



## Dark Moon Crossing

*Sylvia Nobel*, Christy Moeller (Illustrator)

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**Dark Moon Crossing** Sylvia Nobel , Christy Moeller (Illustrator)

The third adventure in Sylvia Nobel's mystery series, based on actual newspaper articles, plunges reporter Kendall O'Dell into the center of the volatile and controversial issues surrounding ranchers and illegal immigrant crossings at the U.S./Mexican border. When she agrees to investigate the disappearance of a co-worker's relatives who mysteriously vanish after crossing into Arizona, and attempts to tie together frightening UFO sightings, mutilated cattle, and missing immigrants, Kendall's life hangs in the balance when she finally exposes the hideous secret.

## Dark Moon Crossing Details

Date : Published February 1st 2002 by Nite Owl Books (first published January 1st 2002)

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Author : Sylvia Nobel , Christy Moeller (Illustrator)

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## **From Reader Review Dark Moon Crossing for online ebook**

### **georgia says**

this book is about illegal aliens crossing from mexico into arizona. it involves a felon posing as nun feeding the people, extraterrestrial sighting which turn out to be lights in a cave, a little romance, a little mystery and 400 plus pages.

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### **Amy says**

It was okay. I thought with all the current immigration news that it was very thought provoking. For some reason there were no question marks in the e-version so that made it a challenging read.

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### **Carole says**

Good plot and storyline. The characters are largely one dimensional. The main character Kendal is smart and tenacious - good things. She's also confused about what it means to be good at something and follow the path before her to accomplish what she sets out to do. She undercuts herself and worries constantly about her boyfriend Tally's negative reactions and judgments and refusal to take her seriously and treat her with respect. The boyfriend comes across as controlling, somewhat hostile, and at times just plain mean. He also whines and is punitive emotionally toward Kendal. She plans apologies to give him whenever he's not present with her and sometimes even when they're together. This guy suddenly turns all soft and supportive after she saves his life. So, while the plot was good and the mystery unfolded at a nice pace and the descriptions of the landscape were nice, it was quite disappointing and distracting that the dysfunctional Tally and Kendal relationship was omnipresent. It felt like it took up about a third of the book. I won't read any more of these books. I hope the writer grows to trust the crime/mystery stories of she's telling without continuing the awful "romance" elements.

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### **Phyllis says**

I really liked this book. This is the 3rd book in the series and I believe it is the best so far. Very quick read that really held my interest. Had quite a surprise ending. Thought I had it all figured out, boy was I wrong.

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### **Sidna says**

The third book in Sylvia Nobel's Kendall O'Dell series goes a little beyond the typical female murder mystery/romance genre. Since the series is set in Arizona, Nobel attacks the issue of illegal aliens coming from Mexico--and she presents both sides. It begins with Kendall wanting to help Lupe, an employee at the newspaper where Kendall is co-editor, find two of her relatives who have recently come to the US from Mexico. Lupe's relatives sneaked across the border with several other people and Lupe was supposed to pick

them up. Instead, they, and the people with whom they were traveling, have disappeared.

When Kendall and Lupe drive to the town where Lupe's relatives were supposed to have arrived, Kendall meets some of the ranchers who live in that area and Kendall is an eyewitness to some of the serious problems that the illegal aliens cause for property owners. Kendall's boyfriend is close to the owner of one of the larger ranches and she mentions to him that she notices that he and the other ranchers have Mexicans working on their ranches. He tells her that they are happy to employ people who come to this country legally.

An interesting presentation of both sides of a serious issue facing our country, particularly the border states, with a little mystery (Kendall's discoveries are gruesome) and romance added.

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### **Mary says**

I enjoyed this Kendall O'Dell entry even though I occasionally found myself nodding knowingly. The ending was shocking and not at all a happy one for all. Overall, I thought it was a quite good book and am looking forward to Ms. Nobel's next Kendall O'Dell story.

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### **Shelly says**

At first I wasn't sure how well I would like this book. I haven't read the first two in the series, so I felt like I was missing out on some things. But by the middle of the book, I was liking it better. The storyline was actually really interesting and towards the end it was a page turner. I'm not sure how much I really like Kendall or Tally, but I would be interested in reading some of the other books in the series.

