



Waiting for Armando

Judith K. Ivie

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Legal secretaries everywhere will be thrilled with *Waiting for Armando* by Wethersfield author Judith K. Ivie. Instead of casting attorneys in the starring roles, *Waiting for Armando* celebrates the resilient, resourceful legal assistants who are so often overshadowed by their high-profile bosses in contemporary fiction. When a secretary at one of Hartford's prominent law firms is suspected of murdering her philandering boss, her colleagues band together to exonerate one of their own. Each clue puts them closer to the truth but further into danger when the murderer decides to put an end to their meddling.

Waiting for Armando Details

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Author : Judith K. Ivie

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From Reader Review Waiting for Armando for online ebook

Kribu says

A passable cosy mystery - nothing spectacular, but I've read worse.

Chris says

I honestly enjoyed the book. It is the kind of mystery I enjoy. Made me giggle a few times on our road trip, causing the hubby to ask what was so funny. :)

Barbara says

This was a free Kindle book. Don't know if this is an indie, or not. I don't want to bash indies, but I guess you take chances when download an indie. Some are good; others not so much. Whatever this was – it was a not so much.

The title for one, kept throwing me off. This was described as a mystery, but the title sounded more like a romance or fiction to me. What did Armando have to do with this? Well it turns out, not so much; except for the fact of Armando being the SO of the lead character and was out of the country on business at the time. Then there were the spelling mistakes – actually, those don't usually bother me much. My brain seems to gloss over them when I'm reading---usually.

This was not actually a disappointment, but it did seem rushed (in terms of advancing the story versus developing the characters). The characters, including the lead, seemed a bit foolhardy at times; but not a bad as some “cozy” mysteries heroines I've read. It has very good “legs”, I think, but needs more experience and seasoning.

I was initially going to rate this lower than I did, but realized later that the read was good; not great or especially satisfying; but good.

Dianne says

2.5 stars

This novel seems to be in the vein of a Jessica Fletcher mystery but in an urban setting. If anyone is mistaking Hartford for some cozy little back-water they have made a mistake! This is a sophisticated city and the Capitol of Connecticut. Now why did I feel it was important to tell you this? Because some of the things happening in this book, would never ever happen here or most probably any police department in the country, back-water or not.

Kate Lawrence has left her prestigious and highly stressful job and has decided to down-scale what she does for a living. She decides to apply for an assistant position in a high powered law firm in the Capitol. The law

partners are typically annoying, in a cliched sort of way and they treat their support staff like children.

One day soon after she has started her job, Ms. Lawrence comes upon a scene of one of the partners in a fight with his assistant and a few days later he is found dead. And guess who finds him? Yes, Kate, of course! And being a mystery naturally he is dead under suspicious circumstances and his assistant Ingrid Torvalson, is one of the main suspects.

Now Ingrid has become a rather good friend of our Kate so naturally Kate jumps at the chance to help her out. And this is where knowing that this is a sophisticated city comes in handy. Ingrid and Katherine have been called down to headquarters; they know not why. It has not been announced just how Alain has been killed (yes it was murder) but both of these women seem to be under suspicion. Now imagine, going to see the Detectives on the case and the detectives instead of grilling you, takes you into their confidences not only telling you nearly all the information on how he died, what exactly was used to kill him (multiple natural poisons) but the Detectives asking for your help? This all seemed to force me to suspend my disbelief a little too much.

So now Kate Ingrid and assorted other mad cap women are running around Connecticut trying to build a case for the police. Meanwhile there are several other little plots going on involving Kate's Homeowners Association and her man-friend Armando. (who we never really connect with because he leave soon after we meet him)

All the evidence is used to throw a rather large and overly obvious red herring at you. And when the denouement is unveiled it was like Ms Ivie just plucked a person out of thin air and said- "you I'll make it you who did it!" yes there was a minuscule foreshadowing, but not enough to give you multiple suspects. And multiples really livens things up in a mystery!

