



Trial by Ice and Fire

Clinton McKinzie

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Clinton McKinzie has carved out his own unique territory with suspense novels that blend the heart-pounding thrills of extreme mountain climbing with gripping legal intrigue. “One of the strongest debuts of the year” raved the *Chicago Tribune* about his debut novel, **The Edge of Justice**, which was hailed as “action-packed...a page-turner” by *USA Today*. Now the acclaimed author of **The Edge of Justice** and **Point of Law** ratchets up the suspense yet again with a third high-altitude thriller where Antonio Burns--climber, lover, brother, and cop--returns, and walks into a world of glamour, obsession, and terror.

Haunted by a reputation he earned by killing three men under questionable circumstances, Antonio Burns finds himself scorned by good cops and admired by bad ones. Unable to shake the tag of “QuickDraw,” Burns has stepped closer to the edge of society while still doing the job he’s paid to do and loving a woman who doesn’t understand him--and may not want him anymore. And with his charismatic but dangerously antisocial brother, Roberto, in trouble with the law, Burns has to manage his loyalties carefully: He is a cop. ‘Berto is a fugitive. And they’d die for one another.

When Burns is sent to protect Wyoming prosecutor Cali Morrow, a former ski racer being threatened by a stalker, it seems like an easy job. But Cali is the beautiful daughter of one of America’s hottest movie stars, and the stalker may well be a man working on Burns’s side of the law. Antonio has a hard time resisting the woman he’s supposed to be protecting--and stomaching the social swirl of those who make Jackson Hole their playground. With the feds closing in on his brother, Burns can feel his own personal lifeline slipping out of his grasp--until he himself becomes the target of a madman.

Trial by Ice and Fire combines extreme menace with extreme action--from a breathless ski adventure down a near-vertical ice chute to a night climb up the Grand Teton above the Snake River. In this powerhouse of a thriller, Clinton McKinzie brings us characters who are living on the edge, a plot that delivers one body-slamming surprise after another, and a novel that is his most fully realized and exciting to date.

Trial by Ice and Fire Details

Date : Published March 2nd 2004 by Dell (first published January 1st 2003)

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Author : Clinton McKinzie

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From Reader Review Trial by Ice and Fire for online ebook

Chana says

Entertaining story about a cop who chases the wrong suspects, threatens and hits people to the detriment of his career, and in my opinion makes the wrong choice in women.

Despite all this he is brave, not as brave as another man perhaps, but very brave and, well all I can say is that he was lucky that some very people good people saved him when death was looming. I loved the character of this cop's crazy brother and the cop's wolf. Great characters.

The action scenes were terrific, at least from the viewpoint of someone who has never climbed mountains, parachuted, nor performed perilous rescues.

Patty says

Set in Wyoming, the main character is in law enforcement and a climber. The descriptions of the landscapes and of climbing are great. The order of his books are 1. The Edge of Justice, 2. Point of Law, 3. Trial by Ice and Fire, 4. Crossing the Line and 5. Badwater. Though any of these can stand alone, they are much more fun read in order. Mr. McKinzie is an Assistant District Attorney in Colorado so he is well versed on the law.

Gregory Crouch says

An entertainment....

Hayseed says

A good book, interesting when you know the area, will read more of this author.

Timothy Miller says

Easy, fun read but was not enough climbing adventure. I liked the characters though.

Deirdre Skaggs says

I'd probably give this book 3.5, stars, actually. I enjoyed the fresh writing and the ending. Even though the clues were all there, I didn't see the stalker coming. And, I liked that the guy got his girl...the right girl.

Kara Jorge says

I absolutely love it when I stumble across a find like this. The third novel in a series starring Wyoming state agent Antonio Burns finds Anton climbing peaks in Jackson Hole as he guards lovely prosecutor Cali Morrow, who's been threatened by a stalker. Cali is the daughter of movie star Alana Reese, who owns a ranch in Jackson, and she is currently prosecuting her ex-boyfriend, a big cop named Charles Wokowski, for using excessive force on a suspect. Wook is Anton's chief suspect for Cali's stalker, but there is also another guy, a squatter who's been arrested on similar charges before, whom Anton must investigate. Meanwhile, Anton's got a couple of personal issues: a girlfriend who seems to be on the verge of leaving him, and a brother who's wanted by the authorities for his nefarious activities. Roberto and Anton couldn't be closer, though, so 'Berto keeps showing up at Anton's cabin at night, begging him to go climbing with him one more time before he turns himself in. Anton also owns a half-wolf named Mungo who seems scared of her own shadow, but Mungo starts getting in touch with her wolfish side through the course of the book.

McKinzie describes mountain climbs I wouldn't even think of attempting in a way that makes them seem little more difficult than ascending a flight of stairs. He describes the rush he feels when doing so as "feeding the Rat," a very apt expression to explain the thrill of doing something dangerous and special. Unfortunately, Anton's girlfriend Rebecca doesn't understand, and when she agrees to come to Jackson, her behavior is very strange. As Anton navigates the twists and turns of protecting Cali, which isn't as easy as anyone thought, it seems like the assignment itself might break his fragile hold on Rebecca. Or, he just might wind up dead.

Combining a delightfully engaging cast of characters, from Anton and 'Berto, who grew up in Argentina and seem to have been born climbing mountains, to Antonio's boss, described as "a demented Santa Claus in a pinstripe suit," to muscular, soft-hearted Wook, these are all lively, colorful characters I hated to leave behind when the book ended. The mountain climbing scenes made me wish I had the ambition to do it, and the story was constantly moving along its twists and turns. This is definitely a must-read series.

Catrina Bradley says

A pretty good read - the action really picks up toward the end. I think the main character was foolish, but he IS a man so what do you expect? (smile) As a novice writer, I'm told over and over "show, don't tell". The author does a lot of telling, but he makes it work.
