



Collateral Damage

Jennifer St. Giles

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Let a terrorist take her? Not over his dead body and damned soul...

One thing makes Jack Hunter invaluable to his Delta Force Team. The same trait that makes him suck at relationships. Single-minded focus on his career—and honing his ability to never miss a kill.

After a terrorist missile devastates his team and leaves him with only partial memory of a FUBARed rescue mission, he retains only one clear picture no one believes: the last face in his gunsight belonged to a prestigious American businessman. The man's wife has to know something, but the only way to get to her is go AWOL.

After her husband trades his family to tango with double-Ds, Lauren Collins decides her dogs are better judges of character. She's unaware how far her soon-to-be-ex's web of deceit reaches—until the only thing between her, her sons and a killer is a wounded Delta soldier who activates her sorely neglected X-chromosome like nobody's business.

Their instant attraction is kryptonite to Jack's injury-dulled edge. Thrust into a world of peril, political treachery and treason, Lauren has no choice but to trust Jack with her life. Even if she and her sons survive, she's not sure her heart will...

Warning: Contains a warrior who doesn't hesitate to lay his body on the line, more than one emotional love story to tug at your heart, and chaos at Chuck E. Cheese.

Collateral Damage Details

Date : Published December 2010

ISBN :

Author : Jennifer St. Giles

Format : 296 pages

Genre : Romance, Romantic Suspense, War, Military Fiction, Contemporary, Suspense, Military Romance, Contemporary Romance

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From Reader Review Collateral Damage for online ebook

Amanda Adams Steward says

Free on Amazon!!

<http://www.amazon.com/Collateral-Dama...>

Yvonne says

Wow - I am paying the price this morning for loving this book. I stayed up til the wee hours of morning because I had to know what happened. This book had it ALL, amazing Hero, smart heroine, romance that actually made sense despite the circumstances. Incredible secondary characters that I can't wait to read about in book #2 and hold on The absolute craziest/strangest villains you could imagine!

I've never read anything by this author (AKA Jennifer St. Giles) but will definitely take a look at her other work.

For my Austin club friends - Weird Rating of 4 (one of the villains has to be read to be believed!) LOL

Kim O says

more like a 4.5. I really liked this book. The writing was GREAT! See full review at www.wtfbookreviews.blogspot.com

♥? Dorsey aka Wrath Lover Reviews ♥? says

Kindle Freebie 5.07.15 (Thanks for the heads up Hbeebti!!)

MBR says

A 4.5 star romantic suspense!

Like any reader, I am a bit apprehensive when it comes to trying out new authors, though that doesn't stop

me from trying out books on authors that I have never heard of because just sometimes, delving into the unknown certainly pays off when you find a book such as this one where the pages literally turn themselves with the fast paced action, romance and adventure that this one delivers – in spades.

Likes:

1- Jack Hunter. He is broody, tortured and hot as sin!! I always love myself a tortured hero who knows what to do with his God given talents in pleasing a woman! And that's not the only thing that drew me to Jack. He is loyal and wants to do right by what is his though he has had a hard time of things for the last couple of years. And on top of all that, he is black ops military. *sigh* Jack is utterly swoon worthy ladies, I solemnly swear by this! *swoons*

2- Lauren Collins. She is perfect heroine material for the rough and tough Jack Hunter. With her sons she is the fierce mother tigress protecting her cubs, with Jack she is vulnerable and strong at the same time and what makes her unique is she doesn't stand down and let Jack take all the control but rather she is an equal partner where she and Jack are concerned. Loved Lauren to bits.

3- This story opened up my eyes to a lot of things that can go wrong with the precariously balanced "peace" that we take for granted in this world. Just add to it bad guys who are unscrupulous enough and have the means to manipulate the West and the Islamic world as that happened in this story and you would have a global catastrophe of major proportions on your hands. Being a Muslim myself, I was a bit apprehensive when I started out reading and encountered the scene where Muslims had kidnapped the daughter of the Israeli prime minister. And I thought to myself, please don't let this story be something where Muslims are portrayed as less than human and I was really glad of the sensitivity with which Ms. Saint handled the issue. There is no overly judgmental stuff going on in the story which brings home the hard truth of a war that was started by the Bush administration which has already cost the common man a lot more just a pretty penny from his pocket. Kudos to Ms. Saint for pulling this off so well.

