

One to Go

Mike Pace

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Tom Booker is a new attorney at a powerful Washington law firm. Texting while driving across Memorial Bridge, he loses control and crashes into an oncoming minivan carrying his own daughter and three of her friends. The minivan tips up on two wheels, about to flip over into the Potomac. Time freezes, he s alone on the bridge. A young couple approaches and offers him a re-wind. The crash would be averted, the children saved. All he must do is kill someone every two weeks anyone a soul exchange. A moment later, Tom is back in his spinning car, but averts the deadly crash. He laughs about the hallucination, attributing it to bumping his head on the steering wheel when his car came to an abrupt stop. But his encounter wasn t a hallucination. Two weeks later, the minivan driver is brutally murdered. Tom receives a text: one down, four to go. He has never shot much less owned a gun in his life, and now must turn himself into a serial killer or his daughter and her friends will die."

One to Go Details

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Author: Mike Pace

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From Reader Review One to Go for online ebook

Amy Garrett says

what a great and fascinating plot! I won a copy of this for an honest review, and I am so glad i did! the one question every parent thinks of at one point or another, what would you do to save your child, is something the main character, Tom, has to face. would you kill to save your child? this is something Tom has to decide. This would make a GREAT prime-time tv miniseries! i look forward to seeing if the author, mike pace, has written anything else, and what he writes in the future!

Sebastian says

I definitely hadn't expected a realistic thriller and didn't mind the supernatural touch at all, but using elements from the fantasy genre doesn't mean that a story has to be unbelievable and absurd. Sadly this book had such a ridiculous plot with way too many convenient coincidences that I just couldn't take it seriously. Also I really despised the main character who was a selfish, irresponsible and superficial jerk with a serious alcohol problem.

Emma says

Advanced reader copy received via NetGalley

When I saw One To Go on NetGalley I thought it looked like it had the makings of a fun read - the sort of thriller you could compulsively devour in one sitting. I'd been reading a lot of heavy, contemplative novels recently and I wanted something which just focused on a fun, fast-paced plot.

Tom Booker, a Washington attorney, is late to pick up his daughter and her friends. Recently split from his wife Gayle, he doesn't want to get on the wrong side of her and so attempts to speed to the pick up point whilst sporadically checking his phone to see where they are. Of course we all know that this is not a good plan and Tom quickly finds himself careering into another vehicle; the van which is carrying his daughter and her friends to their destination.

Things get strange as Tom gets out of the car to find that everyone seems to have frozen around him except for a young, preppy, all-American couple who are making their way towards him. The couple have the power to save Janie and her friends, but only in exchange for something from Tom. They want him to kill another person every two weeks - otherwise the occupants of the van will have to die.

Tom of course agrees - he'd do anything to keep his daughter alive and once they're all safety on the road again he begins to dismiss the entire episode as a figment of his imagination.

But that would be no fun. In the weeks that follow Tom soon discovers that the deal he has made is all too real; the challenge is set and he must kill in order to save his daughter and her friends.

As Tom deliberates whose life is worth the sacrifice, he takes on a stint in a criminal court, in order to hunt down bad guys. At this point the story takes an interesting turn weaving a legal drama in with the supernatural thriller. The author, Mike Pace has experience as an attorney, and the parts in court are authentic and believable. A part of me can't help wondering whether the author couldn't have written a better novel by sticking more to one genre, but the legal drama side almost acts to balance out the craziness of the more supernatural elements. Pace also weaves in subtle hints of humour here and there through Tom's affable, self-deprecating manner. "Tell me what happened in your own words." Whose words would he use?

He had to stop watching cop shows on TV.

This novel raises some serious questions around morals - how far would you be willing to go to protect your family? But what I liked about it was that it didn't dwell too much on these dilemmas; the focus of this novel is in the action.

There are some points where the plot got a little too outlandish for me - without giving too much away, the p-chugging and the exorcism I found particularly weird. But I can overlook that because at least this novel was never boring. It was compulsive and exciting; exactly what I was looking for.

BookLoversLife says

This one took me by surprise. I read some of the reviews, and because they were so varied, I was hesitant to read it, but since I liked the sound of it I decided to give it a go. Well, I'm so glad I did because I ended up loving it!

Tom is in a rush and is texting while driving. Next thing he knows, while drifting out of his lane, he sees a car coming straight for him. With no chance to avoid collision, he braces for impact. Right before they crash though, he sees his daughter is in the other car!! He wakes up from the crash but something seems wrong. Everything looks frozen excaept for 2 people coming towards him. These 2 people tell him that they can rewind time to before the crash and save everyone, only thing is, in exchanges for saving the 4 lives, Tom has to kill 4 other people! Each month, one soul is due and if he doesn't pay, then the 4 lives that were saved will die!

