



## The Killing Edge

*Heather Graham*

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Chloe Marin was lucky. She was just a teenager when a party at a Florida beachside mansion turned into a savage killing spree, and she was one of the few to survive. Bloody handwriting on the walls pointed to a cult whose rituals included human sacrifice. Chloe's sketch of one of the killers linked two dead cult members found in the Everglades to the massacre, closing the case as far as the cops were concerned.

Ten years later Chloe works as a psychologist specializing in art therapy to help traumatized victims, and on the side she finds release in her passion for the martial arts. Police who hire her as a consultant know she's a literal kick-ass advocate for victims who can't always speak for themselves.

The current disappearance of a young swimsuit model ranks low on the cops' priority list. Everyone assumes the girl has run off for some fun in the sun, instead of getting ready for a photo shoot. Everyone but Chloe, who suspects a killer is using the modeling agency to stalk his prey. When the ghost of the model appears, asking Chloe for help, she knows that she has to do everything she can.

So does Luke Cane, a British ex-cop-turned-P.I. investigating the disappearance of the model on behalf of her father. Chloe and Luke have trouble trusting each other, but they can't help their strong attraction for one another. Luckily they agree on the important things: someone needs to find those missing girls, and if a few laws have to get bent so lives can be saved, too bad.

When Chloe arrives late for an appointment at the modeling agency, she discovers a gruesome mass murder eerily similar to the one she witnessed a decade ago—and can't help thinking that if she hadn't run late, she would have been there when the killer arrived. Ten years ago she hadn't been convinced the police had identified the real killers, and now she's sure of it. The same evil mind is behind the current murders, and she's afraid she's the target—and terrified that she won't be able to cheat death a third time. She has no choice now but to trust Luke on every level, because with a killer closing in, he's the only one who's willing to do whatever it takes to keep her alive.

## **The Killing Edge Details**

Date : Published March 23rd 2010 by Mira

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Author : Heather Graham

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## **From Reader Review The Killing Edge for online ebook**

### **Am says**

I'm so sad that this is the last of the Harrison Investigation series. I'm going to miss Adam and the crew. ....that a lie. I'll reread them next year or so because I'm trash for Heather Graham.

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### **Linda says**

I dearly love this book. It is so very good. I can see how the Author came up with the Title of this Book. Once you start reading this book you cannot hardly put it down. I give this book 5/5 Stars here on Goodreads.

I highly recommend this book to anybody that loves to read a Really Good Mystery. I got the book from my local Library.

This book kept you on the edge of your seat the whole time you are reading this.

Happy Reading

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### **Lynsey A says**

This book was between a 2.5 and 3 star for me. The suspense in this book was pretty good and the killer was a surprise. Heather Graham did a great job of hiding the identity of the real killer. She does a decent job with creating a good suspense story but her romance does lack a bit in these books.

The hero and heroine only knew each other for a few days before diving into bed, which isn't bad, it's worked in other books, but for these two it felt forced and totally unromantic. I didn't really believe them as a couple. Their whole relationship seemed a bit fake. It just didn't click with me. I've read other books where the H/h fall in love within a few days but they were much more believable than this story.

So, Graham gets a 3\* for the suspense story and a 2.5\* for the romance. I will continue to read her books because I like her suspense and occasionally the romance story that goes with it.

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### **LibraryLass says**

I usually thoroughly enjoy Heather Grahams books but this one was a bit flat for me.

The positives:

The premise was excellent. I loved the slight taste of the paranormal threaded throughout the storyline.

Unlike others I had a bit of an inkling as to who the baddie was - but it was still a good 'suspense.' I liked both Chloe and Luke. The sex scenes were steamy and frequent.

The negatives:

For me there was no sexual energy in the romance. Everything just meandered along, progressed as per usual, but there was no real tension between the two. There was no anticipation of the moment when the hero realises he's in love cos it just didn't happen. The whole point of these two were that they suffered trauma in their lives and couldn't deal with commitment and yet it all just happened with no real oomph to the story. As I said it lacked energy even tho the sex scenes were great.

The other small negatives were the lack of use of the trauma Chloe would have suffered walking back into a similar situation... and the fact that she went from thinking she was going crazy for seeing ghost to not only accepting it but defending it without any real drama. There was no connectivity here and I thought it was a waste of what could have been a great plot thread.

Still a good fast read, but not one of her best.