4- I liked the secondary stories that were taking place as the story unfolded. I liked how Ms. Saint didn't overly make the story about the secondary characters, which is sometimes what happens when an author tries to juggle too many characters and their stories in one novel. She has laid the foundation nicely for this new series the rest of the books which has already landed on my auto-buy list. I am really looking forward to reading the story of the Delta Team commander Lt. Col. Roger Weston and Mari, the Muslim widow of Neil who dies in the op that is the starting point of this series and story.

5- The cover. Believe it or not, the cover was what drew me to the story in the first place. I make it a point to surf through Samhain Publishing at least once a month to find out titles that might interest me. And when I looked into the eyes of the guy on the cover, I was baited enough to read through the synopsis and I have since then been looking forward to its release date which was earlier this month. This one definitely ends up on the fabulous cover list! ^_^

6- The creepy villain and his ever more creepy chimpanzee. Gives me the shivers of the bad kind even thinking about his warped mind. But he was a villain who certainly delivered enough to label him as one of the creepiest villains ever and lends the story the edge that it so well receives from him on the danger and adventure front.

Dislikes: As always the lack of a proper epilogue does rankle but not overly much since I hope I would be getting to see a bit of Jack and Lauren in the next couple of books in the series. ^_^

Full review with quotes: <http://bit.ly/hNTNCL>

Yona says

Too many points of view here and it got me confused at times and it felt like reading a military report. I couldn't connect with the characters and the end was unsatisfying just ending in the middle. I expected more, it wasn't bad but it was kind of strange and not very easy to read.

It was a debut novel so I hope it will get better with each book as the series continues.

Melanie says

2.5 stars

I had a difficult time with this book - it wasn't completely terrible, but there were several things that just didn't work for me. But first I'll outline the good...

What I liked:

- 1) The cover - As bad as this is to admit, I totally bought this book based on the cover (*hangs head in shame*). I *really* dig this cover though - hot military dude set against a backdrop of intense sky and ruins (all in sepia) totally works for me.
- 2) Mari (and Roger) - I was pretty drawn into Mari's tragic story and how things were unfolding with Roger. Their burgeoning relationship is secondary in 'Collateral Damage' but they totally stole the show IMO. Their book is up next and Saint has set the stage for a very unique and touching romance.

Now, what I didn't like:

- 1) Not enough dialogue! I found 'Collateral Damage' just didn't have enough dialogue to keep things entertaining - a lot of events seemed to unfold via a quick description, when I would have appreciated reading about the characters actual interaction.
- 2) There were too many points of view! From hero/heroine, side story hero/heroine (who get their own book next), to minor and then major bad guy, it was all too much. Although, I cannot stress enough how incredibly thankful I am that the chimp didn't end up having a POV! These multiple perspectives were distracting when trying to keep track what was happening with the main couple. The multitude of POVs also meant there wasn't a lot of mystery/suspense - I knew pretty much immediately who isn't on the up and up, what their motives are, and what they were doing.
- 3) "Collateral damage". This phrase was used one too many times for my tastes. Every time it popped up I kept thinking: "I get it, already!!" In fact, I got and understood its implications from reading the title of the book!

It's too bad - the premise of this book was actually pretty interesting and I felt it had a lot of potential. If we had of been treated to more dialogue and the story would have focused more on what was happening with the

main couple it could have been really good.

Sonia says

Me ha costado conectar con esta novela, pasan muchas cosas en poco tiempo y no he sentido conexión con los protagonistas, falta emoción en favor de la acción, la cual sin embargo está bien estructurada.

Otra pega (grande) es que no solo un psicópata lleva la batuta, ni siquiera 2, ¡la autora necesita 3! lo que es OVERKILL lo mires por donde lo mires. Se apoya en razones médicas (¿será por deformación profesional, siendo ella enfermera?) para poner en marcha las motivaciones de los villanos de turno. Todos tienen una disfunción mental que resta veracidad a lo que nos cuentan, y le da un tono caricaturesco a la novela.