While reading, the first thing that came to mid was, what would I do! Obviously I would do all I could to save my child, but could I actually murder someone by my own hand!! It's a hard decision but one Tom has to make! He knows that he will save his daughter but can he kill someone to do it? I actually really liked Toms character. He felt real in his emotions and thinking. He struggled with what had to be done! Initially he thought, how hard can it be to murder someone, people do it all the time, right? He soon finds out what's involved!!

The plot was really fast paced and quite unique! It's a thriller with a supernatural edge. It was nice to find this little gem!! Plus the action starts straight away and pretty much continues to whole way through!

Anyway, this was a fantastic read! I loved everything about it and am so happy I gave it a chance. Now, I will say that this is a book that defies disbelief. Go into it with your mind wide open, and you will love it!

Andrew Tell was great. He has a smooth, easy to listen to voice and kept my attention throughout. It's my first book narrated by him but I will definitely check out some more.

"I was provided this audiobook at no charge by the producer in exchange for an unbiased review via AudiobookBlast"

Carley says

Thank you Netgalley for providing me with a copy!

One to Go was a captivating read full of suspense. You never saw what or who was coming. While I do enjoy the supernatural genre, I was a bit concerned if I'd like it in this book. The fact that it wasn't the main theme of the book helped. I got so caught up in the storyline that any thoughts of how realistic the supernatural part was were quickly forgotten.

I both rooted and despised Tom but found him relateable. If it was my little girl in that situation, I can't say I would've dine much different. I was frustrated a few times with him though. Did he really not think they would connect his client's deaths to him? Also he could carry through with some murderers but not others? Even when they seemed the "better" choice? But I'm just nitpicking.

SPOILER! SPOILER! SPOILER! (view spoiler)

Cc April says

wow! This book will keep you on the edge of your seat the whole time. What an unusual plot, Tom Booker, an attorney is texting while driving across a bridge in Washington DC. He crashes into a mini van carrying his own daughter sending it dandling off the edge of the bridge. Time stops as 2 people tell him they can turn back time and he can avoid the crash happening. But only if he kills someone every two weeks. Tom thinks he imagined it by bumping his head. He doesn't end up crashing into the mini van and his daughter is safe. All is well until two weeks later when the mini van driver turns up dead. Eerily Tom receives a text saying ""one down, four to go". This is where the book really takes off. You have to read it to believe it, will love it!

Xxertz says

BLUF: Quick read involving heart wrenching emotional decisions. (aka.. What extent would you go to save your loved one(s)?)

I was provided a copy of this book from netgalley.com in exchange for an honest review

Plot: One to Go follows Tom Booker who, after an accident that would have killed his sister-in-law, daughter, and daughter's three friends, is approached by the devil for a deal.. The lives of those he loves in the van for the lives of five strangers (by his hand), with a deadline of one body every two weeks. Booker tries to find the high road in killing, but naturally, taking one's life isn't easy.

The plus: I love plots like these because they require so much from the main character. There is the moral dilemma of killing a person, there is the heartbreak of having to do so in order to save those you love, and then the combination of these two aspects while training to maintain normalcy of your day-to-day life.

The minus: I wasn't a big fan of the main character, to be honest, but it wasn't so bad that I didn't like the book. He's awkward, only really cared about his daughter after striking the deal, and makes loads of stupid decisions.

The other: Some of this story was a bit harder to believe, even with the general suspension of disbelief you decide to make upon picking the book up. Other parts (um. P-chugging? really?) should have never come to

Larry H says

The crime/thriller genre is full of a lot of books that seem rather similar, to the point where at times you can't easily distinguish books you've read from those you haven't. Mike Pace's *One to Go* is not one of those books. Sure, it's utterly implausible (at least I hope so) and it goes off the rails toward the end, but it takes you on one hell of a ride, and is unlike any other book I've read, mashing together the crime/thriller genre with a bit of the paranormal.

Tom Booker is a new attorney at one of the more powerful law firms in Washington, DC. He's rotating through the firm's different specialties, hoping to find his niche and make an impression on those in charge. Deciding to be a lawyer at a later age than many, he wants to succeed yet still wants to be a good father to his young daughter, especially now that he and his wife are divorced.

Rushing to meet his daughter and her friends at a museum one Saturday, he stops to text his wife that he's on his way (although running late), and he inadvertently winds up drifting into oncoming traffic, causing an accident on the Memorial Bridge. An accident with a truck as well as a minivan driven by his sister-in-law, carrying his daughter and her friends. The minivan tips on its side, starts leaking gasoline, and is on the verge of plummeting into the Potomac River below.

