindle:

https://www.amazon.com/HIGH-FLYING-Kaylin-McFarren-ebook/dp/B07QYH3CD4/ref=tmm_kin_swatch_0?encoding=UTF8&qid=1556123185&sr=8-4-fkmrnull

Threads Series: Psychological Thriller Stories That Touch The Soul by Kaylin McFarren

From the Author: For many years, I've had the privilege to experience remarkable things and rare opportunities while traveling the globe. This includes many forms of transportation, ranging from private planes, helicopters, and hot air balloons to kayaks, submarines, and elegant cruise ships. My journeys have allowed me to meet interesting people,

discover fascinating cultures, forge lifelong friendships, and introduce dear friends to all parts of the world. Personal experiences, extensive research, and interesting tales shared by business associates have contributed to making this fun character-driven story possible and it's my hope that readers are thoroughly entertained.



Severed Threads (Threads Series Book One) by Kaylin McFarren

Award-winning author Kaylin McFarren delivers an action/adventure romance guaranteed to capture your imagination...

Romantic Suspense Novel by Kaylin McFarren: Believing herself responsible for her father's fatal diving accident, Rachel Lyons has withdrawn from the world and assumed a safe position at a foundation office. When called upon by a museum director to assist her former love interest with the recovery of a cursed relic from a sunken Chinese merchant ship, she has no intention of cooperating until her brother is kidnapped by a drug-dealing gangster. In order to save him and gain control over her life, Rachel must not only overcome her greatest fears, but also relive the circumstances that lead to her father's death.

Inspiration Behind The Story: Kaylin has been involved in the business of collecting and selling Asian antiques for more than a decade. Due to her interest in this field and her fascination with the undersea world, she was inspired to write a story about the recovery of a Chinese concubine's cursed treasure from a sunken ship, which aids in healing a woman's damaged soul. Kaylin spent four months researching scuba diving, trade routes, famous battles, and the natural disasters that befell Spanish galleons during the 15th-17th centuries. It is her hope that this action-adventure romance entertains readers and honors dedicated salvaging and exploration companies that have contributed remarkable discoveries and cross-sections of history to museums and institutions around the world.

Reviews:

"I highly recommend this story for people who enjoy romance and suspense. Kaylin McFarren will not let you down! I look forward to future stories in this series." By Paige Lovitt, Reader Views, Chicago Sun Times

“Severed Threads is an exciting and engaging read, simply perfect for fans of romantic suspense.” By Blue Ink Review

“Crisp writing and sparkling dialogue that will hold the interest of any reader who enjoys a good mystery story that’s well told.” By Mark Garber, President, Portland Tribune & Community Newspapers

“The first book in the Threads series is a fantastic read. This romantic suspense is rife with treasure hunters, gangsters, lost relics and sizzling sex scenes.” By RT Review Source

“Severed Threads nicely combines an action adventure with a romantic story that will keep readers involved in the story from the beginning to the conclusion.” By Sacramento/San Francisco Book Review

“Severed Threads is an incredibly fast paced treasure hunting adventure that will keep you on the edge of your seat from the first page. Throw in a little romance, drug dealers, ghosts, ship wrecks and a plot for revenge and it leaves you in a constant state of anticipation, waiting for the next chapter. I absolutely loved it and give Severed Threads 5 Boundless Stars.” By Boundless Book Reviews

“A psychologically thrilling and adventurous story that includes surprising twists and turns sure to keep its readers at the edge of their seats. The novel will delight readers of all ages with interesting characters, clever plotlines, and an engaging combination of romance, villainy, and the supernatural. Highly recommended!” By The Columbia Review

“This sizzling romance is hot and witty, gripping and entertaining. American Authors Book Vending highly recommends Severed Threads as one of the books of the year. A book everyone should have in his or her hands.” By Peter Jerry, American Authors Book Vending Review

Product Details:

Threads Series Book One

Paperback: 349 Pages

Publisher: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform (July 6, 2012)

Language: English

- Global Library: Fiction (Sea Adventures)
- Global Library: Paranormal (Ghost Mystery Thrillers)
- Global Library: Paranormal (Mystery)
- Global Library: Paranormal (Supernatural)

