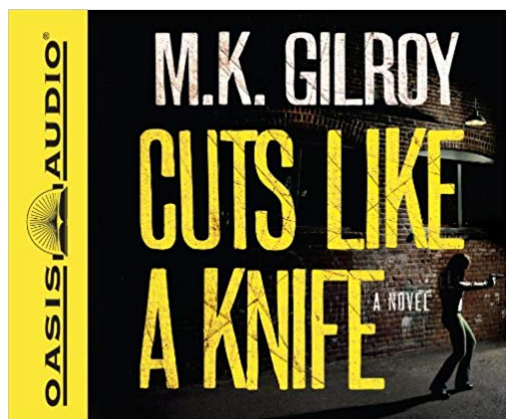


Cuts Like a Knife by M.K. Gilroy, Coleen Marlo



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Kristen Conner goes undercover to catch a serial killer who chooses his victims in the most unlikely of places... only to discover she is his new target. Chicago has a new resident: a soulless killer on a decade-long murder spree. When a young woman is found dead in her fashionable townhome, the FBI is convinced an elusive, organized killer is at work again—a man the local press has dubbed the Cutter Shark. Detective Kristen Conner is a good cop and tough as they come—but she's never faced an adversary like this. Her life is centered on faith and family: she coaches her niece's soccer team, always shows up hungry for family dinner, and only misses church when fighting with her mom and glamorous TV news reporter sister—or when hunting a desperate criminal before he strikes again. From the opening chase that brings Kristen to knifepoint in a dark alley, to the concluding moments when she comes face-to-face with the hauntingly familiar serial killer, *Cuts Like a Knife* is loaded with action, suspense, humor, and wry introspection through the voice of its irresistible lead character



Reviews of the **Cuts Like a Knife** by M.K. Gilroy, Coleen Marlo

Peras

This is a great book. Here's what is great about it:

1. pacing is slow but steady. It give the reader a chance to digest what is going on, who everyone is, how everyone is connected. The story is not rushed at all. It just naturally unfolds.
2. the writing is easy to read and follow. There isn't a lot of jumping around, except for the main character who is quite ADD. "Focus."
3. the storyline is believable and plausible. It all makes sense. And the whodunnit isn't obvious!
4. the sequel is not a necessary read. It's a "I want to read more because I like the characters and I am now invested in what happens to them." There are a few unfinished story points that would be nice to have a resolution.
5. the female character is not annoying, not overly strong, not overly dumb, no overly anything. She's just a normal woman who is a Chicago Police Detective with a normal family. Refreshing!

I found the book hard to put down. The short chapters were helpful. The mixing up of storytelling between three characters was a good balance. I am eager to read on!

Vozilkree

When first starting this book something felt very out of place. First of all, it is definitely a slow starter (but the pace picks up later in the book). It also seems like it's going to be too creepy (too bloody) for some Christian readers but that levels off as well. What I couldn't figure out was why I was having so much difficulty getting into the skin of the protagonist. Kristen seemed likable, a little jaded and sarcastic but not objectionably so, but I was having trouble feeling the kinship. Then I discovered that M.K. Gilroy is male and I think he had some difficulty getting into his character's skin at first so the early portions of the book seem a little stilted. However, fortunately, either this reader adjusted or Mr. Gilroy did and Kristen settles in nicely after about the first fourth or so of the story. I thought the ending a little anticlimactic. I thought too much was given away in the latter chapters of the book and it would have made a much better read if the true identity of the killer (and his relationships to others in the story) were kept secret until closer to the end. But, all in all, a good read, especially for the Kindle price. I have purchased the second so how bad could the first have been, right?

Jazu

Kristen Conner has anger issues; just ask her family and friends! She is a detective with the Chicago Police Department, lives alone and goes to church. Now, she has been assigned a new case. There has been a grisly murder of a woman by means of a knife. The manner of the murder has alerted the FBI, which then sends a task force to work in conjunction with the Chicago Police Department. This may be the work of a serial killer who has used the same method of murder in several other cities, then goes underground for a little while and pops back up in another city months or even years later. Chicago could be the sixth city where the killer has struck. Another body is soon discovered killed in the same manner. Another thing in common in all the murders is that the killer never leaves any evidence, so the task force has very little to investigate.

As the pressure to solve the case mounts, Kristen's anger and keeping herself at a distance from others increases. She spends all her time working the case, trying to catch the killer. Her love life takes a down turn, but she doesn't seem too upset by this. She has no time for a relationship right

now, even though she is quickly approaching thirty as her family points out. As the killer continues to evade the police, Kristen discovers a clue that might solve the case.

I really liked this character. She has a great sense of humor and is grounded in her faith. She is a gritty, sometimes in-your-face person who is also well-versed in defending herself the old school way...with her fists. She will do anything to protect her family and pushes her bosses to the limit by ignoring their orders. Her father was on the Chicago police force and she feels honored to follow in his footsteps. The story is full of action, tension, loyalty, family devotion and much more. Kristen will make you laugh and sometimes make you cringe at some of her more direct comments or observations. I can't wait to read book two in the series, Every Breath You Take.

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