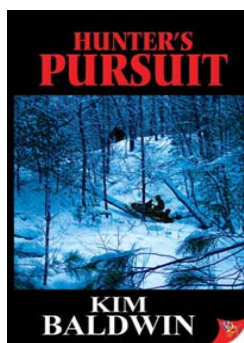


Book Review: April 2005

by Arlene Germain (reviewer at Outlook Press)



Hunter's Pursuit

Kim Baldwin

ISBN: 1-933110-09-0

Trade paper, 320 pp, \$15.95

March, 2005

Lesbian Romance/Intrigue

Bold Strokes Books, Inc.

www.boldstrokesbooks.com

Outlook Press

Web site:

www.outlookpress.com

Kim Baldwin's novel, *Hunter's Pursuit, Author's Edition*, is set during a raging blizzard in the northern Michigan wilderness just a few miles south of Lake Superior. Living in a secluded bunker is Kat Hunter, an introspective, solitary, and lethal woman who is contemplating retirement from her job as a paid assassin. Determined to bury the past, she has forsaken her violent world and former associates. However, her tranquil days of music and photography are interrupted when she rescues a mysterious woman from a serious car accident. Upon bringing the woman back to the bunker, Kat discovers that the woman has no recollection of who she is. To further complicate the situation, there are several nefarious and ruthless people who are doggedly pursuing Kat for the million-dollar dead-or-alive bounty which has been offered by the one individual who knows Kat all too well. As the storm rages outside her hideaway, Kat will be tested as never before, and along the way, she will awaken feelings she thought were long dead.

Baldwin has created a gripping, fast-paced, and suspenseful wilderness adventure that reads easily and enjoyably. The two main characters, Kat and the injured amnesiac, *Jake*, are intelligent and appealing. The deft characterization displays the multi-faceted personality of the charismatic protagonist, Kat. As the reader begins to peel away each layer and proceeds to uncover the events that have molded Kat into the woman she has become, the reader is subtly made aware that nothing should be taken at face value. *Jake* is a character that immediately evokes one's concern and sympathy, yet Baldwin always manages to keep the presence of mystery and inscrutability in the forefront. Is *Jake* who she appears to be? Could she be a ruse perpetrated by Kat's enemies? Does she know Kat's Achilles' heel? Baldwin has indeed created memorably inventive and compelling characters. In the hands of an author with a less stylized technique, Kat could have come across as an extremely unsympathetic character who had committed despicable acts. However, through the use of fluid substantive dialogue and an impressive narrative depicting the inner conflicts of this main character, Baldwin has succeeded in creating a very realistic portrayal of a woman who displays, despite all odds, an intrinsic decency and compassion. It is for those very reasons that the reader genuinely cares for and about her.

This novel has some of the best action sequences this reader has experienced. They are animated, vigorous, and exciting. The reader can virtually experience the sensory world of the somber winter and its uninhabited forest. Baldwin's fast-paced sentence structure effortlessly sweeps the reader along at practically breakneck speed. The chapter endings make wonderful use of the familiar cliffhanger technique. Baldwin's chapter conclusions are extremely precise and definitely suspenseful. The juxtaposition of various plotlines, the evolving focal points of reader interest, and the realistic dialogue hurtle the reader forward at an ever increasing rate. *Hunter's Pursuit* is most definitely a *page turner*.

Kim Baldwin's novel, *Hunter's Pursuit, Author's Edition*, takes the reader on a dangerous, heart-pounding rollercoaster ride brimming with intrigue, betrayal, deliverance, passion, and ultimately, self-less love. From the stark setting to the character of the anti-heroine to the possibilities of redemption, Baldwin has managed to write a novel which is memorable not only for its energetic detail but also for its appealing and perceptive portrayal of a woman conditioned, but not held captive, by her past.

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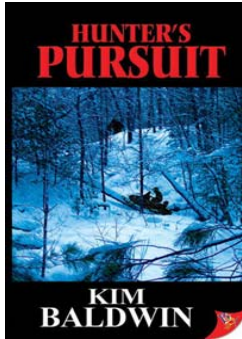
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Book Review: May 2005

by Richard Labonte (reviewer at Q Syndicate)



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Q Syndicate

Book Marks

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Richard Labonte

Hunter's Pursuit is a "... fierce first novel, an action-packed thriller pitting deadly professional killers against each other. Baldwin's fast-paced plot comes ... leavened, as every intelligent adventure novel's excesses ought to be, with some lovin'. Even as she fends off her killers, Kat finds the woman she wants by her side - and in her bed."

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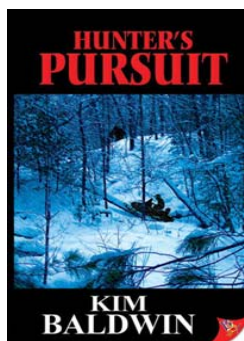
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Book Review: 2005

by R. Lynn Watson (reviewer at MegaScene)



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Bob Hoven

Editor-in-Chief & Publisher

"A riveting novel of suspense" seems to be a very overworked phrase. However, it is extremely apt when discussing Kim Baldwin's *Hunter's Pursuit*. Hunter, AKA Katarzyna Demetrious, or Kat, is a bounty hunter. With a million dollar price on her head, she has gone into hiding in her remote bunker home in northern Michigan. While out deer hunting, she sees a car leave the road below and turn over.

In an action that is out of character for her, Kat rescues the woman trapped inside. Kat knows that there are two takers for the million dollars: an old colleague named "Otter" and an unknown woman. As Kat cares for the woman she's rescued, she realizes she may be caring for, and beginning to care about, the mysterious woman who is tracking her.