Amazon Print:

https://www.amazon.com/Severed-Threads-1-Kaylin-McFarren/dp/1475186525/ref=tmm_pap_swatch_0?_encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=

Amazon Kindle:

https://www.amazon.com/Severed-Threads-1-Kaylin-McFarren-ebook/dp/B008UZYL0I/ref=asap_bc?ie=UTF8

Audio Book:

https://www.amazon.com/Severed-Threads/dp/B00R1Y5UG2/ref=tmm_aud_swatch_0?_encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=



Buried Threads (Threads Series Book Two) by Kaylin McFarren

A disturbing prophecy sends a treasure hunting duo on an urgent race to rescue a country in Kaylin McFarren's heart pounding new novel, *Buried Threads*. Full of erotic suspense and wild adventures, this is one trip that readers will never forget!

Rachel Lyons and Chase Cohen work together as the successful owners of a treasure hunting company. But a seemingly simple assignment—to track down a priceless gem that is believed to be buried in a shipwreck deep within the Sea of Japan—takes a startling, and dangerous, turn.

Faced with a monk's dark prophecy that a natural disaster will soon strike Japan, killing millions, Rachel and Chase must embark on the mission of a lifetime in order to uncover the three cursed samurai swords that can avert the catastrophe.

Chaos ensues as their adventure takes them from shark infested waters and creepy caves to haunted hidden tombs and a confrontation with Yakuza gang members. Time is running out as the prophecy's day of reckoning draws near. Will Rachel and Chase succeed before disaster strikes?

Buried Threads has received the following awards: 2014 Reader Views Readers Choice Awards – 1st Place for Romance; 2014 Pacific Book Awards – 1st Place Adventure Category; 2014 Chanticleer Book Reviews & Media's Great Beginnings Contest – 1st Place Paranormal Mystery; 2013 Chanticleer Clue Awards – 1st Place Steamy/Action/Thriller; 2014 National Indie Excellence Awards – Finalist, Best Cover Design; 2014 eLit Awards – 1st Place Mystery/Suspense/Thriller; 2014 eLit Awards – 2nd Place for Best Book Trailer; 2014 Global Ebook Awards – Gold Medal (1st Place) in the New Adult Fiction Category & Bronze Medal (3rd Place) in the Best Book Trailer Category; 2014 Readers' Favorite Gold Medal in the Fiction – Adventure Category.

5 Star Review: When the mysterious, beautiful Japanese woman with a sword peering from the black sheen of the front cover of '*Buried Threads*' – by Kaylin McFarren arrived, the silent beckoning began.

*****I always know when I am reading a well-researched, well written action-adventure, mystery, romance novel when the plot enters my night dreams. Although I didn't read book one in the series '*Buried Threads*' stands well on its own. The author knows how to take a great plot, create believable characters, hold the reader in suspense and spin the tale with mastery.

*****Unfamiliar with Japanese culture (beautiful customs, geishas, ancient rituals), especially the underbelly of the Japanese society, warlords, and unseen paranormal conflicts the reader will learn a great deal while experiencing writing in its truest art form.

*****A treasure hunt for lost artifacts that are embedded with precious stones that are not only priceless, but hold a curse that once stood for a “Prince’s valor, wisdom, and benevolence”.

*****What would a fast moving, suspense filled, heart beating adventure be without the dangerous, unpredictable interpersonal relationships that leads to attraction, trust, mutually mind-blowing sex and true romance? ‘Buried Threads’ is all that and more.

Compassion and greed, life and death, fear and resolution, mission and accomplishment, struggle and survival, gratitude and faith are all aspects of this story that can only be summed up as spectacular.