Now the editing---yes as another reviewer has pointed out the editing was atrocious. It may have been fixed, but how in the world did something like this pass by---"Margo flapped the men of her dress to stir the air over her legs." I nearly had an embarrassing accident while I was laughing like a loon after I deciphered that one!

So this was a quick read, but not one that was worth my \$3.00.

Rhonda says

This little cozy was quick to read. The characters were okay, I did like the ones I was supposed to like and dislike the ones I was supposed to dislike. The story was good and held my interest, though it was certainly no literary masterpiece and wasn't intended to be.

It was clean, no truly foul language (there was one word that might be questionable to some but really wasn't to me, having a bit of a dirty mouth myself from time to time). There was no description of sexual encounters, only innuendo, which I also appreciate.

There was the obligatory murder and the usual suspects. The story was cute and I did enjoy it. I would have given 3 stars but for the errors outlined below. It was apparent that no human (no human paying good attention anyway) edited this book. All of the errors I noted would have easily passed a spell check - real words used incorrectly. Because of the errors, I subtracted 1 star.

A couple of examples:

At location 3146 - Then I dressed carefully in a red **sink** blouse with a big, open collar, a flared black skirt, and high-heeled black sandals.

At location 2108 - Margo cracked open the door into the main boardroom to make sure the **cost** was clear.

At location 570 - success. Jas and Ollie remained the very definition of friends, i.e., two people **made** at the same third person, so I dared not spring Moses from solitary.

If there had only been a couple of these issues, I would have just let it go, but there were a lot of these types of errors and they became annoying.

I did like the anecdotes regarding the cats. If you're looking for Armando, don't look here because he was absent throughout most of the story - remember, Kate was "Waiting for Armando."

Linda says

I enjoyed the book and will probably read the next one in the series.

Kristen says

I got the biggest kick out of seeing the familiar Hartford-area landmarks mentioned in this book. Am devising a walking or driving tour, complete with meal stops.

Jessi says

Sarah Kathryn Lawrence (Kate) was a high-level manager but decided that the company she was working for was headed down the drain so she stepped out, but retained her relationship with her Latin Lover, Armando, who, despite being in the title, has absolutely nothing to do with this story.

So, while she finds a real job, Kate is working as a secretary at a Hartford law firm. She doesn't really know anybody there, nor does she respect anybody particularly. The lawyers are rude and egotistical and most of the other secretaries seem vaguely clique-y. But she does make friends with Ingrid, one of the secretaries who is being chased by one of the partners, Alan. And when Alan turns up dead, Ingrid is top on the list of suspects. We also get to meet two other secretaries, Strutter and Margo who are going to help clear Ingrid.

A great story with just enough touches of Kate's personal life (battle with the Homeowner's Association). Hopefully this won't get too unwieldy in the future but for this book, it works.

Pamela Richard says

Loved this book. Made me laugh a lot and could associate to the main character.

Annette says

Kate Lawrence was an executive with a company that was going down the toilet. She decided that rather than having a great deal of responsibility to stock holders and employees, she would become an executive assistant. Life would be simpler and at the end of the day she could go home with no worries. She goes to work for a huge firm of lawyers.

Of course, she did not realize she would find a dead body. And she certainly did not realize she and some friends would decide they needed to save the life of the woman who was the evident suspect.

Kate is an interesting character. She is a mature woman with a man friend, 2 grown children and 2 cats. She lives in a condo situation with many rules and regulations and neighbors who report every tiny infraction.

All this is background which establishes the character and personality of Kate. We meet family and friends. We get to know how things work and who makes for interesting side stories.

This is a good book. The mystery is well developed and keeps the interest of the reader.

There are good descriptive passages which provide the atmosphere in the law firm and other locations which play a part in the story.

I think that if you are a mystery fan, and want to find an original plot and creative characterizations, this would be a good book to read.

You will like Kate and all the characters who are introduced in this book. I am going to read the next book soon, just so I can keep up with what is going on with all these people I really like.
