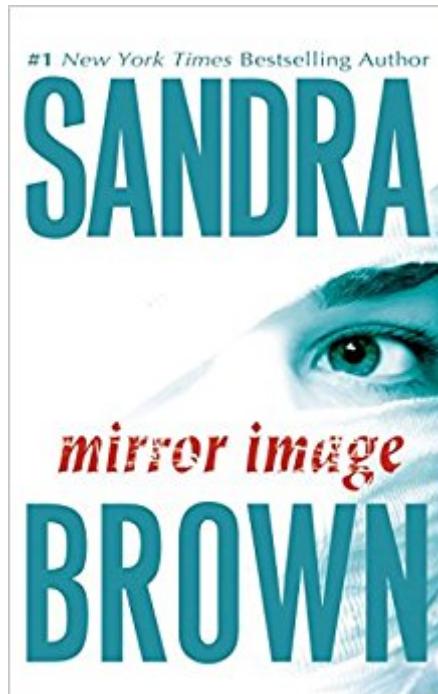


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# Mirror Image



## **Synopsis**

The crash of a Dallas-bound jet wasn't just a tragedy to TV reporter Avery Daniels; it was an act of fate that handed her a golden opportunity to further her career. Mistaken for a glamorous, selfish woman named Carole Rutledge, the badly injured Avery would find that plastic surgery had given her Carole's face, the famous senatorial candidate for a husband, and a powerful Texas dynasty for in-laws. And as she lay helpless in the hospital, she would make a shattering discovery: someone close to the senator planned to assassinate him. Now, to save the life of the man she loved, Avery must live another woman's life and risk her own. |

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

"Sandra Brown is a master at weaving a story of suspense into a tight web that catches and holds the reader from the first page to the last." • Library Journal "Author Sandra Brown proves herself top-notch." • Associated Press

The crash of a Dallas-bound jet wasn't just a tragedy to TV reporter Avery Daniels; it was an act of fate that handed her a golden opportunity to further her career. Mistaken for a glamorous, selfish woman named Carole Rutledge, the badly injured Avery would find that plastic surgery had given her Carole's face, the famous senatorial candidate Tate Rutledge for a husband, and a powerful Texas dynasty for in-laws. And as she lay helpless in the hospital, she would make a shattering discovery: Someone close to Tate planned to assassinate him. Now, to save Tate's life, Avery must live another woman's life -- and risk her own... --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable

edition of this title.

I recently went on a Sandra Brown binge and read several of her novels in a row while I was on vacation. I literally needed something that was engrossing but not challenging to read on the beach. Most of the novels fit the bill perfectly -- she follows something of a formula with every story sharing similar plot elements and character types (which is particularly glaring when read back to back) but that's OK because she does it well. However, when I got to this one, I have to say I was incredibly disappointed. While some of Ms. Brown's plots are far-fetched, she usually does a good job getting the reader to suspend the necessary disbelief. Not so in this case. Not only is the premise preposterous, the character motivations are naive, silly and completely asinine. I do not like the main character at all -- she is annoying and stupid. Not at all like the strong, intelligent women that usually populate Ms. Brown's novels. I just can't get my head around this plot at all -- sure it's intriguing, but I don't buy it and it's ruined my enjoyment of the novel.

Definitely not as clean or elegant as Ms. Brown's later writing. But 'meh' aside, I kept telling myself to put it down but then I'd read a little more. What the story lacked in finesse, it gifted in suspense and secondary characters, which are treat. Brown is still a favorite even if the 'style' of Mirror Image seemed a bit dated.

I'm not a huge Sandra Brown fan, but this book was great. I don't usually like the super lovey romancey type novels, but this one had plenty of mystery and suspense to spare, and it was amazingly very well embedded in a super sweet and totally (pretty much anyway) believable love story. So, I got my suspense fix, and a little warm and fuzzy thrown in there too. All in all, it was a good read. I didn't actually know that this was a super old book -- nor did I notice, my sister pointed that out to me. The details in the story don't give the age away at all, like the lack of technology, etc, usually does....it's an almost timeless book. I'll definitely be looking for more of her books!

Imagine that two young and similar looking lovely women, one with her daughter, board a plane and sit in the same row. The mother, Carole takes the window seat that was meant for the other woman, with the child in the centre seat. The plane crashes and the other woman, Avery, saves the child but the mother is killed and burnt beyond recognition. Sounds reasonable so far? The surviving woman is badly burnt, can't talk or move because she is totally bandaged except one eye. The husband, Tate, an aspiring US senate candidate, finds a plastic surgeon who tells him he can recreate her

burnt and disfigured face back to her normal looks in one operation. Despite an impending breakdown in his marriage he stays near her during her recovery. Does that seem reasonable? While she is incapacitated Avery is visited by an unknown family member who whispers in her ear that their plans to kill Tate on election day are unaltered. Avery is very scared as she has become attached to Tate during her recovery. Does that seem reasonable? After she recovers, Avery is immediately accepted by all of the extended family as Carole, Tate's bitchy and promiscuous wife. Tate also accepts her as Carole, despite a huge change in her character and many obvious discrepancies. Despite this his caring time ends when he tells her that the marriage is still over as soon as the election is held. Does that seem reasonable or just plain implausible? While IMHO the plot was just plain implausible, Sandra Brown's writing skills made a ridiculous plot readable and enjoyable. It was only these skills that kept my star rating at the OK level. This is one of Brown's early works (1990) that are now being released on Kindle for the first time.

I really like most of Sandra Brown's books, and I liked this one only okay. It takes a stretch of your imagination to believe that no one in the Rutledge family realized eventually that the lady they knew as Carole was not really Carole. If you can get past that, you will enjoy the story. Other reviews have gone into the plot, so I won't go into it much other than to say that once her true identity is revealed and it turns out that Tate's wife Carole was the person killed in the plane crash and that his "wife" is really Avery Daniels, it fails to explain how that will affect the child, Mandy. Mandy was on the plane with her mother and had a really bad time getting over the trauma of the crash. So will they ever tell her that her real mother died and the mother she believes is her mother is someone else, who had masqueraded as her mother? That opens up such a can of worms that it is hard to go there. As I said, the plotline takes stretching your imagination. There are other places where it does not seem true, which is why I say I liked the book only okay. But true Sandra Brown lovers will probably love this one.

I just recently started reading Sandra Brown suspense novels...been a suspense book fan for years and can't believe I was missing out on some great books. I couldn't put this one down...even stayed up late at night reading it and read it on my lunch break. She keeps you on your toes and has you scratching your head trying to figure out who the unsub is. AWESOME BOOK!

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