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### **Danielle Urban says**

#### **Deadly, chilly, and intense...**

Unlike similar novels from this author, *The Killing Edge*, just did not engage me as much as I had hoped. It was still interesting, edgy, and dark. Murder, bloodshed, and serial killer(s) still out hunting down their victims. I usually feel connected to the main characters but I did not feel connected to these characters. I understood them. I felt their pain and determination to solve the murders. Yet, I was not hooked. I was both intrigued and entertained though. Heather Graham still has the talent for writing novels that ring a chill down my spine. The intensity of the scenes happening in this novel was just as exciting. The plot felt slower to me. I felt like I was moving steady. I usually move quickly through the pages. Just was not happening this time around...overall, it was good. *The Killing Edge* is worth reading.

3.5-stars

I received this copy from the publisher. This is my voluntary review.

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### **Steve Holden says**

\*2.5 Stars\*

I round this up and give a positive rating on the basis that I did finish and was entertained at points. I love getting introduced to new authors in the mystery/suspense/thriller genres, but this one added a whole new element for me - "romantic thriller"? There are makings of a good story within this one, but there are so many forced, convoluted plot points that it reads a bit unbelievable for me in parts. Again, this is a new author for me, so I have no comparison to any other novels, but this one is a bit out there.

A high schooler survives a mass murder at a mansion party in Miami with a couple of close friends. It's obviously a traumatizing life event, and we're fast forwarded to a decade later where this lead character has a

therapy career with a minor in swimsuit modeling. She still lives in Miami and is a consultant to both a modeling agency and detective work via her uncle, and remains close friends to shared survivors of the previous life event. She meets an undercover detective hired by the family of a missing girl associated with her modeling agency in Miami who is from England(?) and has had a traumatizing incident of his own to overcome (murdered wife who he has already avenged the death of). These two leads are young, though, and upon meeting, develop instant chemistry and are both described as being beautiful and perfect physically . . . Agh. Not a fan of the romantic side of things. The case has some interesting elements. It has ties to a religious cult, and the chase leads between ties to a church and cities, and of course, people close to the scene. There are some twists, surprises, and a bit of intrigue in the case. I just find the characters and romance a bit out there, and a lot of the scenery and surroundings don't connect with me at all. Luckily, it's a short read, and I was able to enjoy some parts. I might need some convincing to try out another Heather Graham novel, however.

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### **Bonnie says**

This book was terrible to begin with (I set it aside for months), and when I came back... well, it hadn't gotten much better. All the main characters are heirs/heiresses/recipients of large insurance settlements (but work and are quite humble despite it, of course), well-connected, etc. the main character knows mma (but never practices, and only uses it... once). her parents were apparently killed in a train explosion, fer chrissakes. TRAIN EXPLOSION.

I don't even have stats for that.

And at one point they dress up in impenetrable disguises (colored contacts, eyeliner, wigs, and dowdy dresses they just happened to have lying around), and literally no-one recognizes them, or the fact that they're in disguise.

And there's a puppy and a police dog (the puppy's dad), who kind of disappear.

and then, out of nowhere, the random series tie-in characters appear!

THE ENTIRE BOOK IS LIKE THIS.

but it moved quickly.

it was a bit like a poorly done I Know What You Did Last Summer / MTV movie: pretty people, interesting hooks, random sex in lieu of character development (wasn't even particularly well-done), but plot-holes that are just kind of... gaping.

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### **Cristina says**

Me ha gustado mucho, sobre todo, mucho más de lo que esperaba. La verdad es que no sé por qué lo elegí, porque ni su título ni su portada me llamaron la atención. La novela consigue atraparte desde las primeras páginas. Los personajes protagonistas resultan tremadamente cercanos y, en cierta medida, parecen conocidos. A pesar de que tiene un toque paranormal (y a mí no me suele gustar), no es para nada lo principal, aunque llega a cobrar bastante importancia en el desarrollo y desenlace de la novela. Lectura recomendable para todos los lectores de este género.

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### **Ruby Lee says**

I love this Author but this was not her best work. The main storyline was good and I liked the characters but it was the little things that made it hard to read. There was a lot of jumping in what characters were thinking or doing that would cause me to go back several pages to see if I had missed something. I hadn't. Some of the main names were very similar and at the end the story is tied up in a nice cute bow too quickly. Just didn't feel it like I had the others.

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### **Dana Leipnitz says**

This book was filled with names/characters that it lost my interest right away! I was in the 3rd chapter and chose to close the cover for good...WAY too confusing and hard to follow. There was about 25-30 characters within the first-two chapters.

It could be a good book, I just didn't give it a chance. Not the kind of book I like to read.

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### **Stephanie (the nerdy princess) says**

With a description like this book has, it shouldn't come as a big surprise that I thought this book was a murder/scary/things that go bump in the night type of book. Imagine my surprise when I started reading The Killing Edge by Heather Graham and discovered that there is a whole subset of the romance genre known as "romantic suspense". Huh. Who knew???

