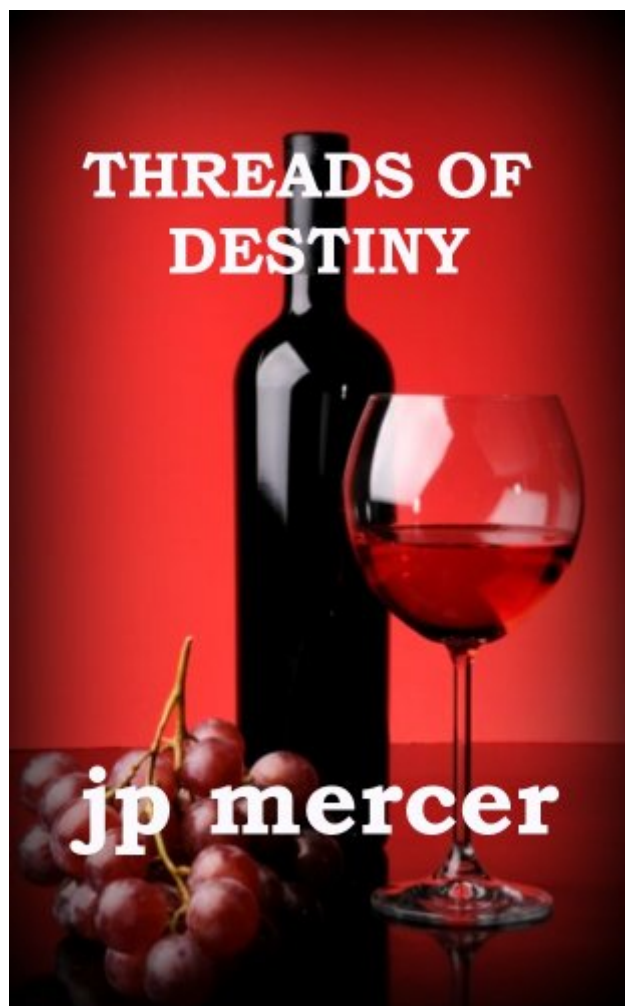


The book was found

Threads Of Destiny



Synopsis

Threads of Destiny embraces the coastal paradise of Santa Barbara, California, and the beautiful, romantic scenery of its virgin wine country. It's the story of the powerful Cara Vittore Cipriano and Jacquelyn Lee Biscayne. Cara is a lawyer and Padrone of the prestigious Cipriano Vineyards and Jake, an FBI forensic pathologist, is undercover with the Monsoon Rain Task Force, which is closing in on the Mexican/Colombian cocaine pipeline. Twisted threads had torn their lives asunder, leaving each to follow their own path toward an undeniable, inevitable fate. Destined to cross paths again, their lives will entwine amidst a world of intrigue, cocaine, murder and the relentless search for a ruthless killer.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I read "Threads of Destiny" and really loved it. It is a great thriller & romance; my preference.....But, I ended up being disappointed when I was looking for other books

by J.P. Mercer, & came across *Incommunicado* by J.P. Mercer & Nancy M Hill, which is actually the prequel to *Threads of Destiny*. Here lies the problem.

Incommunicado, is only in paperback, not digital, & if there is even a copy available, the price is crazy. I found it on xenafiction.net, but only half of the book is posted. Is there a reason why the sequel, *Threads of Destiny* was made available digitally and not *Incommunicado*? I wish the description for *Threads of Destiny* mentioned it had a prequel, & why is only 1/2 of it posted if only over priced paperbacks have been released????

I have not read the earlier work so for me, this was a standalone adventure rather than a sequel. As a standalone piece, there is an awkwardness to the first 30 pages -- the pace is way too fast with way too many memories of earlier times. When overused like this, flashbacks lose their magic. This approach of telling the story, rather than letting the story unfold, continues to be a challenge for the author for most of the book. Although I found the storyline intriguing, and the characters potentially likable, both lacked real depth -- the kind of depth that pulls you into the story and makes certain scenes linger in your mind weeks after you've finished reading the book. The biggest challenge for me was the continuous feeling that the author was on a mission to get from point A to point B with the focus being on the end result rather than the adventure of getting there. The story could have easily held another 50+ pages, allowing the reader to savour the moment or "feel" the tension. Instead, it felt as if the tension was being thrust upon me, the reader. Despite all these concerns, I will continue to read more of this author's works, in hopes that she will learn to control her pace in a way that enables the story to unfold with a more natural feel. For when the author is not rushing the pace, the narrative is as smooth as fine wine.

