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# Hidden Threat



## Synopsis

An environmental crisis is the last thing clean-water crusader Eve Jackson expected in her hometown. She's used to taking on powerful DC politicians in her fight, but when a baby in Safe Harbor, Florida, shows mysterious signs of possible poisoning, the danger hits painfully close to home, stirring memories of her own mother's death. Eve's search leads her to the Sutton Ranch, now run by her high school crush, Cole. Focused on keeping the family business afloat as a series of deformed calves are born to his herd, Cole has no time for Eve's crusade. But as her unwelcome questioning ostracizes her from locals, Cole's irritation turns to intrigue about the source of the poisoned water and the tenacious, loyal, and passionate woman determined to help. As Eve digs deeper into Cole's operation, she sees her suspicion of Sutton Ranch may be misplaced. Yet she can't shake the feeling that his ranch, and perhaps his past, hold the answers she seeks. When the sabotage escalates, the two must work together to uncover the culprit if they can survive the investigation.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The setting here is unusual and intriguing- an eastern western set on a Florida ranch. With a luscious cowboy hero. Cole Sutton is everything a cowboy should be, smart, caring, a horse-whisperer sort gentle with his cows. Yet he struggles with a difficult childhood and troubled teen age. Coming home to Safe Harbor brings hope for his future, especially when he is reunited with Eve, now a top investigator for a DC environmental protections firm....Eve Jackson is knowledgeable and confident but with demons of her own. She settles in to investigate a poisoned baby but has no intention of settling back home for good. The suspense is good, while Eve and Cole try to find the source of contaminated water, with lots of reliable suspects and exciting moments, including shootouts and a wildfire, and the entire family about to meet their doom..... Which bring me to a couple of thoughts that took me out of the story on quite a few occasions: Eve seems to have many reckless moments and a few "Nancy Drew" amateur ones. Kinda hard to buy since she is a respected professional. And her extended family and their backstories seem to be there only as part of a series either already started or about to continue. I just got confused with so many of them and their "stuff." I honestly expected something more from Sasha finding her long-lost aunt! May be just me, though. All that aside, I enjoyed the Martinelli shenanigans enough for four stars, and recommend this as a fine summertime read!

I'm so happy that romantic-suspense author Connie Mann takes us back to the Florida town and the endearing Martinelli family that she introduced in Safe Harbor Book #1: TANGLED LIES but you don't have to have read the first book in this series to enjoy the second. HIDDEN THREAT features another of the Martinelli's former foster children, environmentalist Eve Jackson, who is living in D.C. at the start of the story. She's passionate about her work because of something from her childhood that will cause you to empathize with her. She returns to Safe Harbor because she is driven to uncover what happened to a sick child and who is responsible. Eve's investigation is full of danger, suspense, a complicated but irresistible sweet romance, and the dynamics of a loving but imperfect family. The story also has a bit of the Florida brand of southern, including a cattle ranch and a handsome cowboy with his own complex past. I wholeheartedly recommend this novel!

Hidden Threat is the second book in a series based in Safe Harbor, Florida. In the first book, we

learned about Sasha. This book is her sister Eve's story. I won't retell the story because the description (from the back of the book) does a fantastic job. Connie Mann once again spins an edge-of-your-seat, blow-to-the-gut story that masterfully entwines people and details without giving away the twists, all while encompassing what it means to be family, biological or chosen. She blends the first book into this story to keep the family members interactive, yet in such a way that Hidden Threat could be read on its own. All of the characters are unique and powerful - and real with their imperfections and idiosyncrasies. Eve's story shows how willing one person will go to stand up for what's right and just, regardless of the personal sacrifices those actions may cause. Connie Mann gives a hard look at issues that dissuade people from standing up for what they believe, and she also does a tremendous job showing the rewards when you fight through the strife and defend your ideals. I highly recommend that you meet Eve. Enjoy the roller coaster as you cheer for her, cry for her, and look for a baseball bat to give her a hand. Connie Mann is an author that doesn't pull punches with her suspense "or her ability to make you connect with the residents of Safe Harbor.

I have read several of Connie's books and always enjoyed them. I read the first book in this series "Tangled Lies" and was hoping there would be more to the story of the Martinelli's. This is her second book in the Safe Harbor trilogy and I pre-ordered this book so I would receive it as soon as it was released. I was not disappointed. The first book, Tangled Lies, was about Sasha. This book is about Eve her environmentalist sister living in DC. Eve returns home because she is in a difficult situation at work and her mamma needs her. The setting is the fictional town of Safe Harbor, Florida, a western style ranch set in the middle of Florida. Happy setting for a Texas girl! Connie's characters are very likable and you are easily drawn into the drama surrounding their lives. I am really looking forward to the third book in this series about sister Cat. Can't wait!!

Eve Jackson travels to her home town, and back into the arms of her high school crush, Cole Sutton. While investigating what caused a local child's illness, she uncovers a festering grudge that endangers all she holds dear. Eve is used to fighting her own battles, but in Cole, she finds the hero she's unknowingly been waiting for. Together, they face danger head on, on the road to happy ever after!

I received a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review. The premise of the book sounded good and I wanted to like it. I just couldn't get past the cheesy and cliché writing.

Perhaps others will enjoy it. I just couldn't and didn't want to waste my time on it after the first couple chapters.

Of Safe Harbor then seems reasonable. But it makes for great suspense and a good love story . Throw in the subject of grace for just about everyone in the story, and a great tale.

I don't think I have read this author before but know I will read more. This was a very good book. All about family.

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