Can Tom shake off his own injuries fast enough to save his daughter? Suddenly time inexplicably freezes, and he encounters a perky couple, Britney and Chad. They give Tom the option to reverse time and save everyone involved in the crash. But this offer is not without its cost—to repay for the four lives he will save, he must kill a person every other week. It doesn't matter who he kills, he just has to kill someone. And if he doesn't, one of the minivan's passengers will be killed instead, which again puts his daughter at risk.

He has to be hallucinating, right? Tom quickly sees that this utterly unbelievable situation is all too real, and he must take Britney and Chad's bargain seriously. But how will he find people who deserve to die? And how will he work up the courage to kill them when he's never really even fired a gun? He must turn himself from an upstanding lawyer into a serial killer in just a matter of days, and he can't caught, or he'll put his daughter in danger. And then he finds himself in the middle of another situation that threatens his freedom and his daughter's life.

One to Go jolts you from the start, and keeps your adrenaline pumping throughout. Tom is not your average everyday murderer—he thinks he can go about killing like he's seen it done on television and in the movies, but he finds it much more difficult than he'd even imagine, and as he finds, the devil is definitely in the details. I liked the fact that Pace didn't change Tom's character too much as the story unfolded. Pace does a great job ratcheting up the tension throughout, and there are some good action scenes.

I enjoyed this book quite a bit, but I found part of the story's resolution tremendously predictable (I figured it would go one of two ways) and then the outrageous elements of the plot were just a little too outrageous. But if you can *completely* suspend your disbelief (and I mean completely), you'll probably agree this is a book unlike many you've seen in this genre.

I look forward to seeing what Pace thinks of next!

Jaksen says

I won this book in a goodreads giveaway.

The premise goes like this: a young attorney causes a devastating traffic accident; five people die in it, including his daughter. However, he is given the opportunity to 'reverse' destiny if he will kill five people one person every two weeks - as substitutes for those who died in the accident.

It's a thriller with a supernatural edge, and it moves along fairly well with said attorney struggling with his conscience, his sanity, and the concepts of evil vs. good; God and Satan; angels and demons. There's actually a lot going on here. As he looks for potential 'victims' to replace the five who died, he struggles with who 'deserves' to die, and can he actually commit murder in order to save anyone, even his own daughter? Enter a romantic subplot which becomes more important as the story moves along and a somewhat bumbling, Columbo-like police detective and you have a fairly serviceable story, well-written with lots of action.

Where it sort of falls apart is the ending, which is a bit climactic and over-the-top, and without spoilers, that's where the story lost me. I read to the last page, but I was thinking Ghostbusters at the end. (In Ghostbusters there's always a cataclysmic, end-of-world, with fire and over the top special effects.)

So though I was aiming at four stars, I deducted a star because really, the ending killed the story, and not in a good way.

Anne Yedlin says

Imagine being responsible for your own child's death. How would you react if someone came to you and told you that you could have another chance to fix the wrong?

In "One to Go" Tom Brooks was given such a chance but it came with a price. Torn between saving his daughter and her friends or losing them forever, Tom makes a deal with the devil (so to speak). A life for a life.

Tom thinks this is all a farce, that he just hit his head during the incident on the bridge. But as he soon learns it is all too real. When he misses his first deadline, the driver of the other vehicle was beaten and killed by her husband. He then realizes that his dream was never really a dream at all.

Desperate to save his daughter, Tom finds a way to work past his fear and do the deed. "One saved, Three to go".

While working in a law office, Tom finds the perfect opportunity to find his victims. He takes on a pro bono case and tries to tell himself that they are bad people and worth killing. Will he be able to meet his deadlines and save all the innocent children, including his daughter?

This book starts out with a bang and keeps on going! I love how the author makes it interesting by giving

Tom a way to make it easier for him to save his daughter, but still keep you on the edge of your seat. The ending really had me going. I really liked how it started fast and ended even faster. Had my heart racing! It contains a lot of twists and turns and a few surprises that I never expected! I really enjoyed reading this book and think anyone who reads it would like it as well. I recommend this read to anyone!

I received this book free for my review.

