



All the Wrong Moves

Merline Lovelace

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USAF Lieutenant Samantha Spade and her techies try out the latest gizmos for the military. On a test run with the Ergonomic Exoskeletal Extension (EEEEK), Sam stumbles over two dead bodies in the desert. With the help of handsome Border Patrol Agent Jeff Mitchell, Sam must unravel a cover-up involving an illegal arms deal.

All the Wrong Moves Details

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Author : Merline Lovelace

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From Reader Review All the Wrong Moves for online ebook

Marci says

Sam Spade is a fresh voice in the mystery world. Joining the Air Force after finding her husband cheating on her, she ends up heading a project that tests DARPA (military research & development) gadgets. When she stumbles across two dead bodies while testing an exo skeleton. She gets pulled into an investigation of big importance. Of course, it doesn't hurt that there's a cute FBI agent involved.

Helen M. Whitchurch says

Air force desert mystery

Samantha was testing metal exoskeleton when it stumbled over dead bodies in better dead category. It only got worse from there. Part of good series flavored with humor.

Angela says

I'll try another one before I decide about the series. I was hoping for more of a scientific/nerdy lead character but she is actually the normal one heading up the nerd group---sort a Eureka-like situation. It had it's good points but the mystery was a little too contrived.

Kara says

Lovelace has a way with words! The plot of a USAF officer working with DARPA and having run ins with the law really had me interested. I was able to stay engaged, read the book quickly, and I found myself not being able to put it down!

Renee says

I'm not a big mystery reader, but I LOVE Merline Lovelace's romance novels and I LOVE her characters. Esp. her military heroines. This auther was in the service, so she knows of what she writes. I love snarky heroine first-person POVs. I want the snorts and the eye-rolling and irreverence. So I thought I'd try her "other" genre.

THIS BOOK HAD IT IN SPADES. (Pun intended)

USAF Lt. Samantha Spade is NOT a gung-ho career-military type. She has authority issues, which makes for a rocky life in the military, and gets her banished to the backside of beyond. What saves her is her brains, and she leads of team of techno-geek misfits testing possibly beneficial new technologies for military

applications. EEEK is featured in this book - an Ergonomic Exoskeletal Extension, which is just a fancy word for a robotic suit you put on and take off that enhances human abilities.

Samantha is taking the suit for a jaunt out in the TX desert when she steps into murder and mayhem and government conspiracies - literally. Soon everyone and their cousin is involved in the investigations, and jurisdictional turf wars between several government agencies ensues. It's enough to give a poor lieutenant a major headache.

Her partner in crime-solving is US Customs & Border Patrol agent Jeff Mitchell. They have a definitely unprofessional attraction, but don't let it get in their way...much. Both of them have relationship and commitment issues, both of them acknowledge that it has NO place in the workplace. But they're only human, and it's there. Adds a nice layer of subtext throughout every exchange.

The infighting and lies and coverups keep you turning the pages. Sometimes you want to laugh at Sam, and sometimes you want to shake her. Writer's done a good job if her characters come across as real people. Samantha Spade is one of those characters you can stick with in a series - I have Catch Her If You Can to read next!

Allisyn says

A mystery novel written by one of my old favorite romance authors. The book was set in a military funded research station with a mixed team of military and civilian. The military head of the team Lt. Samantha Spade finds a pair of bodies on a jog out testing some equipment and gets drawn into a giant jurisdictional battle which she seems to think she needs to be in the middle of. After an arsonist targets her lab, she makes finding the murderer a personal goal despite having no jurisdiction herself. All in all, I think that I'll stick to reading her romance novels which generally contain a suspense element but seem to be better developed and make more sense logically.

Amelia-Irene says

This is supposed to be the first of a new series. I liked it and look to see more in it. Lt Samantha Spade is the head of a little company of techie type people - each of them odd balls in their own way. It will be interesting to see what will happen in future books.

Melanie says

A good first book. The author needs a little time to develop her craft, but I'm in for the next one in this series when it comes out.

Karen Desmond says

The story of a Vegas cocktail waitress turned USAF scientist (sort-of) I started this series in the wrong order when I read book 2 first - oops.

Wanted to go back and start the series properly and I'm glad I did.

Dara says

This book is a little different from her other books. I felt like I was reading a Stephanie Plum book by Janet Evanovich, except with a lot of military jargon. It's not a straight romance book at all but a mystery of sorts. I don't know how you could describe it. It's not really a romantic suspense but more like a science fiction mystery. If you can get past the first person narration it's not a bad read.

Roxanne's Reads says

Sam is sassy, witty, and doesn't accept untruths. Her connection with Agent Jeff Mitchell lightly sizzles without taking away from other characters. Her quirky subordinates and a charming bartender are fun to get to know. The mystery engagingly brings up plenty of questions. Why was a suspected ex-military gunrunner killed before being extradited? Who is willing to risk killing Sam and her team and why? As Sam seeks the truth she also gives a hilarious look at the mundane aspects of military life and living in the desert. This was a fun read!

Alice Brown says

I love these books. They are a light read and I love the characters. I love how Samantha's mind works. They make me laugh out loud.

Jeannie and Louis Rigod says

I really enjoyed this book. Not only is it a wonderful mystery and takes you to the end to find the culprit, it gives you a wonderful understanding of just how the military works within itself.

I look forward to more Samantha Spade novels.

Mary says

I really enjoyed this book but I tend to like most of Ms. Lovelace's books. This one is a little different from her romantic suspense books and is the first in a trilogy. It is basically a murder mystery with a hint of romance.

Samantha Spade is a fun character with lots of great dialog and lots of talking to herself. I like her wry sense

of humor and her ability to laugh at herself. She meets Jeff 'Mitch' Mitchell on a bad day but these two click almost right away. I look forward to the continuation of their relationship in the next book.

I would recommend this book and most others written by Merline Lovelace.

Hmr28 says

I LOVED this series. The whole alphabet soup thing (acronyms in the military) was so funny (and so true). Great concept, great romance and I loved the mystery. I rec. this to all my reading friends. I hope the series continues.
