

Book Review: April 2007
by Kathi Isserman (reviewer at JAW)



Flight Risk

Kim Baldwin
ISBN: 978-1-933110-68-4
Trade paper, 296 pp, \$15.95
February, 2007
Lesbian Romantic Intrigue
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Nann Dunne
Editor-in-Chief
& Publisher

With each new book Kim Baldwin improves her craft and her storytelling. *Flight Risk*, her newest novel, has heated action and vibrant depictions that make the reader feel as though she is right in the middle of the story. The author sustains the heightened suspense throughout the book, keeping our heart racing.

Travel agent Blayne Keller witnesses a mob hit, and the mafia is trying to eliminate her so she will not testify. The local FBI in Chicago is charged with shielding her until she goes into the witness protection program, but there is a leak somewhere on the inside, and Blayne's life is clearly in danger. Beautiful elusive Alexi Nikolos, a WITSEC inspector, comes out of forced retirement to protect Blayne. Their first meeting is under unusual circumstances when the airplane they are both traveling on has a bomb on board that blows a big hole in the side. This event really kicks the novel into high gear.

Flight Risk is fast moving with crisp dialogue and effective use of the characters' thoughts and emotions, and this reviewer could not put the book down. The author definitely did her background research because the criminal procedures are authentic and believable. As an added bonus, Baldwin builds sexual tension between the two main protagonists, but since Alexi takes her job of protecting Blayne seriously, we are kept on edge for most of the book. Baldwin, not known for highly erotic scenes in her romances, does an excellent job of engaging all of the reader's senses with minimal graphic language.

Baldwin outdid herself with *Flight Risk*. In this reviewer's opinion, it is her best storytelling to date. I highly recommend this thrilling story.

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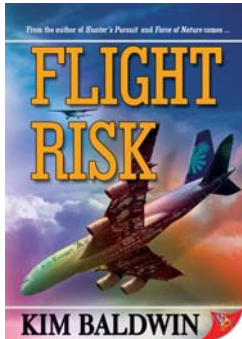
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Book Review: May 2007

by Cheri Rosenberg (reviewer at MBR & JAW)



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Lesbian Romantic Thriller

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James A. Cox

Editor-in-Chief

Kim Baldwin's fourth action-packed novel, *Flight Risk*, is a suspense and romance lover's dream. Blayne Keller and Alexi Nikolos are formidable opponents at first but their undeniable attraction, even under incredible circumstances, doesn't diminish one's hope for them to become allies, to survive against all odds, and to let love bloom.

Blayne works as a travel agent in her close friend Claudia's family business. She fantasizes about saving enough money and getting away from Chicago for a South Pacific adventure in the Fiji Islands. A petite thirty-year-old, Blayne is feisty, independent, outspoken, and a stubborn redhead. When she inadvertently witnesses a murder, Blayne has to be gutsy if she's going to live through testifying against the boss of a major crime family. Entering WITSEC, the Federal Witness Protection Program, and permanently relocating and leaving her friends is not the vacation she has in mind when she finds herself running for her life.

Blayne and Alexi form an instant connection with just one look, but with all that Blayne has endured up until then, it's understandable that the witness is suspicious of everyone, even Alexi, an Inspector with WITSEC, that she meets in her travels.

A commanding presence at only 5'6" tall, Alexi is confident, smart, sexy, and considered by many to be infuriatingly complex and controlling. She doesn't allow romance and relationships to get in the way of her job or her sexual dalliances. At least, not until she meets Blayne. If anyone can penetrate Alexi's cast-iron exterior, maybe Blayne can. Blayne does her best to entice the inspector to no avail but the sexual tension between them is thick because Alexi doesn't give easily in to temptation. "Damn. Damn. Damn. Blayne sucked in several deep breaths in an effort to dispel the anger and frustration coiling low in her belly. She did it again. I swear to God that woman is going to make me implode if she keeps this up" (p. 195). This is one of Baldwin's cliffhanger chapter endings, which increases the tension, not only making it impossible to stop reading (and you'll have to read the book to get the full effect), but also making the rewards of the wait that much sweeter.

Hunter's Pursuit will always be special, but *Flight Risk* proves that this author is not a one-hit wonder. Baldwin balances action plot with romance. Her characters are rich and unique and each has a distinct 'voice', often rendering dialogue tags superfluous when distinguishing between Alexi and Blayne, yet Baldwin employs its use when appropriate.

It's a pleasure following Baldwin's career from *Hunter's Pursuit*, through the riveting adventures *Force of Nature* and *Whitewater Rendezvous* to *Flight Risk*. Her gift for writing action amidst romance becomes more evident with each endeavor and this reviewer looks forward to future projects penned by this fine author. *Flight Risk* is popular lesbian fiction at its best—it's exciting, hot, and satisfying with a few surprises. Pick up a copy today. *Focus of Desire* is coming in October 2007.

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