Review by Theodocia McLean (Book Marketing Global Network)

You Tube Book Video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wC-FUeg2GM4>

Product Details:

Threads Series Book Two

Paperback: 374 Pages

Publisher: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform (August 10, 2013)

Language: English

- Global Library: Fiction (Crime Action and Adventure)
- Global Library: Fiction (Organized Crime Thrillers)
- Global Library: Fiction (Cultural Heritage)

Amazon Print:

http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/1492120464/ref=as_li_tl?ie=UTF8&camp=1789&creative=390957&creativeASIN=1492120464&linkCode=as2&tag=colcofpre-20&linkId=JMNKUM6HDNU5Y7

Amazon Kindle:

https://www.amazon.com/Buried-Threads-2-Kaylin-McFarren-ebook/dp/B0189NOPYQ/ref=tmm_kin_swatch_0?encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=



Banished Threads (Threads Series Book Three) by Kaylin McFarren

A valuable art collection disappears turning a treasure-hunting duo into crime-stopping sleuths committed to vindicating family members in Kaylin McFarren's action-packed suspense novel, *Banished Threads*.

While vacationing at the stately Cumberforge Manor in Bellwood, England, Rachel Lyons and Chase Cohen attend an elegant dinner party hosted by her uncle, Paul Lyons, and his aristocratic wife, Sara. Before the evening ends, a priceless collection of Morris Graves's paintings are stolen from her uncle's popular gallery, throwing all suspicion onto his wife's missing granddaughter. Determined to clear Sloan Rafferty's name and, in the process, win Paul's favor, Chase scours the countryside looking for answers. In his absence, the police accuse Rachel's uncle of an unsolved murder and secrets surrounding her grandmother's death and the deaths of Sara's former husbands turn his wife into the most likely suspect.

With the true villains hell-bent on destroying Paul Lyons and his family, solving both crimes while ensuring her uncle's freedom not only endangers Rachel's life but that of her unborn child. Will Chase save them before the kidnappers enact their revenge or will the ultimate price be paid, as predicted by a vagabond fortuneteller?

First place – 2016 Hudson Valley RWA Hook, Line & Sinker Contest

5 Star Review: *Banished Threads* begins on a dreary night in late October. Stargazer sliced through the surface of the North Atlantic at fifteen knots, heading straight for the coast of England. After facing many perils at sea Chase Cohen is relieved to finally be in London.

*****Quote from Book: "With Rachel by his side "they disembarked from the train at Whitchurch and stepped through the station's main door, Rachel's excitement rose at the prospect of seeing her uncle. He was a younger version of her father, with the same chiseled good looks. He would have been easy to spot, even in this busy place. But from her vantage point, he was nowhere to be seen. Believing he had forgotten about her arrival, Rachel's heart sank. She turned to Chase and was about to voice her concern when she caught sight of a handsome man in the passenger-loading zone: white cable-knit sweater, tight jeans, in his mid-thirties, shaggy brown hair, rugged jaw, easy smile, dimples, and unforgettable emerald-green eyes. He was leaning against a silver Mercedes, flashing his perfect white teeth and holding up a sign reading, "Welcome to England, Rachel Lyons."

*****For a moment, she could hardly breathe, and she wondered if it was possible to fall over and die from shock. Or maybe from the idea of coming face-to-face with the last person on earth she ever expected to see. Although she had spoken to his Irish mother at a fund-raising event year earlier and was told that Killian was living with relatives in Northampton, she had convinced herself that the chance of meeting him was as unlikely as the sky turning green.

*****Killian Reed. His shimmering eyes were loving and warm and full of laughter. Rachel gasped and dropped her purse and over- night bag. She pulled off her high heels and ran to him. He swept her up and spun her around. When he set her back down, she buried her face in his chest and hugged him with all her might. She took a deep breath, inhaling the familiar scent of bay-rum aftershave. He kissed the top of her head, and she gazed up at him. She didn't realize she was crying until he reached out and wiped a tear from her cheek.

*****"I can't believe it's really you," she whispered, gratified to see unshed tears in his beautiful eyes.

*****"It's me, seaweed brain," he said. "I'm really here."

*****Rachel stood on her tiptoes and wrapped her arms around his neck. He put his arms around her waist and held her close. His hand smoothed her hair as he whispered, "I missed you, girl."

*****She looked up at him and smiled, and it suddenly dawned on her that you meet all kinds of people in your life. Some you never think about again. Some you wonder what happened to and if they ever think about you. And then there are some you wish you never had to think about again, yet somehow you do. Killian Reed just happened to be one of those disconcerting, unforgettable beings. He was part of her past: a distant, bitter- sweet memory that had lingered for years.

