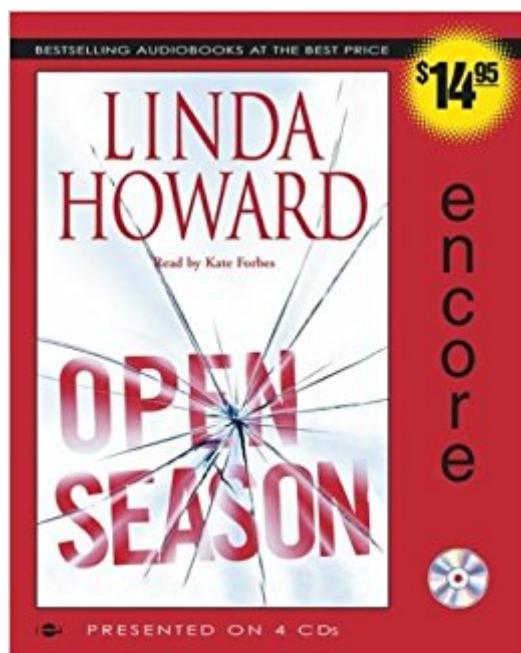


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# Open Season



## Synopsis

Plain, small-town librarian Daisy Minor is tired of not having a life and sets out to transform herself, but her plans go awry when she witnesses a deadly crime and becomes the target of a killer who will do anything to stop her from revealing her secrets. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The Orlando Sentinel A thriller...with deftness and charm. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Linda Howard is an award-winning author whose New York Times bestsellers include Open Season, All the Queen's Men, Mr. Perfect, Kill and Tell, and Son of the Morning. She lives in Alabama with her husband and two golden retrievers. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This just happens to be one of the best books I have ever read. I love the story of Jack and Daisy. I bought this in hardback when it came out, but decided I wanted to read it again and bought it on Kindle. I will be honest and say that I don't think I have ever given a Linda Howard book anything but five stars, so I would recommend this book to anyone. You can't go wrong with one of her books.

I loved this book as I do all of Linda Howard's books, especially The Mackensie's [all 5 of them], Midnight Rainbow, Diamond Bay and Duncan's Bride. In Open Season there's the scene where Daisy decides she needs some condoms and goes to the drugstore that she knows the clerk will gossip and then men will think she's a modern woman, but then The police chief who has become a fly in the ointment in her make-over walks up behind her and then follows her out on the street, I laughed so hard at this passage that I had tears in my eyes. I love the pictures that Linda Howard paints for me in her books. I'm in the scenes with the characters. The only thing with Open Season is I wish she had gone a little further and told what sentence the Mayor and Mr. Phillips received for their part in all the crimes they committed, also I wanted to know more about Daisy and Jack Russo. I will probably re-read this book as I have many of hers.

The Premise Daisy Minor has an epiphany on her thirty-fourth birthday - She. Is. Boring. Boring hair, boring clothes, boring face, boring life. She's a librarian in a small town, lives with her mother and aunt, and hasn't had a date in years. She's prim and proper, and other than an awkward exchange with the town's new chief of police, Jack Russo, she doesn't do anything bad. Ever. She's ready to change that. She declares open season on change, and on getting a man. But she doesn't realize that when she decides to do that, someone declares open season on her. The Good! I've heard a lot of good things of Ms. Howard's work, and I have read a couple of her previous books (Mr. Perfect and After the Night), which were decent, if not impressive reads. This could have something to do with the slightly dated feel to both books, but in general I've enjoyed her romantic suspense, even if I didn't feel compelled to tear through her backlist. In Open Season, I think that the story was solid, almost until the end, and I enjoyed seeing characters who are considered intelligent, actually doing intelligent things, instead of losing IQ points for the sake of plot. Daisy really is a stereotypical good girl character, very prim and in general feels like a throwback to another time. She's completely unsure of herself and her glee at her transformation, her indignation at the way Jack would get under her skin, were fun to read. When she inadvertently catches the eye of people running a human trafficking ring out of her small town, she actually listens to advice to protect herself and does it. It was a genuine pleasure to not have a TSTL heroine. Jack Russo is a more than capable hero, ex-SWAT officer from NYC who decides to move to the small town that his great aunt Bessie lived in, and where he spent some of his childhood summers. Jack and Daisy's attraction and banter were fun and full of chemistry. Plus - puppy.

Add an adorable puppy to the mix and I'll admit it. I melt. The Not So Good There was action but there wasn't much suspense, especially at the very end. You know pretty much from the beginning who is involved in the ring, and the big climax wasn't really stressful because the characters that you care about are safe and secure. The pieces to the puzzle fell too neatly into place, and there was no real danger to make you wonder how and when it will all work out. Also, the very end of the epilogue was so random and seems to lead in a direction that I wasn't entirely on board with. The Bottom Line A decent and humorous romance that's a bit light on suspense. I liked it, but I didn't love it.

OPEN SEASON is the story of Daisy Minor who at age thirty four is frumpy and living with her mother. She is the town librarian but has decided that good girls finish last and intends to make changes to find a man. She gets a makeover and starts going to bars. Her attempts to find a man are thwarted by Jack Russo, the sheriff. Jack seems to appear wherever Daisy is and people seem to believe that they are an item. Soon they are and Daisy is also in danger from the secrets that people in town have. I really liked Daisy and Jack. She is so insistent that he is not her type but he keeps following her. They are very witty together. Daisy's attempts to be more modern seem to backfire and Jack is always there. I liked that the suspense part of the story didn't overwhelm the romance. I also really appreciated that Daisy was feisty but not cold or brittle. Jack is a strong man without being a jerk. It is clear from the start that he likes Daisy -- especially teasing and annoying her.

Linda Howard used to be my all-time favorite writer. Anyone who can write "MacKenzie's Mountain," as well as her other fabulous books, is a talented, talented writer. However, like many romance writers, in the past few years she has shifted to mysteries, sometimes combined with romance. This combination worked A LOT better in "Mr. Perfect" than it did in "Open Season." In her earlier novels, the tension between the eventual lovers was fun and made me call the book store daily to find when they had arrived. I, as a romance reader, feel as if Linda Howard has abandoned her loyal fans, but maybe she's all written out in the romance genre. One of my two biggest complaints about "Open Season" was the total lack of tension between the two lovers. I really didn't care whether they got together. The book lacked something I can't put my finger on--a little spice (and I'm not talking about sex). It was bland. My most important complaint, though, was the final couple of pages. Not only does Linda Howard let the major criminal who imports foreign girls (all virgins, some very, very

young) into sexual slavery get away with it, she even has him show up to "cure" the sexual trauma of the wife of his partner! And we, as the readers, are supposed to be touched by this disgusting, arrogant sleaziness! Linda: what ever could you have been thinking?

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