I'm a fan of Mercer. I've read *Talon* and *Web*, but didn't know this story was related until I reread *Talon*. This is a good story. The characters are well developed, as in her other books. The women are sexy and strong. Mercer has a way of having you fall in love with her characters. So far, in these three books, she hasn't failed. I love these stories.

SNIPPET FROM REVIEW of FIRST EDITION This book is the sequel to *Incommunicado* by Mercer and Nancy Hill. That was a good book, this is even better. This book ties together the strings left dangling in the first book. It's full of adventure, emotion and tension. A great read. REVIEW OF

SECOND EDITIONThe idea of reading the second edition of a book I was already familiar with never made much sense in the past. If you already know the story, what is the point? However, word was that there were significant changes in this new edition, both through new words and a thorough editing, so I decided I should read it and I learned a valuable lesson. When an author revisits her work and teams up with a talented editor, a good book can be made even better and show more depth than before.

Threads of Destiny is the story of Cara Cipriano, a lawyer and vintner in Santa Barbara, and Jake Biscayne, a leading FBI forensic pathologist and profiler. Mercer and Nancy Hill first introduced their story in *Incommunicado*; however, through a skillful use of flashbacks and inventive dialogue, Mercer provides enough of the original story in this volume that it is not necessary to have read the first book to follow the action. The women fell in love while they were working together to solve a string of brutal murders along the Mexican border, only to have their relationship ripped apart by a tragedy that Cara could not cope with and Jake knew nothing about. *Threads* reunites them a year later when Cara returns to take over as padrone of the family vineyard and discovers that someone is using the business to smuggle drugs across the border. When she asks the government for help, she and Jake are brought together in an uncomfortable situation while they try to solve the crime. Two stories then unfold in the book. One is a mystery and adventure story about the drug running that eventually includes kidnapping and a dramatic conclusion. Simultaneously, Cara and Jake struggle to deal with their emotions and whether or not they can rebuild the relationship they once had. Not until the very last page is that question answered and the reader cannot be certain of the answer until then.

There are a number of things to like about Mercer's writing. Even though it is fiction, the characters ring true as actual people. Women usually don't fall in love immediately in life and they sometimes hurt each other. Jake can't forgive Cara immediately for deserting her even after she learns the reason for Cara's actions and she shouldn't. You almost find yourself hoping that Jake will fall for a new interest McKenzie, even though you know the pain that Cara suffers because of her actions. The frustration of Jake, the despair of Cara and the pure evil of Sandro the drug runner/murderer come off of the pages powerfully. Mercer is very deft at keeping you on the edge of just not being sure how these stories will resolve themselves until they are finished. The dialogue from other languages, with no translations, shows the respect that Mercer has for her reader being able to infer the meaning from the story. The knowledge of the wine making process, forensic details, and the inside dealing of the cocaine trade indicate a book that was thoroughly researched. Mercer's writing is very tight. There are no wasted scenes or words to distract the reader from the action and emotion that drive the stories. There are secondary characters who add color and dimension to the book, like Cara's

childhood friend and would be lover Maggie, Matt Peyson, the Federal agent who loves Jake, but knows he has to look elsewhere for happiness, McKenzie the alluring woman who has feelings for both Cara and Jake, and Sandro, evil incarnate, the childhood friend of Jake and Matt who has betrayed their love for him and who is the killer determined to make Cara pay for interfering in his business. They combine to create a world that feels all too real. Mercer has created one of those books that is hard to put down once you have started it. The original version of Threads of Destiny had a very short life in the bookstores, so P.D. Publishing has done readers a service in bringing it back in an improved form. Now readers will have the chance to discover the book that it deserves.

Gripping and fascinating from beginning to end; this is a story that must be read in one sitting just to revel in the emotional and physical drama, then reread with the intent to savor such an wonderful storyline!

I'm glad we had a sequel to the Cipriano/Biscayne relationship. Lots of action! You won't be able to put it down...a one sitting read.

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