*****With their last parting, they had grasped each other's hands with a rush of melancholy, tender, and inexpressible feelings, and had gone their separate ways.

*****But time had moved on, and there was someone else in her life now—a silent observer patiently standing by, watching their every move with an annoyed pinch between his brows.

*****She took Killian by the hand and led him to Chase. More than anything, she hoped they would become fast friends, but as they shook hands, Rachel found it difficult to ignore the frowns tugging at the corners of their mouths. They both took a step back and just stood there, regarding each other silently, the air now seeming as cold as a razor blade.""

*****Twenty-two chapters entwine a cast of strong characters in this well written mystery drama that expose family secrets, lies, stolen gallery art, kidnapping engaging readers with suspense and romance. Sit back and enjoy book three of this series where each book can be read in or out of sequence. Author Kaylin McFarren teases us with new tales taking shape in the recesses of her mind that are "only a night's dream away".

Review by Theodocia McLean (Book Marketing Global Network)

You Tube Book Video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SfNWvOlqFUc>

Product Details:

Threads Series Book Three

Paperback: 258 Pages

Publisher: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform (January 8, 2016)

Language: English

- Global Library: Fiction (Crime Action and Adventure)
- Global Library: Fiction (Crime International Mystery)
- Global Library: Women's Amateur Sleuths (Crime)

Amazon Print:

<http://www.amazon.com/Banished-Threads-3-Kaylin->

[McFarren/dp/1518806910/ref=as li ss tl? encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=&linkCode=ll1&tag=colcofpre-20&linkId=d34ce0324f88450a3675e0210cdd964f](http://www.amazon.com/dp/1518806910/ref=as_li_ss_tl?encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=&linkCode=ll1&tag=colcofpre-20&linkId=d34ce0324f88450a3675e0210cdd964f)

Amazon Kindle:

[http://www.amazon.com/Banished-Threads-Kaylin-McFarren-ebook/dp/B0191RJQZM/ref=as li ss tl? encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=&linkCode=ll1&tag=colcofpre-20&linkId=be54c232ad483ccf00888f3400a523a8](http://www.amazon.com/Banished-Threads-Kaylin-McFarren-ebook/dp/B0191RJQZM/ref=as_li_ss_tl?encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=&linkCode=ll1&tag=colcofpre-20&linkId=be54c232ad483ccf00888f3400a523a8)

Amazon Audio:

[http://www.amazon.com/Banished-Threads/dp/B01BH2B0O4/ref=as li ss tl? encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=&linkCode=ll1&tag=colcofpre-20&linkId=2d3df5a8679d547f4da144463c268600](http://www.amazon.com/Banished-Threads/dp/B01BH2B0O4/ref=as_li_ss_tl?encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=&linkCode=ll1&tag=colcofpre-20&linkId=2d3df5a8679d547f4da144463c268600)



Twisted Threads (Threads Series Book Four) by Kaylin McFarren

Akira Hamada is driven by past failure. Two years earlier, she had a chance to kill her greatest enemy—Kaito Mitsui. Instead, the Yakuza boss forced her to become an assassin in his employ. Now Akira carries out the bloody business of the notorious crime syndicate and hates herself more each day.

When Mitsui hears that his sister’s murderer will be on the cruise ship Starfish, he immediately tasks Akira with eliminating the man once and for all. This is what Akira has trained for, but a series of strange events on the ship tests her resolve and shows her a way to redemption.

Devon Lyons, on the other hand, has nothing to do with assassins. He’s merely accompanying his aunt and uncle, Sara and Paul Lyons, on a free cruise. Little does he know that the two are the true targets of the charming Japanese tourist he has just met!

Akira knows that either Sara or Paul is the killer but doesn’t know which one. She hopes seducing the handsome Devon will lead to better intel, but she is surprised to find herself trusting him. And soon, the pair finds themselves fighting for their lives on the high seas.

*2017 NYC Big Book Award Winner, Thriller Category

5 Star Review: For all of us following the Threads Series by Kaylin McFarren, Twisted Threads does not disappoint. When we left off with book three, we were wondering if the ‘Watcher’ would ever deliver justice.