This book is filled with the author's idea of violent crime and malevolent suspense, with a healthy dose of all those cliché's that make a romance book...well...a romance book. You know exactly what I'm talking about; the prickly and cynical, but secretly tortured anti-hero/hero, rugged and virile, often with an absurd eye color described as "steely gray" and a manly name; in this story, Luke Cane. Add to the mix, the spunky, but beautiful heroine, who, although she professes to loathe said hero, finds herself inexplicably drawn to him, like a moth to the flame..

"Luke reached across the table and touched her arm. She started, looking at his hand. It was large, with long fingers; maybe he should have been a guitarist or a pianist. His nails were clipped short, and they were clean. His palm felt callused; she imagined that when he wasn't investigating someone, he indulged in some kind of manual labor. Building things, maybe. They were very masculine hands. She gritted her teeth again, wondering why his touch could send rivulets of fire streaking through her when she was absolutely convinced that she didn't like the man."

Gaaaccckkkk.....

Where to begin? I know that people just love the whole romance genre. And I'm sure that nothing can make a romance novel better than a couple of scary bad guys and maybe a touch of gratuitous violence, but seriously? ...."rivulets of fire????!"

Gaaaaccckkkk.....

A bit of advice, if you put a paragraph like the aforementioned one anywhere in the story...it doesn't matter

how many dead bodies you sprinkle around, you're still writing a romance novel.

And I HATE Romance novels.....

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### **Larissa says**

If you look at the my reviews and the books I am usually reading, it is pretty obvious that my favorite Genres are basically anything that is related to the paranormal and fantasy. I have been trying to branch out and checking out different genres recently, then I saw this Romantic Thriller and decided to give it a chance.

I don't have much experience with reading thrillers, hence I don't have much to compare this novel to, but I have to say that though i did enjoy reading The killing Edge, I wasn't thoroughly impressed with it.

Right at the first page we get sucked into the mind of a killer and witness the beginning of a massacre. We then are taken to the POV of Chloe and her fight to run from the killers, stay alive and save her friends.

That was a very promising start and it did grab me. We then get to see Chloe 10 years after those killings and I have to say that I really enjoyed her as a character. A strong woman, who witness something horrible and despite being damaged, was able to work through it and become successful and well rounded.

A disappearance and new murders put Chloe and Luke together. Luke is an ex cop from England that has been living and working as a P.I. in the U.S. for almost a decade. I found him to be the perfect fit for Chloe, being that he also had a terrible experience in his past and is damaged from it as well. His way of dealing with it was different though, and that is where I believe he and Chloe bond, being different and similar all at the same time.

I enjoyed Heather Graham's writing, i liked that she alternated between Chloe's, Luke's and the killer's POVs and she was still able to keep the murderer's identity a secret until the very end. I was completely surprised by it and that is quite an accomplishment nowadays, when i find myself guessing the perpetrator more times than not.

A couple things did bother me though, one of them was when the author over described a situation or a place, It got to a point where i found myself skimming forward. The other thing was the line she straddled on when it came to the sex scenes. Not smut and not Not-Smut, there were points when the scenes were almost crossing the line and then we got some others where she just scanned it, skipping it all.

I don't mind the skipping, specially since the book is not erotica, but if there is going to be a couple more explicit scenes, it's better to go, at least, almost all out, I felt like she held back and some of the imagery she used to describe feeling during those scenes were a bit overdone.

All in all, The killing Egde, was a fun read. It didn't keep me at the edge of my seat at all times, but it had its moments. I loved the main couple and would like to have had more time with them at the end. The mystery was very well done and I loved being surprised by the end.

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## Aparna says

Stars: 3 / 5

Recommendation: An intriguing paranormal plot heavily doused on history filled with murder, mystery, romance and ghosts.

The Killing Edge is the tenth and the last book in the Harrison Investigation Series by the paranormal author Heather Graham published in March of 2010. The plot is set in Miami and Key West areas in FL and is centered around Chloe Marin - a psychologist with specialization in art therapy and also as a consultant to the police - and Luke Cane - a British ex-cop turned Private Investigator.

Long before her Krewe of Hunters series (My review of the books I have read in that series so far are here (<https://inspirethoughts.livejournal.c...>)), she had her Harrison Investigation Series headed by Adam Harrison. She credits him for starting the FBI special division called the Krewe of Hunters. While I was reading those books I was curious to read about Adam Harrison and books that came under his series. And so the book reviews continue in this series.

Ten years after the horrible killing spree that she and a few of her friends survive, Chloe Marin, is working as a psychologist, specializing in art therapy and also as a consultant to the police in helping them in cases. She also works as a calendar model for Bryon Agency on and off. Luke Cane was hired by the parents of one Colleen Rodriguez who disappeared while on a shoot for the agency in the Keys.