Hunter's Pursuit is an exciting page turner. Just when you think Hunter is out of danger, something, or someone, new pops up. The setting alone is dramatic; the earth shelter bunker Hunter created is seemingly impenetrable. She has everything she needs, with security cameras, food, and electricity. And yet. . .I won't spoil your read. Look for this excellent novel of suspense...

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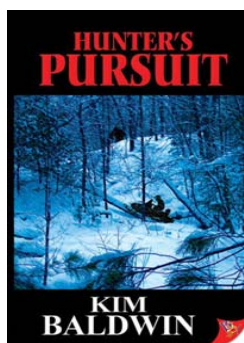
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Book Review: June 2005

by Cheri Rosenberg (reviewer at [JAW](#))



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Just About Write

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Nann Dunne
Editor-in-Chief
& Publisher

Hunter's Pursuit by Kim Baldwin will keep you on the edge of your seat every step of the way. Readers who enjoy action, adventure, intrigue, and a delightfully budding romance will find *Hunter's Pursuit* every bit as thrilling as *Terminator*. But instead of Arnold Schwarzenegger, Baldwin gives us Katarzyna Demetrious, alias Hunter, a mean, lean fighting machine! Hunter is a memorable and appealing heroine even though she is a trained killer, hired gun, and bounty hunter. The tables are turned however, when she learns there's a contract out on her. She's no longer the hunter. She is now the hunted.

Hunter is holed up in her secluded bunker a few miles south of the Lake Superior shoreline. Usually a loner, she never allows intimacy to cloud her judgment. On one of her first outings from the safe house, Hunter witnesses a car accident and is torn whether or not to get involved...Against her better judgment, she opts to save the victim, and takes the young woman back to her bunker. Although she suspects the mystery woman may be after the bounty on her head, Hunter can't ignore her feelings for the beautiful 'patient.'

Clever surprises and suspenseful drama resonate on each page, setting the wheels in motion for an exciting ride. Action sequences fire rapidly in succession leaving the reader breathless. The total effect will have you riveted to Kim Baldwin's book. Once you pick up *Hunter's Pursuit*, there is no putting it down. Each character is fleshed-out in detail, the dialogue is snappy, and you can't help but root for Kat and Jake to make it out of the hiding place unscathed, alive, and in love. *Hunter's Pursuit* by Kim Baldwin has been nominated for a Golden Crown Literary Society Award for 2005 and deservedly so. It is a truly fascinating, five star, entertaining read in one of the best action/adventure/mystery novels I've read this year. Don't miss it! I have added Kim Baldwin to my list of favorite authors. I am looking forward to reading her new romance novel, *Force of Nature*, and anything else penned by this talented novelist.

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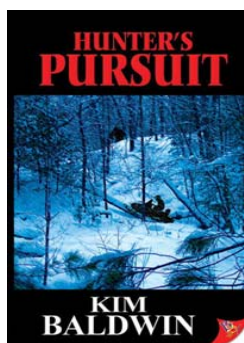
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James A. Cox

Editor-in-Chief

Hidden away in an icy fortress, in a snow-encrusted bunker dug deep into a hillside in the Michigan woods, Kat "Hunter" Demitrious waits. Now in her mid-30s, she has been taking time to reflect upon all the havoc she has wreaked in her career as a hired assassin and bounty hunter. She has committed a lot of reprehensible acts—done things that few people would ever forgive, least of all herself. Even after having walked away five years earlier from her violent life, she is still in danger because someone—most likely her former employer—has put out a million-dollar contract on her life. So Hunter is not safe at all, and her life is suddenly in grave danger when she is out in the woods deer hunting one day, and her newfound compassion causes her to stop on a lonely road and help a car crash victim who turns out to have been traveling in a stolen car.

The woman Hunter takes in "looked to be about twenty-five, ten years younger than Hunter, and she was probably quite attractive, but it was hard to tell for sure at the moment. Bandages hid much of her face and the areas that were exposed were puffy and bruised. Her nose had been broken, blackening both eyes, and there was a small lump behind one ear. Her shoulder-length blond hair was matted with dried blood, and a three-inch gash on her forehead had been closed with several neat stitches of dental floss. Her left arm was set with a makeshift splint, her left knee was wrapped in an Ace bandage and her rib cage had been tightly taped" (p. 11).

"Jake" finds herself in that beat-up situation when she wakes up in a dark place, attended by a strange woman, and unable to remember her name or how she came there. She cannot recall anything about her past, but she feels certain she knows Hunter, who is in turn quite sure she has never met Jake. The injured woman's certainty that she recognizes Hunter seems to furnish proof that Jake is the bounty hunter gunning for her, and this makes things difficult because in the scant amount of time the two women spend together, an attraction catches hold and sparks begin to fly.

But *HUNTER'S PURSUIT* is not primarily a romance, though it contains a romantic sub-plot. After the initial set-up, the bulk of the book is action-adventure as Hunter tries to escape detection by other bounty hunters, all of whom want the million dollar prize. Unlike her past solitude, however, Hunter now has the injured Jake to defend, and as every hour goes by, Hunter grows more determined to protect her.

The story is full of twists and turns, suspense, and a deepening mystery that is not resolved until the final couple chapters. Who is after Hunter? Who is Jake? Can they trust one another? The writing is crisp, especially as the tension mounts in the second half of the book. *HUNTER'S PURSUIT* is a terrific action/thriller from a promising new writer, and I highly recommend the story.

-Lori L. Lake, author of *Have Gun We'll Travel*

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