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your next book

LoveReading Reader reviews of **Killing Ways** by Alex Barclay

Below are the complete reviews, written by LoveReading members.

Glenda Worth

What a book! I couldn't put it down and finished it in two days. Ren is bi-polar and a detective taking on a serial killer who is making it personal.

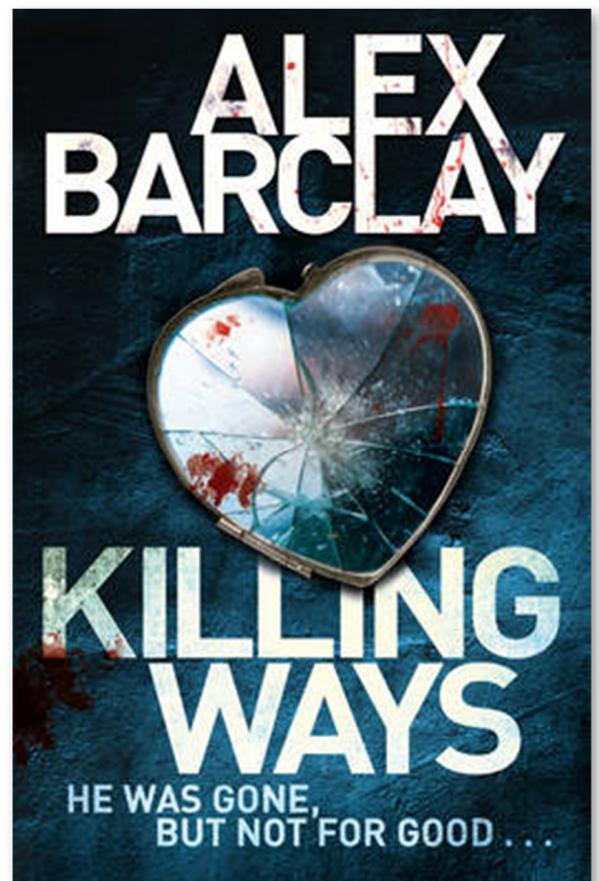
Ren is bi-polar and off her meds. She is having problems in her personal life due in part to her not taking her medication and seems to lurch towards other men even though she has a boyfriend.

Ren is a detective in charge of the case of a serial killer who is making things personal with her. The killer changes his tactics and boundaries depending on circumstances and is always one step ahead it seems. Her workmates are worried about her obsession with the murderer not knowing whether it's a result of her being off her meds, and she is sent to the psychologist at regular intervals where she lies through her teeth.

One victim changes everything and Joe is called in who is also on a personal vendetta as his wife was destroyed by the same man. Together they race against time before too many more victims are found and not wanting it to be either of them or their family/friends.

A tense ending with a twist which leaves you wondering whether there will be a sequel.....

 HarperCollins Publishers



Phyllippa Smithson

I was totally hooked on this incredible page-turner. Ruthless and totally shocking as much of the content was, I loved Killing Ways.

FBI Special Agent Ren Bryce does not believe in playing her job by the rule book. However, such is her reputation for total dedication to meeting the goal of Safe Streets (her employer), her boss, Gary and her team give her the space she feels she needs. That is until she eventually is able to convince Gary that a series of disturbing murders are actually being committed by one individual. Then those around her start placing demands aimed at keeping her safe because she very definitely is not. However, their attention is interpreted by Ren as simply serving to compromise the investigation. And then it's all about time – will Ren be able to escape the 'rule book' demands to track down the serial killer or will the serial killer strike his ultimate victim before she can succeed.

One of the most face-paced thrillers I have read for an age. It is to Barclay's credit that she deflects the horror of the violence associated with each of the murders by allowing us into Ren's mind and witness what she is thinking. All too often her thoughts are full of humour and off-the-cuff expressions. Very clever and sure helped me to cope with the gruesomeness of the crimes.

I will definitely be reading more of Barclay's work if this is her standard.

