



# Rules of Survival

*Jus Accardo*

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## Rules of Survival Jus Accardo

If you want to survive, you have to follow the rules...

Mikayla Morgan is wanted for her mother's murder. She's been on the run for almost a year now, avoiding not only the police but the real killer. Tired of running and desperate to clear her name, she breaks one of the most sacred rules: never return to the scene of the crime.

Every bounty hunter on the Eastern Seaboard is after the Morgan girl—but Shaun Denver and his partner snagged her. She's a piece of work, and Shaun can't decide if he wants to kiss her or kill her. When things take a sharp turn south, Shaun does the only thing he can think of to keep her close—he handcuffs them together.

As the danger mounts and the killer closes in, the chemistry between them threatens to explode. Shaun and Kayla will need to break all the rules if they hope to get out of this alive.

## Rules of Survival Details

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Author : Jus Accardo

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# From Reader Review Rules of Survival for online ebook

**M. says**

**\*I received an ARC via Netgalley in exchange for an honest review\***

Rules of Survival was a good book but nothing Wow. I was disappointed with the writing. It was a bit choppy and it was hard to keep up. Sometimes it was even hard to figure it out who was saying what and the book is told from one POV only. The story was underdeveloped, everything was rushed by. It felt like the author was writing in a hurry. Because of that the plot suffered and the big secret was kind of cliched and juvenile.

Three things bothered me the most in this book. The first were the shackles. The characters could have gotten rid of them at any time. How hard would it be to buy something to cut the chains when they stopped several times to buy food and other stuff. Second, the first time they have sex. Kayla is a virgin and as usual her first time was absolutely amazing. There was not even a slight attempt to make the situation believable. Third, the characters showered, peed, but during the several days there were shackled together no one had to poop? I'm sorry, but it was funny how the author didn't even mention that very embarrassing situation.

Okay, I get it. This is not the type of book to expect common sense. It's pretty much a love story that needed an exciting backdrop. The characters were likeable and had crazy chemistry. It was a fast read despite the flaws. Recommended for lazy afternoons or when you need a palate cleanser.

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**CasPerfitz~SLiTsReaD says**

**3.5 Stars!**

An action-packed, romantic-suspense novel...

My rating is really based on personal choice. I liked it but didn't love it... ;) I find it just a little too light for my thrill of romantic-suspense novel.

There is lots of action since they are mostly on the run thorough the entire book. When I say they, meaning the two lead character, Mikayla and Shaun.

Mikayla's on the run cause she is wanted for her mother's murder... and Shaun, an apprentice bounty hunter, together with his mentor Patrick. were the first to capture her. For Shaun, it all started with capturing Mikayla, handing her over and getting their bounty... but when men started shooting after them to get to Mikayla, everything's changed.... now it's all about protecting Mikayla. While Mikayla really have no choice but to trust Shaun and his help in finding who killed her mom.

All this mystery could have been avoided from the start had her mom told Mikayla everything... OR, all this could have been avoided if they went back to retrieve the letter her mom left for her. But, I guess there wouldn't be a story if all that happened. In other words, something simple is made complicated.

Mikayla's character is brave, smart and kick-ass.... And Shaun, well, he sounds hot and promising. Both lead

character are equally likeable. I enjoyed their chemistry together.

And I appreciated it that there was none of that "insta-love" happening. Yet!!!! But there is that undeniable attraction. ;) (Not that I have anything against insta-love.)

It is well written and well delivered.... and there is also that extra twist in the story... BUT BUT BUT, it's this is just me, I need a little more oomph in my read... so I guess it's a matter of reference for me. I don't wanna say predictable, but... I was kinda anticipating that part in the end too. :-P

My first Jus Accardo read and definitely not the last. ;)

Review is also shared and posted here : [SLITSREAD](#)

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## **Erin says**

This was a clever and captivating story, with a heroine who was on a fast track to nowhere thanks to a rather twisted childhood and the tragic loss of her mother. Mikayla's life had been a covert operation of chaos, with her mom keeping them on the move in order to stay hidden from her past. But when the gorgeous swindler's past caught up with her, Mikayla was then left to fend for herself...and wanted for her mother's murder. The rules her mom had taught her over the years became her bible, until the day she decided enough was enough. She wanted to know who killed her mom, and she was willing to risk it all to find out. Turned out there were a lot of people who were thrilled with that decision, and her life instantly kicked into high gear!

