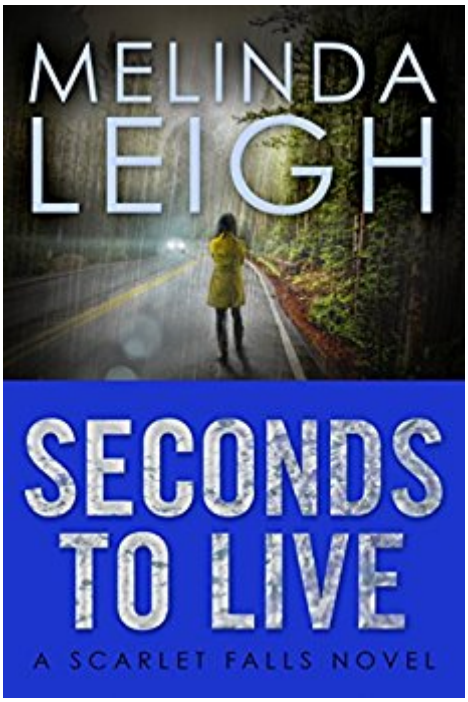
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Seconds To Live (Scarlet Falls Book 3)



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Synopsis

A Wall Street Journal bestsellerWildlife biologist Mac Barrett avoided his hometown of Scarlet Falls for yearsÃ¢â ¬â •too many bad memories. But when he receives the news that his father is dying, he rushes home only to discover heÃ¢â ¬â„¢s too late. Shaken, Mac retreats to his remote cabin seeking peace and solace. Instead, he crashes his jeep to narrowly avoid running over the naked body of a woman lying in the road. Even more disturbing, when he regains consciousness, the body is gone.Police detective Stella Dane wants to believe Mac, even if his story about the vanishing body seems far-fetched. But when MacÃ¢â ¬â„¢s description matches the missing woman sheÃ¢â ¬â„¢s been searching for, it raises a disturbing question: How does a dead body disappear?Mac and Stella will have to work together to find the answer and catch a psychotic kidnapperÃ¢â ¬â •and quickly. The killer has a deadly message to send, and the case is about to become personalÃ¢â ¬Â¦2016 Golden Leaf Award Winner

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Melinda Leigh’s writing always draws me in from the first page, and Seconds to Live was no

different. This third book of the Scarlet Falls series opens immediately into the action and keeps you hooked until the very satisfying ending.Stella Dane is a detective who has been put in the difficult position of investigating a homicide while still recovering from the traumatic experience of a previous case. Mac Barrett is haunted by his past and chooses to spend his time working in South America to escape facing the family he feels he has disappointed. He is brought back home by the impending death of his father, but events quickly take a turn when Mac crashes his vehicle to avoid a body in the road and then wakes up to find the woman's body has mysteriously disappeared.. As Mac and Stella work together to find the missing woman, they are drawn together with crackling chemistry.Seconds to Live is a page-turning, sexy thriller that will leave you dying to race to find out what happens next and who is behind the growing body count. I could not put this book down! As usual, Melinda Leigh accomplishes fantastic character development, letting you embrace each character. I would highly recommend Seconds to Live to anyone looking for their next great read.

"Seconds to Live," the third in thriller writer Melinda Leigh's Scarlett Falls series, finds the third member of the Barrett clan as the centerpiece of a murder mystery. The dead begin to pile up and there's no link from one to the next. The youngest of the Barretts, Mac, grew up in a damaged household, one in which his retired colonel father's health deteriorated as did his mother's. He roamed free and got in trouble, potentially criminal-creating. But Mac switched gears, became a biologist and joined the DEA, a detail his siblings didn't know. The plot follows the Leigh formula of something terrible bringing two people together. Scarlett Falls slants a bit to gruesome, but that just makes the story more compelling. Leigh is a master of creating truly awful people who do horrible things. But her antagonists have depth and are so well reasoned. This one especially. The object of Mac's affections is Detective Stella Dane, who has baggage of her own. Both protagonists have issues to work through and doubts about their abilities that interfere with them establishing relationships. Dane's shaky marksmanship resulted in one of her fellow officers nearly getting killed. And Mac has his own problems. He was unable to save the life of one of his team members in a shootout. He also carries guilt for getting involved with a local gang and for not being around for his family. Of course, the Barretts attract trouble like nobody's business. At first, Stella and Mac don't really mesh. There's physical attraction but not much else. It isn't until about halfway through the novel that I started to believe in their chemistry. And I'm a guy talking about chemistry. Like I know something about it. I suppose that's what makes Leigh's writing so effective to me. She nuances her characters. I mean I know they're going to end up together. But I still had questions. Is this going to work? She's not his type. He's not her type. I suppose that's her intent. Maybe I read too much

military sci-fi. I did just watch "The River of No Return" on Netflix with a young Robert Mitchum and the terrible acting of Marilyn Monroe (though she does have onscreen presence). The romance has the nuance of a punch in the face from Mike Tyson at his prime. God awful. Sure as heck wasn't written by Leigh. And thank all that is holy somebody like Leigh, who can juggle intense action, drama and romance, is emerging. Maybe when her books start getting made into movies, such caricatures, like those of 1950s genre westerns, will disappear.

ThereÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s a new superhero in town, and his name is MacClellan Barrett! In Book 3 of her Scarlet Falls series (I refuse to believe this is ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“itÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• for Scarlet Falls), the hard-to-pin down ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“babyÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• of the Barrett family gets his due. Mac Barrett is a biologist always on the move, studying his beloved river ottersÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â¦.or is he? That question gets answered very quickly as Mac, while on site in the , receives word of his fatherÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s deteriorating condition. In rough shape (no spoilers here), Mac heads home, only to run head-first into the complex Barrett family emotional maelstrom, a mysterious disappearing body in the road, and the alluring Det. Stella Dane.As Mac and Stella get drawn deeper into the investigation regarding missing women and staged murder scenes, the two give up fighting the attraction they have to one another. This is an engrossing mystery, tinged with the Barrett family dynamics as the Barrett siblings process the death of their father, ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“the Colonel.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• An armed forces hero partially paralyzed in combat, the Colonel structured his household like boot camp, training his 3 children as if every day held a mission in enemy territory. Those mad skills, though, serve them well in this Scarlet Falls series.This book is an amazing romantic suspense read by an author that has truly mastered the genre. Well-written, with complex characters and an engrossing plot, I could not put this book down once I started it. If you havenÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t visited Scarlet Falls, I highly recommend you put these books on your TBR!I received an advanced readerÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s copy in exchange for an honest review.

Compelling mystery thriller.Melnda Leigh is an excellent author and I really enjoy her works. This one did not capture my attention as others have.Interesting storyline with believable characters and dialogue.This one did not flow as smoothly as her other stories. This one is not really a stand-alone and not all actions were realistic.There is continual mention of previous actions but no background on them. Examples are:The murder of Lee Barrett.Stella and others have PTSD due to a prior investigation that went FUBAR.Studly love interest Mac Barrett suffered a serious injury requiring stitches in his side. He has trouble with the stiches pulling, yet he can pick up Stella and take her to

bed?Families with military and police backgrounds, small children but no security camera's.The ending does make sense.No desire to re-read this story. I am always interested in works by this author.Remember this is my personal opinion and does not reflect on the author.

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