Chloe and Luke's path cross at the photo shoot of the agency and one thing they both clearly agreed upon was someone was targeting the girls at the agency. Despite fighting the instant attraction between them and the suspicions both have towards each other, they strive to get to the bottom of the truth. And putting them squarely in the path of the killer.

We get historical and geographical tour along with paranormal references of past in the plot but compared to other plots that Heather has written, it is far less. It focuses mainly on the killing spree that occurred 10 years ago and the killing spree occurring now. Although by the end of the book, we definitely will know some good hangout spots in the Keys.

Again we see Adam Harrison and two more of his agents - Brent and Nikki Blackhawk, whom we had first met in the third book in the series Ghost Walk (<https://inspirethoughts.livejournal.c...>). Of course we had known Nikki as Nikki DuMonde in that plot, but now she is married to Brent and takes his name. A constant since past few books in this series.

I couldn't guess the murderer until the end. A very good mingle of murder and mystery; past and present; fans and fanatics; and above all romance and love. Although I am surprised at the number of grammatical and sometimes character errors I see in the books as the series progresses. Clearly who ever edits for Heather Graham isn't doing a good job.

As she came closer to the end of the series, her repeat paraphrasing reduced a lot. And the conversations between the characters were more cohesive instead of sounding like teenagers.

Although this is the last book in the Harrison Investigation series, we still see Adam Harrison and his teams in the Krewe of Hunters that Heather started a year after this book. And I am sure that she has Adam and her investigators pop here and there in other series of hers too, although I haven't read all of her books; just a

logical guess. She ended the series in a very high note, this book was indeed a chiller.

On a side note, this hard copy didn't come with hard card inserts that gives reader an opportunity to either join a book club and win books, or buy a book and get a few free.

Another intriguing paranormal plot heavily doused on history filled with murder, mystery, romance and ghosts. A tale that captures one easily till the end.

Spoiler Alerts:

1. Sub-Plots:

- a. Another one of Adam Harrison's team is introduced in conversations - John, in the first book Haunted (<https://inspirethoughts.livejournal.c...>). Will he become a main character in a future book is something we have to wait and see.
- b. In Haunted, Adam Harrison mentions that the case in London is complex and would be solved another time, hence he has come to Stoneyville to aid Darcy Tremayne. I wonder if Heather Graham would make this little tidbit into a plot for a future book in this series or the Krewe of Hunters series.
- c. In The Vision (<https://inspirethoughts.livejournal.c...>), Heather Graham has one of her characters, Jack, mention about a guy killing prostitutes around Eighth Street in Miami. I don't remember any of Heather Graham's so far read plots that has this certain plot. Perhaps it is from one of the books I didn't read or maybe it was just an off-hand instead mentioned for the sake of the plot.
- d. In the Dead Room (<https://inspirethoughts.livejournal.c...>), Brent Blackhawk is shown to be out in Los Angeles on a case. Adam Harrison is scheduled to head to London from Manhattan the following day for a case. I wonder if Heather's next plot would be in Los Angeles or London.

2. Grammatical / Historical / Location / Character Errors:

- a. On Pg. 113, Line 20, it should be "...at the same time."
- b. On Pg. 167, Line 14, it should be "...telling him that the guy..."
- c. On Pg. 225, while explaining the placement of Luke, Chloe and Victoria on the steps of the mansion, Heather has Victoria sitting on the steps and Chloe holding her hand and sitting by her side. She had Luke hunkering down by Chloe. But then she says that Chloe and Luke exchange a look over Victoria's head. How can that be possible when Chloe is in between Luke and Victoria? Very confused there.
- d. On Pg. 263, Line 6, it should be "...travels to make himself harder..."

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### **Kristin says**

This was a quick read. I love Heather Grahams books. I like the fact that she always has a touch of the paranormal in them. I love when Adam Harrison Investigations is featured, but I wish we had more of them.

The one thing that I didn't like was that I knew who the killer was half way through the book even though there were a ton of other suspects. I'm not sure how I figured it out because it wasn't real obvious, but I just knew.

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## **Linda says**

Chloe Marin survived a killing spree of a group of her friends ten years before along with her three best friends, Victoria, Brad , and Jared. Now she is faced with the disappearance of a model who works for the same agency that she has worked for during her free time. Luke Cane, a private investigator, has been hired to find this young lady so he comes in undercover as a beachwear designer to be able to move around and do his job without much trouble. The real problem comes when more murders are discovered and there seems to be a link between the massacre ten years ago and what is happening now. Both Chloe and Luke must work close together on this case and find out they really need each other. This a suspense murder mystery that will surprise you.

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