Bounty hunter Shaun Denver had learned from the best--his partner, the man who essentially saved his sorry ass. Snagging Mikayla Morgan was going to be a big catch for them, but neither of them expected the shitstorm that followed her everywhere she went. Dodging bullets and running from the bad guys would be hard enough, but these two had the added challenge of being handcuffed together in the process. It sounds like a corny twist, but I really got a kick out of the way they had to maneuver around the fact that they really only had one arm to work with while they played escape artists. Their adventure was full of thrills, with the occasional bouts of laughter, whether from their awkwardly linked arms or their snarky comments to each other.

As much as Mikayla's mother certainly prepared her for life in the shadows, she didn't give her much to look back on in terms of happy memories. With her world being uprooted every time she turned around, she never really had the chance to make friends or just be a normal kid. So when she was forced to spend every minute of her day within arm's distance of a hottie with an attitude, Mikayla was kind of out of her league. But that didn't stop her from staying on the same page as they gradually went from enemies to begrudgingly accepting of each other to lusting after one another like nobody's business. It was a believably smooth transition, and they were definitely hot together. And of course, the good old handcuffs did come in handy from time to time...

With were some clever twists that were kind of expected but still entertaining, I really enjoyed this latest of Jus Accardo's work. Rules of Survival was a sassy, sexy, thrilling read and it gets an enthusiastic thumbs up from this reader!

Quotes:

I started walking right. Shaun went left. We each got about one and a half steps before our arms jerked back, sending us off-balance and colliding into each other.

This wasn't going to end well.... ~p.45

Shaun's eyes widened, and for a minute, he was speechless. It was a nice minute. When his mouth wasn't messing things up, he was serious eye candy. Unfortunately, it didn't last long. ~p. 54

Brutal honesty. Raw and stark. Being around Shaun made my brain malfunction. My secrets were slipping out, and my feelings bled through. It was anarchy and peace all in the same chaotic package, and at that moment, I would have given anything to make it last forever. ~p. 151

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<http://www.autumnreview.com/search/la...>

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## **Jena says**

Gosh, I just LOVED this book! I think this is Jus Accardo's best book yet, she just killed this one! Don't get me wrong, her other books are absolutely fantastic, but this one just takes the cake for me. Rules of Survival is filled with so much thrill, so much action, so much heat and I just couldn't get enough of it!

Mikayla Morgan is such a great character to follow. This girl has been place to place, never settling down and constantly on the run. When your mom was a "criminal" you don't really get much choice in the matter. I admire her strength so much too throughout this book. Kayla is eighteen and already had to deal with the death of her mother, being hunted down like a dog, and dealing with people trying to kidnap or kill her. She's definitely one bad-ass chick!

Then there's Shaun Denver....oh hello hot stuff. I adore when a guy is more than just looks and snark. Shaun has those, and the built arms and the sexy smirk, but he also has so much more behind all of that. He's loyal and protective and fierce and can throw one heck of a punch. I also love how he keeps his promises. I adored watching Kayla and him together and was rooting for them till the very end.

Another thing I loved was how Jus set this book up. She started off with an awesome opening chapter, introduced the important people and then jumped right into the story. That's one thing I adore about all of her books, there's no talking your ear off with back story, no lolly-gagging, just straight into the action and no going back. What I also felt was so great about Rules of Survival is that she revealed just enough and just the right points and I adored every moment.

This book was just all sorts of fantastic. Rules of Survival is just constant speed, constant action and filled with two awesome main characters that light up the book with their chemistry. I could not put this one down and it is definitely a must buy!

Find this review at Shortie Says

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## Stephanie says

This book is prime material for a CW show about teenage bounty hunters. There is decent action, plausible suspense, an interesting back story, a smart heroine, a hero with a lot of swoon potential and a curmudgeon of a mentor. Someone get on this idea. Also make this into a book series too please.

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## Kirstyn says

Being on the run for a murder you didn't commit must be hard; but add in the murder is your mom and I can't imagine what that would be like. That's Kayla's life, and it sucks. When she winds up being caught by bounty hunters Pat and Shaun (!), things start to change up fast!