Una pena porque la idea es buena (no hay más que leer la prensa estos días) y el desarrollo está logrado, pero a punto he estado de ponerle 2*.

Lo resolutiva que resulta la prota (que no espera a que la rescaten a cada momento) y lo sencillo y creíble del desarrollo y la conclusión del caso principal le dan un empujón que me compensa lo chapucero del caso "acosador" y lo forzado del HEA.

Hbeebti says

Pretty good. It almost seemed like two books in one. Looking forward to the next book.

MBR says

A 4.5 star romantic suspense!

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Book Run Run says

This book had great potential. However the biggest negative for me was this book was way and I mean way too busy. What I mean by that is author had to me subplots/characters fighting for attention. I understand wanting to lure readers into reading other books but this was simply overdone and took away from the main characters. It frustrated me so much I had to force myself thru certain parts of the book.

Robin *loves sexy books* says

This took a little while to get going but once it did, I didn't want to put it down.

The storyline with the couple of bad guys got a little convoluted, but overall I liked it. Hope there is a book 2 to tie up some loose ends with more military hotties!!

Sunny says

This book snuck up on me. I didn't have any expectations because J.L. Saint was a new author to me and I didn't know much about this book. I was strangely drawn to the cover. I couldn't decide whether the model was scary or heroic (I've decided that that particular picture is a bit of both.) Both the book and the main character, Jack Hunter, were a nice surprise.

Jack Hunter is a Delta Force sergeant recovering from injuries sustained from a rescue mission gone awry in the Middle East. He is left with confused memories and suspects that a missing business man from Atlanta (Bill Collins), purportedly killed in South America, is the same terrorist he killed in Lebanon. He tries to investigate this mystery "off the books" starting with the businessman's ex-wife, Lauren Collins. This begins the action, adventure, and intrigue that involves murder, mayhem, kidnappings and conspiracies. There is a lot of story, but it is never overwhelming.

The highlight of this book is the relationship between Jack and Lauren. Lauren is betrayed on so many levels by her ex-husband. As a suspected terrorist, she and her sons run the risk of being branded the family of a traitor. They also become the target of her husband's ex-boss looking to avenge Bill's theft and betrayal of the bio-fuel formula. Jack tries to protect Lauren and her family. He feels drawn to her and his relationship with Lauren and the twins makes him reflect on the kind of husband and father he has been in the past. Jack's vulnerability is very attractive. Though he starts with the confidence to protect the family, he soon understands that he is in over his head both physically and emotionally. I appreciate J.L. Saint's development of this character. He's not your typical Über Alpha Male. He is redeemed (view spoiler)

Since this is the first book in the Silent Warrior series, there is a compelling sidestory with Jack's boss, Lt. Colonel Roger Weston and Mari Dalton. We are also introduced to several of Jack's team from Delta Force, who I suspect will show up again in future books -- of which I am enthusiastically looking forward to reading

Jennifer Gifford says

I'm pretty open minded and ready anything as long as it peaks my interest. I have several problems with this book.

1. The main warrior heals too quickly from life threatening injuries, in my opinion because the storyline was a little weak.
2. Story is a loose web of emails and a typical bad guy. I predicted a lot of the action, and they get eaten by a jungle cat? Really? I mean, really? A little too neat for my liking.
3. Very little dialogue, and too much internal dialogue of the characters. More dialogue between characters/bad guys would have made the reading a lot less dry, where as the internal dialogue should have been worked into the storyline to keep it tight and suspenseful. Everytime I read a large piece of internal

dialogue, I knew the author was giving away too much foreshadowing and I could hear the imaginary B movie soundtrack, 'dun dun dun dun' going off in my head.

4. Sex scenes were fine, but cliché. Though the dialogue between the two main characters, Lauren and Jack is good.

Overall, I won't be picking up any others of her work. There were some editing issues as well, misspelled words, and editorial no-no's (as an editor myself I suspect this was a small press print, or vanity press re-release), and it would have benefited from a thorough once over by an editor for spelling, grammatical, and storyline errors.

Sherri says

Wow the story took do many turns I couldn't put it down.
