



Squall Line

Dawn Lee McKenna

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In the small, coastal towns of the Florida Panhandle, there are no six degrees of separation; they're lucky to stretch it to three. Everyone knows everybody, and the loss of any one person is felt by all.

But what happens when a beloved law enforcement officer is shot down, and the shooter is a terrified young man, barely more than a child?

Lt. Maggie Hamilton is devastated when a good friend and fellow officer is shot while trying to keep a bullied high-schooler from making a terrible mistake. Soon after, videos of the event become viral, fanning the flames.

Now both the young man and the bully who victimized him go missing. It suddenly becomes clear that the two boys disappeared together. Who is the aggressor now, and who is most at-risk? As the situation begins to unfold both online and in the real world, everyone is faced with the ramifications of bullying, and with the part that social media plays in making bad situations worse and turning private hells into public tragedies.

This is the ninth book in the bestselling Forgotten Coast Florida Suspense series, known for its rich coastal atmosphere, authentically-textured characters and dry humor.

Please note that the actual page count of 258 pages will not be reflected until the paperback and Kindle editions are linked.

Squall Line Details

Date : Published June 26th 2018 by The Sweet Tea Press

ISBN :

Author : Dawn Lee McKenna

Format : Kindle Edition 188 pages

Genre : Mystery, Romance, Romantic Suspense



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From Reader Review Squall Line for online ebook

Carla says

Another book in a series I've read for over a year now that takes place where I vacation. Always a quick read.

Sherrel says

Squall Line

Another great visit to Apalach!

I found this book to be so bittersweet in many ways. The plot covers bullying in social media and in person. An officer is shot trying to break up a fight at the bus stop. The shooter runs and later kidnaps one of the bullies.

If you've been reading the series, you will want to know what Maggie does and how the situation is resolved. You will try to decide if the shooter is good or bad and the mixed emotion involved. And you will want to know how Sky handles a coming of age.

Linda Branich says

Dawn Lee McKenna hits it out of the park with another 5 star book.

Each of her works in this series deals tastefully with contemporary issues-- rape, out of wedlock pregnancy, murder, greed, a devastating hurricane, premarital dating in the workplace, workplace issues with a not so good boss, raising kids, family dysfunction, drugs, secrets, shady characters, and in this one the school issues with bullying, zero tolerance, good and bad parenting, cyberbullying, and weapons at school.

Dawn Lee skillfully deals with all these things in a way that while at times is highly emotionally charged, there is almost none of the cruel gruesomeness that society finds so entertaining today. Strong family and moral values are emphasized, which is refreshing.

Each successive book continues to develop characters in the previous books, turning minor characters into more major ones, some at least temporarily.

Her descriptions of Apalachicola are spot on, so good in fact that the first time I visited this little town after reading the first 5 or 6 books, I could find my way around town easily. I patronized many of the businesses and restaurants that are real, half expecting to see characters from her books seated at the next table! (and some of the people are real-- I've met a few!)

This suspenseful series about Florida's Forgotten Coast is well worth the effort for a causal and enjoyable read.

Number 10's release is delayed from this month to next, and I am so looking forward to it!

Wanda Burquest says

I am so hooked on this series by Dawn Lee McKenna. Squall Line is the ninth and now I have to wait until number ten comes out. I read it will be here in August. Main character, Maggie, is one of those strong southern women who is a mother, a detective with the sheriff's department, and a newly-wed wife. The things she gets herself into are incredible. The fictional characters of the small town of Apalachicola are so real I'm sure I'll recognize them when I visit. One of these days I'll get there. There is one bad thing about Squall Line. It was over too soon.

Karen Kearns says

WOW

What a remarkably straight-forward look at the upsurge that is bullying in today's society. In this day and age, bullying has become commonplace everywhere from the home, to schools, to the workplace, and even to the innocuous online poker table. Abusive parents do it, students AND teachers do it, co-workers AND bosses do it, and I have even found it while trying to play a fun game of poker in the form of players that will put an exorbitant number of chips into the pot, just to scare off other players and win a very small amount of chips. In my opinion, this has been the best book in this series.

Pamela Carroll says

I think the subject matter was appropriate for the times. I've always liked the characters. I lived in the FL panhandle for 30 yrs so I can identify with some of the references. I read this book in just a matter of hours. I'm not a speed reader, the author just seemed like she rushed through the story. I felt as though I read the Cliff's Notes version. I wish she could have built it up a bit more so as a reader I could sit back and relax, get absorbed into the story. Good story but I'm left feeling there could have been more.

Now for a petty criticism for all authors. Please use spellcheck/grammarcheck. It makes no sense for someone who writes for a living, and has editors, to have misspelled words in their printed material.

Don Rich says

Dawn Lee McKenna continues to show why she earns her high rankings! In Squall Line she takes a subject from the headlines and shows not just one side of it, but how the events affect everyone concerned. I'm guessing that this book would have been her hardest to write, and it's definitely one of, if not THE best she's written.

Vicki Snyder davis says

Just like old friends

I absolutely love this series, nothing is over done its just right!! I look forward each time a new one comes out. Each book has made me feel right there. So much truth and feeling without over doing it!!