The action in Rules of Survival is quick; other's have said it's a bit predictable, and it is in spots, but that definitely doesn't take away from the overall story! I definitely didn't see the last half of the book coming; I was too invested in the story by then. Kayla is sarcastic and feisty, she's been by herself for so long, she doesn't want to be around anyone else. Then she gets shackled to Shaun, and it gets interesting! He's learning how to be a bounty hunter, with a lot of baggage. I loved seeing where their story went and how it evolved. I think you'll love him too :)

Overall, great contemporary read! I needed to break up my usual dystopian/sci-fi reading schedule, and this was perfect! I definitely recommend it.

Thank you to Entangled Embrace and NetGalley for providing an e-arc in exchange for an honest review!

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## Nemo says

**For a full and edited review go to: Blame it on the book**

The Rules of Survival took me on a ride! Not only was it suspenseful and thrilling, it was also very sexy. We follow the story of Kayla, whose mother had died and she was being blamed for it.

While trying to clear her name she gets caught by bounty hunters who had been chasing her for years. The only thing Kayla hadn't noticed was the bounty hunter had a new apprentice. Shaun, who was as deadly as he was hot. Not to mention the fact that there are other people trying to kill her.

*"Tricks of the trade?" I snorted. "That's fancy talk for hunting people down like dogs, right?"*

The entire book takes place in barely two days, it's pretty action packed. It was an easy read, and there were a lot of characters but it never got confusing. What did get annoying very quickly was how we kept hearing about how hot Shaun was. Even though she was trying to escape with her life and find evidence of her mother's killer, she had time to mention on every other page that he was extremely attractive

*“I had an overwhelming urge to hit him—or kiss him. I wasn’t sure which. With lips like those, a girl would have to be dead not to notice. Mortal danger or not.”*

Also through a decision made on pure adrenaline Shaun and Kayla were handcuffed together, they were basically handcuffed through out the entire book even though they had many chances to get out of them or break them. Even though it was action packed, don’t be fooled, most of the book is romance with drizzles of suspense and plot twists.

The romance was well written and swoony, if a bit cliché.

*“I saw his resolve breaking apart. Watched the wall crumble, brick by brick, until there was nothing left between us but what we obviously wanted. “*

Shaun was cocky but not so much that produced an eye roll. The same for Kayla, she was confident in her ability to survive as a fugitive but she able to admit she wasn’t the best. Which is good since she got captured two chapters in.

We did get to see the whole backstory to Kayla, which was fun because she had a seriously messed up childhood. Not only was it morally degrading since basically everything she owned was either stolen or bought with stolen money, but her stories were mixed with both bitterness and wistfulness which sounds like an oxymoron but it worked.

**All in all it was a supremely fun read and a great pick for anyone whose looking for a romance that holds a punch.**

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## **Elise ✕ a.k.a Ryder's Pet ✕ says**

*The universe exploded, and for the first time in my life, I was at peace.*

This book was okay. Jus Accardo is one of the best authors out there. Her 'Denazen' series is one of my favorites and i love them, but 'Rules of Survival' just didn't work for me as the other. I guess i had way too high expectations for this book. Probably because 'Denazen' series was so great. But I don't regret reading this one, because it was worth the time. Mikayla Morgan was a great character who was strong and independent and was really, really smart.

*Shaun's eyes widened, and for a minute, he was speechless. It was a nice minute. When his mouth wasn't messing things up, he was serious eye candy. Unfortunately, it didn't last long.*

Shaun Denver was a cute young man, and i liked him. He was sensitive and nice to Kayla and other people but if your his enemy then he'll snap. He like a 'beat the crap out of you' kind of guy. Shaun was almost a schizo, but he just had a painful past and its totally an understandable reaction for him. Kayla and Shaun was adorable together, and i do wish we get more of them :)

*“I meant what I said. I like you. A lot. I want to get to know you...all of you. Every stupid little detail about your life. You don’t have to run anymore. You can give this a chance”*

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## **Lexxie (un)Conventional Bookworms says**

\*I received a free ARC of Rules of Survival from Entangled Embrace via Netgalley in exchange of an honest review\*

Fast-paced, filled with action and some romance, Rules of Survival brought me on a whirlwind trip alongside Mikayla and her rules...

This and all my other reviews are originally posted on my blog **(un)Conventional Bookviews**

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## **Sammy says**

### **4 Handcuffed stars**

Thrill- Action - Fun : Thats exactly what this novel is made up of >>>

This is such a fresh piece of young adult , I loved reading it ...

