



Keeping Guard

Christy Barritt

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"You can't hide from me."

Her anonymous stalker's threats are getting scarier and scarier. Now Kylie Summers fears for her life. She flees her home for the protection of a former military man in a small Virginia town. But her brother's handsome best friend already has a long list of obligations. Kylie knows she's intruding on Nate Richardson's life. Even though he promises to keep her safe, Nate's keeping her at arm's length emotionally. Until her stalker emerges from the shadows, forcing Nate to choose between keeping guard over his wary heart--or Kylie.

Keeping Guard Details

Date : Published (first published January 17th 2011)

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Author : Christy Barritt

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Genre : Category Romance, Love Inspired, Christian Fiction, Love Inspired Suspense

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From Reader Review Keeping Guard for online ebook

Pam says

A great suspense story and is hard to put down! It keeps your wondering who Kylie's stalker is, what will happen next and what will happen between Nate and Kylie. I read Desperate Measures first and glad to read Nate and Kylie's story. Enjoyed reading this book!

Smilinhere says

Keeping Guard by Christy Barritt

Great book! Suspenseful and interesting - the suspect wasn't who I thought it would be ... good reading about holding onto who God is in good & bad times and the struggles to do just that.

some great outtakes without spoilers ...

There's just something about coming around the table with other people and sharing food and conversation that makes everything balance out. All other worries go away for at least an hour or two.

I realized how short life was. I wanted to take advantage of each opportunity and live life to the fullest. But it's like I've told you, I haven't taken a vacation in years, so I haven't mastered the whole 'living life to the fullest' yet either.

I really feel like God's been speaking to me lately. I'm a hardhead sometimes but I've finally figured out that you can let circumstances determine who you are, or you can determine who you are through the circumstances. I'd somehow lost sight of that. Maybe you need to remember that, too.

Jacquie says

Another great love inspired suspense book. I really didn't have a slight clue as to who was behind all the attacks and things on Kylie. This book kept me reading to find out more and who was "the bad guy". Once I found out was a little surprised, but it did make sense and of course can't forget Kylie and Nate's story. Overall, well written and good until the end.

Doreen Marr says

Whoa, I like to be kept guessing when I read a mystery (I don't like to be able to figure out whodunit too early) and this one held my attention to the end! A mysterious stalker, an ex-military man, lots of surprises. Christy Barritt does it again!

Bookworm1 says

It's amazing!!! but it's sad that the girl is always second guessing the guy's feelings about her, teenage years all over again am I right ladies? The stalker was scary!!!!!!!!!!!!!! it was her tv producer who had a crush on her who stalked her so she'd run to his arms and he'd be a hero to her. he became obsessed and completely unstable.

Dona F. Williams says

Great Read

A very good story. I enjoyed it immensely. Ms Barritt's stories always touch the heart. Keep them coming God Bless.

Jeri says

Another love inspired suspense novel. This one more like a lifetime movie. Better written than the last two, but still lacking.

Cindy says

Kylie Summers is petrified!! She is being stalked, a man in a black hoodie has been following her around, sending her hateful emails, and leaving horrible threatening messages on her voicemail. Her brother, who is a police officer has been working hard trying to solve who is doing this. However to keep her safe until they break the case he sends her to Virginia, to his friend Nate Richardson. They served in the Coast Guard together and he trusts Nate to keep Kylie safe.

As a cover to make it seem like it is a legit visit, she works in the restaurant that Nate owns. She can see that his heart is not in the business, but she enjoys her time in the kitchen and working there. When one of the waitresses turned up missing, Kylie is afraid her troubles has followed her there.

I enjoyed this book so much, I love Christy's books and this one had me guessing till the end. And WOW I was shocked, I was no where near correct with my guess of who was terrorizing Kylie. You will be surprised! 215 pages US \$5.50 4 stars!

This book was provided for review purposes only, no payment was received for this review.

Sarah says

1.5 stars for Keeping Guard

You can't hide from me."Her anonymous stalker's threats are getting scarier and scarier. Now Kylie Summers fears for her life. She flees her home for the protection of a former military man in a small Virginia town. But her brother's handsome best friend already has a long list of obligations. Kylie knows she's intruding on Nate Richardson's life. Even though he promises to keep her safe, Nate's keeping her at arm's length emotionally. Until her stalker emerges from the shadows, forcing Nate to choose between keeping guard over his wary heart--or Kylie

First of all, were I a kid I would go "Bleh!" But I'm not so here's the long version.

Kylie Summers is being stalked. Typical taller-than-average, long blonde haired damsel in distress. I least I think she was said to be blonde. I don't even remember and when I scanned the first three chapters, I either missed it or it's not listed. How bad is it that I can't remember but I'm visioning her as a blonde like the rest of the known romance dansels? Anyhow, the girl is jumping at shadows and acting like a crazy person because someone is 'stalking' her, aka coming to all her demos with a hooded face, leaving her creepy phone messages, leaving notes in her bible of all things, and posting her personal info online. This warrants her first move in the book? I don't think so.

Nate is your typical ripped, sandy-haired (found that while looking for HER hair color), damaged goods, mysterious romance hero who is emotionally in tune with himself AND Kylie. He owns a restaurant that he's thinking of selling and lives in one of two apartments above it. With luck the second one is vacant (if you want to make money instead of sinking money into your restaurant, you should rent it out, no? Get someone else to pay the bills on the place) so miss Summers can move right in. Oh and he conveniently owes her brother a favor.