*****This drama opens with Akira Sato contemplating a “justified killing” and she is lost in the consequences, forced to move forward. Devon Lyons laments over his recent demotion and the emotional sting of a forced Caribbean vacation to please his Uncle. Devon’s mind and attention soon shifts when Akira calls him “Sexy”. Women have called him “clever”, “lovable” and “incredibly handsome” but “sexy” has just caught him off guard. With more than romance in the air the voyage brings mystery, suspense and a complex drama with threads so twisted you will keep turning the page.

*****Here is an excerpt I think you will like: “Akira took the elevator across from the theater, dazed from the four glasses of wine and shot of vodka she had consumed. A few seconds passed, and the doors opened before her. She stepped out into the empty hallway and couldn’t figure out which direction she was facing, let alone which way to proceed. She looked down and realized the carpeting under her feet had red and blue medallions—not the gold and blue diamonds, she’d become familiar with seeing. After making numerous trips to various restaurants, she realized she had gotten off on the right floor but on the wrong end of the ship. The enormous staircase on her right led to the upper and lower levels, which should have made it easy to find her way back to her room.

*****However, her explorations on the ship had proved that not every floor had immediate access to the passenger levels; many were blocked by restaurants, lounges, and shops.

*****Akira decided it was best to start over—to backtrack the way she had come. She pushed the elevator button and waited for what seemed like an eternity. Then a slight sway in the ship’s motion caused her stomach to lurch. She needed fresh air to avoid further humiliation. A glass exit door stood waiting a short distance away. She slid it open and stepped outside. Oddly, all of the overhead lights above the walkway were out. It was impossible to see more than ten feet in any given direction. She gripped the safety railing and gazed up at the sky, drawing long, deep breaths. A sudden breeze whipped at her hair, tugging tendrils loose from her pinned-up hairdo. She wrapped her arms around herself, warding off the chill, and was about to return inside when she heard the sound of a voice.”

*****Jump right in and start peeling off the layers of this Twisted Plot, that will be worth the read and will leave you wanting more.

Review by Theodocia McLean (Book Marketing Global Network)

You Tube Book Video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A0WQyXg4Dz0>

Product Details:

Threads Series Book Four

Paperback: 380 Pages

Publisher: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform (November 9, 2017)

Language: English

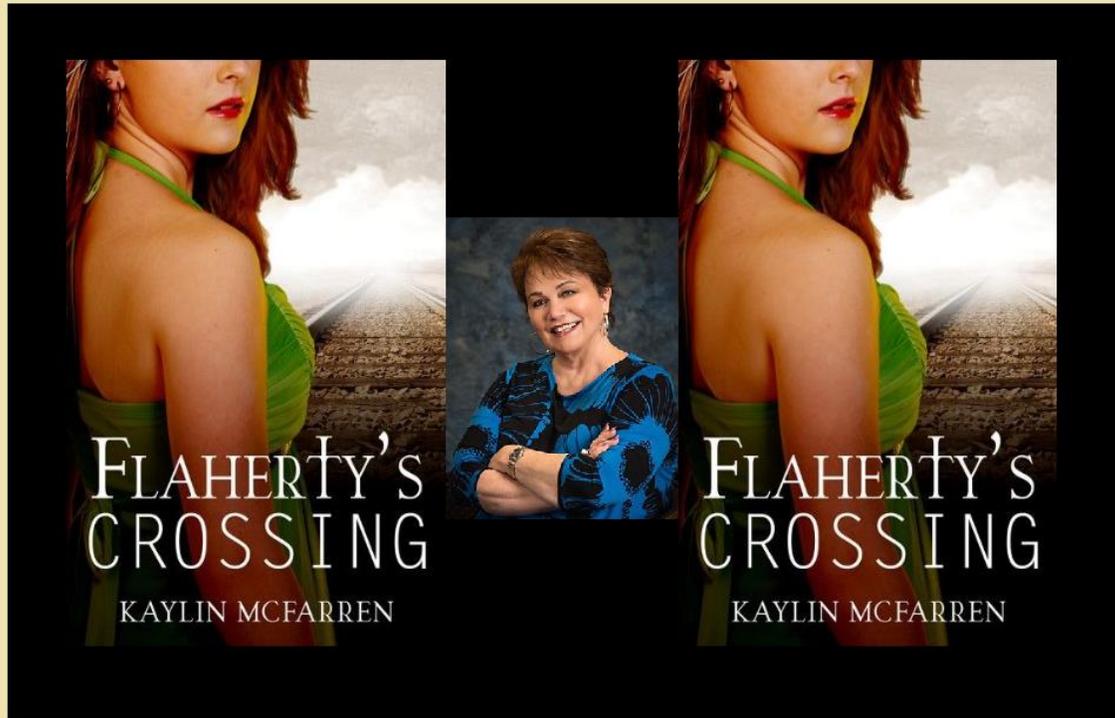
- Global Library: Fiction (Sea Adventure)
- Global Library: Mysteries (Supernatural Thrillers)
- Global Library: Horror (Supernatural Thrillers)

