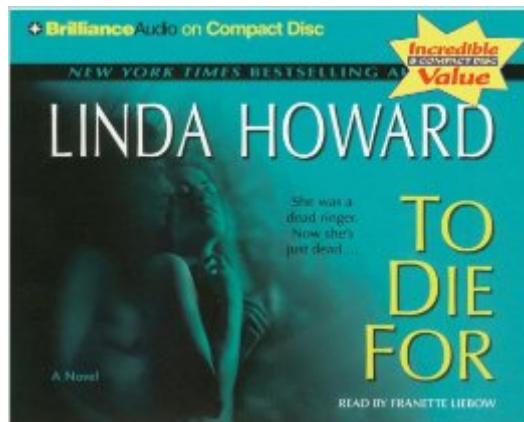


The book was found

To Die For (Howard, Linda)



Synopsis

Blair Mallory lives the good life. She's pretty, confident, and the owner of a thriving upscale fitness center. But in the shadow of success, a troubled member of the club develops a strange fixation on her, imitating her style and dress. Matters take a darker turn when the look-alike is shot dead - and Blair witnesses the horror. As the media speculate on the tawdry details of the homicide and push Blair into the harsh spotlight, she locks horns with police lieutenant Wyatt Bloodsworth - he wants to lead an investigation without interference, while she is determined to probe the dead woman's life on her own. But when someone begins to menace Blair with mounting threats, Wyatt takes notice: Was this murder indeed a lethal case of mistaken identity - and was Blair the intended victim?

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Blair Mallory may be blonde, but she is business savvy. The ex-cheerleader married politically aspiring Jason Carson. Four years later they divorced. Blair got everything she asked for in the settlement thanks to a single photograph of him kissing her seventeen-year-old sister. She uses the money to follow her dream of opening a coed fitness center, "Great Bods". It is a huge success. Blair not only loves her business, but she actually cares for her staff and customers. All except for Nicole "Nikki" Goodwin. Nikki joins Great Bods and began to mimic Blair. Nikki colors her hair the same color, grows it long, purchases a similar car, and even buys the same workout clothes (all the way down to the leg warmers). But everyone, even the members of the gym, could tell that Nikki

pure hates Blair. Many members of the gym complains about Nikki's attitude too and files formal complaints. So when time came for Nikki to renew, Blair simply pulls out the complaints and gently refuses to let Nikki renew her membership. Nikki's exit is violent, though she never hits anyone. That very night, as Blair locks up and leaves the building, Nikki is shot dead in the parking lot. Blair did not get a good look at the killer, but just being a witness is enough. The police lieutenant, Jefferson "Wyatt" Bloodsworth, a man Blair once dated and to whom she is still very much attracted to, enters the picture. The media, of course, promptly put Blair on the front page and told the public that she witnessed the murder. NOT GOOD! Needless-to-say, the next gunshot Blair hears is directed at her. Nikki had been a case of mistaken identity. Now Wyatt and Blair must figure out who wants to kill her before they actually succeed.

I've been anxiously awaiting *To Die For* for quite a long time and I have to say, I wasn't let down. This book was a hoot and the heroine, Blair Mallory was a pleasure to get to know. After witnessing a murder at the gym she owns, Great Bods, Blair is drawn back into the life of police Lieutenant J.W. Bloodsworth, a man who dumped her two years ago after only three dates. She's still mad and isn't about to let him get the best of her. But Wyatt knows that Blair is the woman for him. Though he once backed away from her, knowing she would be too high maintenance, when he hears about the murder at Great Bods, he's stunned and fearful that it could be the sassy Blair who was the victim. He's very relieved to find out that Blair is safe and sound, but now he knows he has to ensure that she stays that way. She was the only witness to the murder, thus it's more than likely that she might be the next victim. Wyatt hustles her into his house where he can protect her, while she proceeds to drive him up the wall. Though they grow closer the more time they spend together, the case is going nowhere fast. There are no clues, no witnesses and it looks like that Blair might have been the intended victim in the first place. How will they solve this and keep Blair safe? Will Wyatt be able to prove that this time around he's going to stick? *To Die For* is very reminiscent of Howard's story *Mr. Perfect*. There is lots of humor, lots of romance, and a good mystery. This book is written in the first person point of view however, so the only thoughts the reader gets are those of Blair. Despite this, Blair is a great character with lots of witty asides and plenty of sass to keep the novel rolling through its almost 400 pages.

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