Charles Castell says

Maggie is definitely one of the most rewarding characters I have ever read. She and Wyatt make an ideal couple and the are always prepared for the worst case scenario. This series improves with each new episode and the excitement never ceases.

Another outstanding five stars episode of an exceptionally well defined group of characters and, as always, the greatest storylines I have had the opportunity to follow. Ms. McKenna does an excellent job with her descriptive episodes throughout the entire story.

I am basically a reader of western adventures, but this series is unsurpassed in quality and the author does an outstanding job with her very heartwarming stories. I have been very impressed with the her apparent knowledge and research that produces more than enough interesting episodes throughout the entire story.

I am definitely looking forward to the next thrilling release of Maggie and Wyatt's ongoing adventures and entertaining escapades of small town law enforcement. The author definitely impresses me with her descriptive episodes and thrilling drama that never ceases to amaze me.

I, most certainly, recommend this series to all readers loving another great masterpiece of love, friendship and never ending adventures of super heroes in small town law enforcement. This series improves with each new episode and the excitement never ceases throughout the entire process. If you fail to follow Maggie and Wyatt, it will be the greatest loss of entertainment you will ever miss!?

Barbara Fraley says

guess who is married?

Dwight is being promoted to sgt.

stooped lives in the house now - (has anyone ever heard of chicken diapers?)

a relentless bully drives a good kid to kid to commit a felony

sky steps in to help the kid and is in harm's way

Maggie is in a hostage exchange

have we tied the hands of our teachers and school administrators? can bullies keep on terrorizing other kids, and get away with it, because their minions vouch for them, because they run in packs; because that's how bullies operate - they need to feel "big". they get that feeling when they torment others and from their underlings. so whose fault is it when the tormented kid brings a gun to school and targets the bullies? what could have been done different?

SIS says

WOW! This really hit home.

Teresa Gabelman

Recently, Kelly Clarkson stated that we needed action because a moment of silence wasn't working. Well, I believe Dawn Lee McKenna may have heard that plea. I love this series, actually, everything by this author. I dove into this expecting to enjoy a great fictional story. However, the more I read, the more real the story became. I love this series and appreciate how McKenna used the characters we love so much to address a growing crisis. I wish everyone would read this. I wish the commencement speech could be given at every graduation.

Lucille Bifano says

Extremely relevant

Very relevant to our time. It seems we all live our lives on the internet. I remember when people had actual face to face conversations. Now people speak in shorthand in texts and on FB with smiley faces. I much prefer an old fashioned phone call or conversation. I just wish people would be more like Sky. Unfortunately, meanness seems to be the currency of the day and appears to be the new normal of political correctness. Thank you for putting Stoopid into the book. Just love that guy! Waiting for the next release.

Pam says

Squall Line: The Forgotten Coast Florida Suspense Series Book 9 is by Dawn Lee McKenna. This is the ninth book but I can assure you I will be going back and reading the first eight books. This book was absolutely fantastic. As a suspense, it definitely kept the suspense building throughout the book. The situations were definitely realistic and could happen anywhere in the US at any time. The characters jumped off the page and you could see and feel them next to you as you read. The descriptions of the area in Florida where this takes place are wonderful. Having been in that area, I felt like I was back there watching this take place.

Ryan Warner wanted only to finish his last year of school and get out of this place. He didn't mind the area and he did have family nearby; but he didn't like the high school. Since the day he arrived he had been bullied but in such a way that the school was unable to do anything about it. There were never any witnesses so it was his word against the bully's. The day before, the bullies caught him in the science lab where he was feeding the mice and ganged up on him. In the process, he wet his pants and they caught it on tape. They put it all over the Internet on YouTube just to embarrass him. This was the last straw, he took his Dad's pistol to school to scare those bullies. He didn't use it until he got off the bus and they began harassing him again. He then brought it out to scare them. A police officer came upon the scene. He was meeting his small daughter when she got off the bus. Instead, he found himself trying to calm the scene down. As he was talking to Ryan to put the gun down, one of the other boys threw his backpack and hit Ryan's arm and the gun went off. The officer was hit; but managed to get the bus driver to drive the bus away with his daughter on board before he

fell.

In the ensuing commotion of getting the officer to the hospital, Ryan ran away and the other boys went home. Later, Adrian took his car and left home. Now the police had two boys missing. One had just accidentally shot a police officer and the other was involved. Was Ryan holding Adrian hostage? Did Ryan shoot Adrian? Were they even together?

The police are trying to find the boys while the officer is fighting for his life. Will the police find them in time?

Carolyn says

This is one very powerful book. Yes, all my favorite characters appeared and gave outstanding performances. Sky's valedictorian speech was superb. But, it is a very powerful statement about kids, guns, social media, bullying, families, lives affected and the horrific consequences all the way around. It is also a sad statement of what so many kids have to deal with today. Yes, a very powerful book.

Dannielle Insalaco says

Okay! The book needed proofreading but those things don't bother me. It's the story and the characters that matter and this book has plenty of both!!