Amazon Print:

https://www.amazon.com/Twisted-Threads-4-Kaylin-McFarren/dp/1975921356/ref=tmm_pap_swatch_0?_encoding=UTF8&qid=1515011407&sr=1-1

Kindle:

https://www.amazon.com/Twisted-Threads-4-Kaylin-McFarren-ebook/dp/B0783PSMR1/ref=tmm_kin_swatch_0?_encoding=UTF8&qid=1515011407&sr=1-1



Flahertys Crossing by Kaylin McFarren

Successful yet emotionally stifled artist Kate Flaherty stands at the deathbed of her estranged father, conflicted by his morphine-induced confession of his part in her mother's death. While racing home, Kate's car mishap leads her to a soul-searching discussion with a lone diner employee, prompting Kate to confront the true reasons her marriage hangs in the balance. When her night takes an expected turn, however, she flees for her life, a life desperate for faith that can only be found through her ability to forgive.

Flaherty's Crossing has received the following awards, among many others: 2018 Reader's Favorite Gold Medal Winner for Best Drama; 2013 Wise Bear Book Silver Award – Best in Fiction, Contemporary Romance; 2012 Books & Authors Romance Book of the Year Award; 2010 Publisher's Award of Excellence; Finalist – 2008 RWA Golden Heart®, Romantic Elements; 1st place – 2007 Cleveland Rocks, Mainstream; 1st place – 2007 Gateway to the Best, Single Title; 1st place – 2007 Beacon, Unpublished Women's Fiction; 1st place – 2007 Golden Acorn (Charter Oak Romance Writers), Romantic Elements; 1st place – 2007 Hook, Line & Sinker; 1st place – 2007 Hot Prospects, Women's Fiction: 2nd place – 2007 Golden Rose, Mainstream; 2nd place – 2007 Touch of Magic, Mainstream; 2nd place – 2007 Where the Magic Begins, Women's Fiction

Review: "Even though it is a fictional story, it made me reflect on my own life, and how I shouldn't wait until it is too late to let people that I love know how I feel, or to apologize if I need to. By Chicago Sun Times, Paige Lovitt for Reader Views

A well-written book, dealing with difficult issues of love, loss, healing, and faith, and never slipping into maudlin territory. A great debut novel! By Sacramento Book Review

It is also a novel I will promote to writers to review to see how good storytelling and strong writing can merge with exceptional honesty and create something that will live in readers hearts for many years, and be reread many times. By Terri Patrick

This story will be with me for many, many years and I am sure that you will find this 5-star book to be with you for just as many! By Buukluvr

This story will have your heart so captured and your mind so full of Kate Flaherty that you will see exactly what a true page turning book should be like. This story will be with me for many, many years! By Marta's Meanderings

From The Author: Kaylin sat before her computer writing Flaherty's Crossing as a source of personal therapy after losing her beloved father to colon cancer. You might say she was angry at him, at God, at the world in general. However, after writing this story, she had the opportunity to really look into her soul and consider the fact that so many other sons and daughters have had to deal with similar and even worse situations. Rather than a memoir, her novel evolved into a fictional journey which brought about the resolution she needed to find. She never expected this exercise in writing to go to press, touch lives, or win literary awards. But as a result of her good fortune, she has arranged for all proceeds from the sale of this book to go directly to the Providence Medical Foundation's colon cancer research department in her father's name. She's now convinced and proudly shares her belief that good things can grow out of the worst times in our lives if you just take the time to open your heart.