Hannah Ward

*I was lucky enough to get an advanced copy of this book from Lovereading, I want to say thank you as I really enjoyed this book. **I was hooked from the first chapter, it is a bit gruesome but the detail in the story is so brilliant, I couldn't stop reading.** Reading about all the characters gives you a much better insight into their lives and there is so much description, the author must have done lots of research. I am going to read another of Alex Barclay's books as I really did enjoy this one.*

<http://echoesinanemptyroom.com/2015/11/19/killing-ways-by-alex-barclay/>

Suzanne Marsh

If any of you readers haven't discovered Alex Barclay it is time to jump on the bandwagon. With Christmas approaching us why not put it on your Christmas list. This crime story has characters that make you get excited about crime

fiction.

Special Agent Ren Bryce and Agent King are members of the Rocky Mountain Safe Streets Task Force. But are the streets safe?

Jonathan Briar, fiancée Hope Coulson is missing. He loved Hope and he always had from when he was just nine-years-old. Ren noticed blood in Jonathan's living room. How did Hope's blood get there? Hope was last seen alone leaving the Good Shepherd church at eight thirty P.M.

*Alex Barclay has great writing skills by all high standards as he adds in a dangerous and disturbed brutal rapist, a serial killer, an animal and a psychopath in its truest form. **Killing Ways by Alex Barclay is a sheer brilliant novel!***

www.ireadnovels.wordpress.com

Janet Gilliard

***This book grabbed me from the first page and didn't let go.** I read it in a weekend. Ren Bryce is a flawed heroine embracing her bipolar disease whilst searching for a serial killer. The body count mounts with no clue as to the killer until a detective whose life was destroyed by the killer joins the hunt. Highly recommended. Not for the faint hearted!*

Angie Rhodes

Once again, Alex Barclay has written a thriller which will have you locking the doors and closing the curtains.

FBI Special Agent Ren Bryce, is on a slippery slope, drinking and partying far too much, good at her job, but living close to the edge.

Now she has the sickest case to solve, and time is running out.

There's a serial killer, great at evasion and he enjoys playing games, taunting his victims, playing sick mind games, before killing them, leaving their bodies battered and abused, thinking he won't get caught. But he hasn't bet on Ren, and every victim he leaves, makes her hate him more and she is determined to get him, but will come at a price?

After reading this, I made sure I had my front door key ready, to get in my home. Don't read it late at night. Marks out of ten? Ten!!

Edel Waugh

*When one by one the bodies of women are found dead with horrific atrocities done to them, Ren and her team are doing everything they can to find out who this monster is that is committing these heinous acts. **The story had me horrified yet glued to the page as the tension built and the numbers of the dead rise , those investigating it are getting more stressed out and it all combined makes this a real adrenaline ride.** This killer manages to find new and more horrible ways to kill his victims making this book hard to put down as I needed to find out who he was and why he was doing it and what the officers were going to do to stop him! I loved how we gradually got insight into his past and how by the end it all came together to show us the complete story from his life as a child to adulthood.*

<http://edelwaugh.blogspot.com>

Emily Wright

With graphic violence, plenty of swearing and blood curdling murders, ‘Killing Ways’ is a powerful and addictive thriller.

A psychopath is hunting, raping and murdering women. FBI Special Agent Ren Bryce is leading the investigation. Ren knows she must stay focused; she’s stopped taking the medication which manages her Bipolar disorder so, fuelled by alcohol and mania, Ren feels indestructible. As the body count rises, with each subsequent victim bearing witness to increasingly horrifying deaths, Ren’s personal life spirals further out of control. Ren must battle her own state of mind whilst fighting a serial killer with a vendetta against law enforcement. The case could easily cost Ren her sanity, or her life...

The author’s writing style drew me in and kept me hooked, compelling me to continue. Alex Barclay introduces each murder victim with a short snapshot of daily life before their murder. This gives the victims humanity, whilst at the same time increasing my sense of foreboding.

The lead character, Ren Bryce, made the book for me. My sister has Bipolar, so Ren’s inner thoughts rang scarily true. Ren is chaotic, frustrating, a workaholic, determined, strong, vulnerable, loyal and above all eminently likeable. Ren’s dry humour provided a welcome relief from the savagery of the murders. She’s a firecracker; I found myself rooting for her every step of the way.

*‘Killing Ways’ could easily keep you up at night, **if you’re like me you won’t***

want to stop reading until you've reached the novel's heart stopping conclusion.