**Heroine is a runaway girl , part of a fraud yet an innocent , Classic beauty with Brains , follows her mom's set of rules for survival , which is strictly against :**

**1> trusting anyone ... especially Bounty Hunters**

**2> Do not get attached**

**3> falling in love is out of context**

**I really admire her strength so much , and even amidst all the chaos , she is one hell of a fighter. She's definitely one bad-ass chick!**

**Hero is a quirky , arrogant , handsome bounty hunter , some times quite impulsive , yet sweet & caring , & fiercely protective .**

I meant what I said. I like you. A lot. I want to get to know you...all of you. Every stupid little detail about your life. You don’t have to run anymore. You can give this a chance.



The story works in days , but the development in love is so detailed and precised , never felt rushed , progress in their relationship is layer by layer , step by step, not like We saw each other , kissed , fall in love ... that's what i felt was the best part of this story.

Rules of Survival is just constant speed, constant action and filled with two awesome main characters that light up the book with their chemistry. I could not put this one down.

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### **Elodie says**

**He let go and raised our cuffed hands. "This is kinda the best thing that's ever happened to me."**

Finally a romance/thriller novel where I don't guess the whole intrigue within the first few chapters, thank god! Oh aaaad Shaun... Shaun, Shaun, Shaun...

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### **Madiha says**

#### **The real blurb**

If you want to survive, you have to follow the rules...

Mikayla Morgan is wanted for her mother's murder. She's been on the run for almost a year now, avoiding not only the police but the real killer. Tired of running and desperate to clear her name, she breaks one of the most sacred rules: never return to the scene of the crime.

Every bounty hunter on the Eastern Seaboard is after the Morgan girl—but Shaun Denver and his partner snagged her. She's a piece of work, and Shaun can't decide if he wants to kiss her or kill her. When things take a sharp turn south, Shaun does the only thing he can think of to keep her close—he handcuffs them together.

As the danger mounts and the killer closes in, the chemistry between them threatens to explode. Shaun and Kayla will need to break all the rules if they hope to get out of this alive.

#### **My blurb**

Mikayla, the girl who has been on run for the last 18 years of her (18 year old) life, returns to the cabin where her mother was murdered; the murder for which she is a suspect. She carelessly enters the crime scene and is caught by bounty hunters. Shaun , the "hot" hunter ( because what else could he be?? ), shackles her to himself when they are attacked by some unknown people. The couple is then on the run. They try to find the guy who killed Mikayla's mother at the same time trying to learn about the said mother's past...

#### **My thoughts**

I was expecting a fast paced thriller with a nice amount of romance thrown in it. To say that I was disappointed would be an understatement.

Mikayla has been on run since she was born but still she makes a stupid mistake and gets caught. I know it was her first mistake and I should cut her some slack but I won't \*stubborn me crossing my arms\*. She is always like **mum would have been so disappointed in me** because she is always breaking some of her mother's *precious rules* . OMG! If you are so worried about the darn rules then don't break them. And then there is the thing where she thinks herself *SO* smart but is always making some stupid mistake. There was no suspense. I do not consider a book good when you can see the end coming from the first 15 pages or so. The moment Mikayla read her mother's letter, I knew who her father was. I like a good looking hero as much as the next person. But does the author really had to emphasize Shaun's handsome face like 30 times.

I wanted to hit Mikayla on the head after the third time she mentioned the green streak in Shaun's *purty eyes* .

**Rule of Survival** could have been good but *it was not* . I just could not bring myself to like it. A good looking hero and a sizzling chemistry between the MCs is not enough for me to rate a book 4 stars.

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**christine danielle (Bibliophilic Madness) says**

For more reviews and GIVEAWAYS, do check out my blog:

### **Rules of Survival**

Cover: 4

Plot: 5

Characters: 5

**Overall Rating: 5**

**I meant what I said. I like you. A lot. I want to get to know you...all of you. Every stupid little detail about your life. You don't have to run anymore. You can give this a chance.**

**Rules of Survival** was a book filled with action and passion

Mikayla has been on the run for over a year already. Everyone believed she killed her mother but she knows the truth and the true killer is still out there searching for her to finish the job. Being on the run was what she was used to and her mother taught her rules in life in order to survive.

*Never trust anyone and never return to the scene of the crime.*

Every bounty hunter in the east coast has been looking for the Morgan girl and luckily Shaun Denver snagged her.

Mikayla wasn't like most of the female lead characters in action books who has fighting skills like Jackie Chan, she's kind of the opposite. Not that it means she's helpless, she was just the kind of woman who uses her brains instead of her brawns while fighting. Since her mother never wanted her to learn how to fight in fear of Mikayla wanting to stay in the "business" and end up with bigger shit to worry about.