Product Details:

Stand-Alone Book

Paperback: 270 Pages

Publisher: Champagne Books; First Edition (February 1, 2010)

Language: English

- Global Library: Women's (Contemporary Fiction)

Amazon Print:

https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/1926681193/ref=as_li_ss_tl?ie=UTF8&camp=1789&creative=390957&creativeASIN=1926681193&linkCode=as2&tag=colcofpre-20

Kindle:

https://www.amazon.com/Flahertys-Crossing-Kaylin-McFarren-ebook/dp/B004GKMLES/ref=tmm_kin_swatch_0?encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=

Audio Book:

https://www.amazon.com/Flahertys-Crossing/dp/B00TV2WD5S/ref=tmm_aud_swatch_0?encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=



About The Author: Kaylin McFarren has received more than 50 national literary awards, in addition to a prestigious Golden Heart Award nomination for FLAHERTY'S CROSSING - a book she and her oldest daughter, New York Times/USA Today best-selling author Kristina McMorris, co-wrote in 2008. Prior to embarking on her writing journey and developing the popular THREADS psychological thriller series, she poured her passion for creativity into her work as the director of a fine art gallery in the Pearl District in Portland, Oregon; she also served as a governor-appointed member of the Oregon Arts Commission.

When she's not traveling or spoiling her two pups and three grandsons, she enjoys giving back to her community through participation and support of various charitable, medical and educational organizations in the Pacific Northwest. Her latest time-travel adventure, HIGH FLYING, asks challenging questions that will linger long after the final twists are revealed. Recently jumping to the supernatural thriller genre, Kaylin's clever SOUL SEEKER series leads readers into the pit of Hell, through the mechanisms of secret societies, and across the earth's crust, ever raising the stakes for her leading duo--a wicked demon and a saintly angel with secret earth-shattering agendas. With each story she writes, this author delivers unexpected twists and turns and keeps her readers on the edge of their seats, leaving them guessing and thoroughly entertained.

Fun Tidbits:

Kaylin is proud of the fact that her great aunt Bessie B. Cordell, an evangelistic missionary during WWII, was instrumental in opening an orphanage in Tientsin, China and also wrote two published novels, Precious Pearl and Blossoms of the Flowery Kingdom, documenting her dangerous, harrowing experiences.

She keeps a glass of wine close by while writing love scenes, Kleenex on her desk while writing heart breakers, and has been known to empty a box of chocolates when she's completely stumped.

A consummate "pantser" and perfectionist, she writes and edits as she goes, and uses photographs of models and actors from tabloid magazines to visualize her characters.

She loves her husband of 46 years dearly. However, if Josh Holloway, Hugh Jackman or Ian Somerhalder came knockin', well... their marriage just might be put to the test.

On A Personal Note: Kaylin sat before her computer writing Flaherty's Crossing as a source of personal therapy after losing her beloved father to colon cancer. You might say she was angry at him, at God, at the world in general. However, after writing this story, she had the opportunity to really look into her soul and consider the fact that so many other sons and daughters have had to deal with similar and even worse situations.

Rather than a memoir, her novel evolved into a fictional journey which brought about the resolution she needed to find. She never expected this exercise in writing to go to press, touch lives, or win literary awards. But as a result of her good fortune, she has arranged for proceeds from the sale of this book to go directly to the Providence Medical Foundation's colon cancer research department in her father's name. She's now convinced and proudly shares her belief that good things can grow out of the worst times in our lives if you just take the time to open your heart.

Amazon Author's Page:

http://www.amazon.com/Kaylin-McFarren/e/B003BCPKE0/ref=dp_byline_cont_ebooks_1

Professional Website:

<http://www.kaylinmcfarren.com/>

Facebook:

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You Tube:

https://youtu.be/yJG9_9xUQUA

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xyQ1hxX4BjE>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A0WQyXg4Dz0>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wC-FUeg2GM4>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SfNWvOlqFUc>

Author's Page At Book Marketing Global Network:

<https://bookmarketingglobalnetwork.com/global-authors-directory/kaylin-mcfarrens-books/>