This book was full of little things that bugged me. Things like cliché sayings (eg: as skittish as a cornered cat), and phrases that made me roll my eyes. Also, this was the most preachy book I have read in a good long while and I have been reading an awful lot of Christian Fiction as of late. I admit that it wasn't too blatant as to beat you over the head with religion, but I don't believe for a second that there are a lot of people out there that think and talk like these two religious people. Nuhuh, can't convince me.

The saving grace of this book was the fact that the ending was just the realization of two characters that they might be in love with each other. While I disagree that a week or two together mixed with high pressure situations should result in a teen-like love conversation of "I do love you!" "I do love you too!!!" which summons up the main part of the story. I should have stopped reading there...but I didn't.

The epilogue after the main story is only 8 months later and our two new love birds ARE ALREADY MARRIED!!!!

Pet peeve #1 of all my reading pet peeves is unrealistic romance timelines that end in marriage. He must have proposed the day after the book ended, because I don't know about you, but everyone I know had to book their wedding revues at LEAST a year in advance. Even all those lovely people who had backyard weddings took over a year to get everything together.

Eight months later....and according to THE book he had been calling her wife for **6 MOTNHS** !!?!?!?!? I DON'T THINK SO!!!!!!!!!!!!!! What girl gets married after only knowing a guy for 2 months???? HOW LONG WAS THE ENGAGEMENT????? DID THEY ELOPE THE NEXT DAY?!?!?!?!? I HATE THESE ENDINGS!!!! THEY MAKE **NO** SENSE!!! NONE!!!!

NO ONE SHOULD GET MARRIED ONLY 2 MONTHS AFTER MEETING THE PERSON!!!!

Personal opinion, but it drives me batty. Please, all I wanted was a reasonable ending to all books I read but that seems to be nearly impossible. People don't have to get married at the end of the book. It's okay to leave it on an open ended happy note. But if you do insist on marrying them off, remember the golden rule, if you get engaged in 6 months or less, the wedding should still be a year after the engagement date! That covers two bases- time it takes to plan a wedding, and a girl/boy being sensible.

Kim says

Christy Barritt should be a member of the board of directors for inspirational suspense writers. She consistently weaves believable tales with strong, complex characters. Keeping Guard obeys that directive. Put all other plans on hold as you enjoy the story of Kylie and Nate against the bad guys.

Melissa says

I really enjoyed this mystery. The opening scene is pretty funny and the characters are very interesting. The mystery element was good but predictable at least for me. I had the culprit figured out pretty early on, but I read and watch a LOT of mysteries so maybe I'm just well trained! Lol! All in all definitely worth reading if you love mysteries and the Love Inspired Suspense series! I look forward to reading more from Christy Barritt.

Bibliophile says

Keeping Guard

Kylie and Nate have had cameo appearances in several books I've read. I love learning about their story. They've both been used in the past and find in each other someone who makes them strive to be better. The community and the church family are a healing blessing. Such a good book!

Shelley says

This was a very good book. Lots of action, suspense, had a mystery in it, plus of course the romance. This is a Christian romanc so the love scenes are PG, mainly kissing & hugging. The Christian theme comes across nice & not preachy which I really like. It doesn't interfere with the story, but augments it. The hero Nate, is the typical alpha male who wants to protect the female, has some emotional scars, & has been burned in a previous relationship. He's also a big sweetheart you can't help but fall in love with. The heroine in the story Kylie, had overcome cancer in her childhood & has fought for her independence & to be treated as an adult by her family every since. Her last relationship was a disaster with a very controlling man. Now she is dealing with a stalker whose behavior is progressively worsening which is how she came to be hiding out with her brother's old coast guard pal Nate. I loved Kylie's introduction to Nate, felt sorry for Nate's head though. This book kept up the suspense throughout, it also kept you guessing who Kylie's stalker is. It was a

real surprise in the end. The romance was sweet. Of course they both had to overcome their own personal demons before they could finally admit that they love the other. It was a good read, I would recommend it.

Laura says

Title: KEEPING GUARD

Author: Christy Barritt

Publisher: Love Inspired Suspense

February 2011

ISBN: 978-0-373-44431-1

Genre: Inspirational/romantic suspense

Kylie Summers fears for her life. With her brother's help, she flees her home for the protection of a former Coast Guard man living in a small Virginia town. Nate Richardson is Bruce's best friend, and he agreed to let Kylie stay a week, no longer. But it is pouring down rain when Kylie arrives, and when Nate gets there, he wears a hood so he doesn't get wet. Kylie freaks out and runs and Nate chases her. He ends up getting hit over the head with a rolling pin.

Being kind-hearted, despite his hurting head, Nate still agrees to let her stay, but he tries to keep her at arm's length—but then her stalker emerges from the shadows, forcing Nate to choose between keeping guard over his heart—or Kylie.

KEEPING GUARD is one of Ms. Barritt's suspenses, and if you like that type of book, it will keep your heart pumping. I'm kind of glad that the hero wasn't the what-seems-like-mandatory-for-this-line FBI agent or police officer, but instead, an ex-military man, eking out a normal life for himself in a small town. That was a major plus. He is kind-hearted, if a little grumpy at times, and willing to do anything for his best friend (Kylie's brother) even "babysitting" a scared-out-of-her mind heroine.

I have loved Ms. Barritt's cozy mysteries, and wish that were still a popular genre. She absolutely shone in that line. In this line, the story is a bit predictable, but she has the genre down pat, she knows the formula and the writing shows it. Discussion questions are included at the end of the book. \$5.50. 214 pages.

Pam says

Great suspense!

This is a great suspense story and is hard to put down! It keeps your wondering who Kylie's stalker is, what will happen next and what will happen between Nate and Kylie. I read Desperate Measures first and glad to read Nate and Kylie's story. Enjoyed reading this book!