Kathleen Kelly says

One to Go Tom Booker, on his way to pick up his daughter for a visit, texting while driving, is the cause of an accident that happens, or does it? Time stands still except for him and a happy young couple. Tom thinks that he is having a daytime nightmare, has a conversation with the young couple, and agrees to their ultimatum. Let the accident happen on its course and put a lot of people at risk of death including his own daughter, or to stop this, kill four souls. He agrees, thinking that this is all in his head and goes about his day. Tom is a drinker, due to his stress at work, as a lawyer doing an internship at a prestigious law firm, or because of his divorce and the demands of his ex-wife. Either way he is having a love affair with the bottle and when he gets a reminder that he needs to kill someone to satisfy his agreement, it is that, or someone close to him will die. Tom is not a killer, and he has a hard time accepting this challenge, but fate seems to be working in his favor, for him anyway. As the unthinkable happens in his own family, he finally realizes that this whole proposition is not a dream. Now he is on a race to figure out how to kill the people he is required to to save his daughter. A father will do anything to protect his children, and Tom is no exception. One to Go is definitely one of those page turner thrillers that you want to see the conclusion, but you don't want the story to end. Good against evil, will good prevail? Read this book to find out. I liked the bit of paranormal that is intertwined into the story. Very readable and enjoyable! I give it five stars for sure!

Phils Osophie says

Ganz ganz knappe 4 Sterne.

Schon spannend, mit einer interessanten Grundidee und guten Ideen, aber einem hölzernen Schreibstil und einem Ende, das einfach mal gar nicht geht und das Buch zum Ende hin völlig auseinanderfallen lässt. Mehr dazu in meiner Rezension, die bald online kommt.

KruemelGizmo says

Tom Booker ist Anwalt in einer großen Washingtoner Kanzlei. Beim Tippen einer SMS während der Autofahrt verliert er die Kontrolle über seinen Wagen und kollidiert auf der Memorial Bridge mit einem entgegenkommenden Kleinbus, in dem seine Tochter mit ihren Freundinnen sitzt. Der Kleinbus droht dadurch in den Fluss zu kippen. Die Zeit scheint aber plötzlich einzufrieren. Ein junges Paar nähert sich Tom und bietet ihm an die Zeit zurückzudrehen und somit das Leben seiner Tochter und der weiteren Insassen des Kleinbusses zu retten. Aber dieses Angebot gibt es nicht umsonst, im Gegenzug soll er alle 2 Wochen jemanden töten, als "Seelenaustausch". Einen kurzen Moment später sitzt Tom wieder in seinem Autor, der tödliche Absturz des Kleinbusses ist nicht eingetreten und Tom ist sich sicher, dass er nur eine Halluzination hatte, die durch den Aufprall seines Kopfes auf das Lenkrad ausgelöst wurde, als sein Auto abrupt zum Stehen kam. Aber zwei Wochen später wird die Fahrerin des Kleinbusses brutal ermordet und nach einer

SMS: "Einer gegangen noch vier übrig" ist Tom sich sicher, dass er sich das ganze doch nicht nur eingebildet hat. Nun muss er, der noch nie eine Waffe abgefeuert hat, sich in einen Killer verwandeln um das Leben seiner Tochter und ihrer Freundinnen zu retten.

Der Mystery-Thriller One to go stammt aus der Feder von Mike Pace.

Mit dem Anfang habe ich mich ein wenig schwer getan, auch Tom als Protagonist konnte mich zuerst nicht für sich einnehmen. Auch finde ich, dass die Geschichte ein wenig schleppend in Gang kommt und sich zuerst auch nur wenig Spannung aufbaut. Aber mit der Ermordung der Fahrerin stieg die Spannung für mich deutlich an, die Ereignisse und Handlungen wurden dichter und schon bald war ich gefesselt von der Geschichte.

Toms moralische Auseinandersetzungen und Schwierigkeiten die er damit hat das er nun morden soll haben mir ausgesprochen gut gefallen und empfand ich gut und glaubhaft ausgearbeitet. Zwischendurch flackerte für mich auch ein wenig Humor und Sarkasmus auf, was dieser Geschichte noch eine besondere Art würze gab.

Der Mystery-Anteil nimmt eigentlich nicht allzu viel Raum ein, sondern gibt oftmals nur den Input für Toms Handlungen und Gedanken, erst zum Ende hin wird dieser Anteil deutlich größer, was mir in dieser Aufteilung ausgesprochen gut gefallen hat.

Mein Fazit:

Ein unterhaltsamer und spannender Mystery-Thriller, den ich gerne gelesen habe.

Pattyh says

I finished this book in ONE day. Loved it. What would you do if you could rewind a really horrible incident? would you do anything to change it? well that is the question our protagonist must confront in this scary novel that asks the question - would you do anything to save your child - even murder. Our lead characters are well developed and the locale is described excellently. I would put this in the thriller, sci-fi genre because there are elements of this novel that may require some "faith".

This is fast paced and written well. I liked the pace and would definitely Recommend

Rebecca says

Unglaublich flache Handlung, teilweise total an den Haaren herbei gezogen. Das Ende kommt derartig konstruiert daher! Schade, die Geschichte an sich, hätte man viel besser erzählen können! Keine Kaufempfehlung!