Shawn was the brawns to Mikayla's brains. He exuded dumb jock vibes at the first parts of the book when Mikayla was right and he can't see what was really going on. Though throughout the book he ended up getting much more smarter with his decisions and I really loved what he did for Mikayla in the end.

Great plot filled with action which I love and I am wishing for more from this author!

*Received digital edition from publisher via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review*

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## **Melliane says**

Mon avis en Français

My English review

I heard several times about Jus Accardo but it's true that I never tried one of her books so far. I did not read a lot of New Adult novels, but this book gave me the opportunity to return to the genre and I must say I took a lot of fun with it.

Kayla ran away all her life with her mother without really knowing why. Never staying long in one place and following a bunch of rules established to not get caught. But now it's been a year since her mother was killed, and Kayla is now alone and is still running away from the police who is convinced that she is the killer and from the bounty hunters who want to recover her against money, but she comes back home. Yes, because the young woman knows that her mother left her some information in their old house, and Kayla is determined to clear her name and prove her innocence. However, nothing will be easy and by breaking the first rule, she discovers a letter but loses it when Patrick and Shaun, two bounty hunters who pursued her her entire life, manages to stop her. But they do not seem to be alone in wanting to catch her and when others are ready to bring her dead, the young woman will soon have to find a solution. But by an unfortunate chance, the irresistible Shaun and she are found tied up, and for the first time in her life, she will have to learn to trust someone to discover the truth about her history and her mother's.

From the beginning of the story I understood certain facts which are subsequently confirmed thereafter, but we also have many revelations throughout the novel and I really enjoyed discovering more about Kayla and Shaun. The story of the young woman intrigues us and keeps us in suspense throughout the novel as we want

as much as she to discover the truth. It is difficult to know who she can trust and with the life she had, we understand her distrust. She has a lot of assets in terms of survival and at the same time, we perfectly feel that her solitude weighs on her. But Shaun is also something different. It is quite difficult at the beginning of the story to understand what he really wants. Yes because he always seems arrogant, always explaining how handsome he is, and at the same time there is much more than that. Of course, he is charming, but he will also do anything to help Kayla to find the truth of what happened. They go out together in a mad rush, attached to one another by handcuffs. You can imagine that we will find them very quickly in completely comical situations. Oh yes, because I was surprised that the handcuffs remained throughout the whole story. A nice relationship appears between them then evolves throughout the novel and it is true that it was quite touching to see all that.

Throughout the chapters, we will discover the truth about the Kayla's existence, Shaun's past and the history of the mother of the girl. Everything was really interesting and it's true that I did not put the book before knowing everything. A great surprise for me!

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## **Sharon says**

Review: 4 ½ out of 5 stars

I'm a huge Jus Accardo fan so the moment I saw Rules of Survival on Netgalley it was an auto click! I devoured this book from the moment it arrived on my kindle, I loved the thrill ride we were taken on, the amazing characters and wonderful romance; it was one of those books that I just couldn't put down.

Eighteen year-old, Mikayla Morgan has been on the run for over a year, wanted for her con-artist mother's murder and also by relentless bounty hunters it was go go go right from the beginning.

When Mikayla makes a big blunder by returning to the scene of the crime she ends up snagged by someone her mother had worked with in the past and Shaun Denver, his young partner in training. Shaun was fabulous from his first scene, I adored him and his interactions with Mikayla; he didn't just hand her over but came to trust what she knew and her reactions. Mikayla was also pretty amazing, she knew how to take care of herself and was always one step ahead of everyone else, she wasn't without her faults but she was extremely likeable. All of the secondary characters play a pivotal role in the overall story; some were nice enough but others you wouldn't want to know.

The plot moved at a steady pace, I enjoyed the overall mystery and was keen to know who was after Mikayla and the reasoning behind it all and although some parts I found to be predictable it was entertaining getting to the big reveal. There were some twists I wasn't expecting and the action sequences were done well and kept me flipping the pages wanting to know more.

Rules of Survival was a non-stop thrill ride filled with intrigue, suspense, romance and amazing characters that ooze chemistry; Jus Accardo never fails to entertain with her wonderful writing and witty dialogue, she's definitely an auto-buy author for me.

Highly recommended for fans of Jus Accardo and of light-hearted romantic suspense.

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