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### **Denise says**

This is the 3rd book in the Kendall O'Dell series. I really hate reading a series out of order but I had to order this through interlibrary loan (thank you Luke Air Force Base library) so I read Seeds of Vengeance, the 4th book, before Dark Moon Crossing. So I knew some of the things that were going to happen in this book but that didn't take away from the story line. I can say that this is a very complex (one might even say convoluted) story. I don't want to give away any spoilers but I will say that it deals with the illegal alien problem in Arizona. I can say the one thing that I really enjoyed was that Kendall rescues Tally for a change (okay, that might be considered a spoiler). Oh, and those of you that like UFO stories, well that is in this book too.

The bad guy's identity might surprise you. I figured it out but not too much before the reveal.

I like this series set in Arizona by a Phoenix AZ author. I know that Sylvia is working on #5 but as yet there is no publication date set. So--hurry up Sylvia, I want to see what Kendall and Tally get into next.

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## **Svick says**

Ms. Nobel's writing just keeps getting better and better.

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## **Donna says**

### **Romantic yet Tantalizing Mystery**

A fun mystery with romance and intrigue. A well written story with hot topics and colorful characters. A must read if you like mystery, romance, and drama.

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## **Deb says**

As usual another good read. Love Kendall O'Dell...she is feisty..loves her man and is like a dog with a bone. Once she gets hold of something, she does not let go!

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## **Rachel says**

I was really annoyed by the politics in this book. The character's inner monologue and the diatribes by the ranchers seemed to be the author's own platforms, as I certainly don't know a southern Arizona rancher that believes for a second that illegals are coming over 'to illegally vote and influence our elections.' That sentence not only turned me off the book, but turned me off the author. If that were true, politicians would be welcoming them over in droves. Very one sided view of the immigration debate, and makes it hard to continue reading this series.

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## **Debra says**

Reporter Kendal O'Dell is looking forward to a much-needed vacation with her rancher boyfriend, Tally. Her chances of getting away dwindle, however, when coworker, Lupe, begins acting strangely and suggests that she might have to quit. Reluctantly, Lupe confesses that her uncle and brother, who've entered the U.S. illegally, have gone missing. Kendal volunteers to help learn what happened to them provided that Lupe doesn't leave. The decision causes a rift between her and Tally, but it soon becomes clear that this isn't Kendal's biggest worry.

Set in Arizona, Dark Moon Crossing is an entertaining story that focuses on the illegal immigrant situation. Author Sylvia Noble does a great job of ramping up the tension and action, and her detailed descriptions of the landscape makes the area an enticing place to visit.

As is common for amateur sleuths, Kendal took too many risks. Although some of them made sense, others

didn't, especially near the end when Kendal knew she could be killed if caught spying on the guilty parties. When the protagonist is questioning her own sanity, I have to wonder if there was a better approach to the ending without diminishing respect for the heroine.

This is a fairly minor point, but the question mark was apparently missing from the typesetter's keyboard. The lack of question marks throughout the entire book resulted in what I first thought were run-on sentences, which had to be reread to figure things out. The error should have been caught before publication. Having said that, though I still enjoyed the story.

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## **Pamela says**

Well, if this wasn't the biggest shock in the series, I don't know what was. WOW! I really do just love this series, it's sad to know there is only one left. Luckily, I can't afford it this week, so the sad end to my enjoyment of this series will be prolonged I suppose. It's depressing to know it will be over after one more book. Like so many other series I have enjoyed they seem to be cut too short.

The description of the book tells you that the story is taken from headlines at the time. In the early 2000's I believe, I should probably check that. Anyway, how topical it is in today's world, and probably will continue to be, depicting the growing "pressure-cooker" like atmosphere in Arizona, over the growing illegal alien (p.c. version:illegally documented or undocumented workers) problem. The story shows both sides of the issue pretty well, though I don't know how anyone can come to any conclusion other than this illegal border crossing needs to end. The twists and turns the story takes as it weaves familiar characters into what seems like an increasingly explosive and unbelievable situation are gripping and thrilling. Your heart pounds as you read the last 80 or so pages. I want to say that I didn't guess the ending, but I did guess most of it, I just didn't want to think it would take that turn, because its such a ghoulish turn, but it did, and as horrifying as it was to read, it was an absolutely satisfying and thrilling read.

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## **Beth says**

This was a quick read, good storyline with some interesting twists and turns (some that you can't see coming). I enjoyed the first two books in the series so bought this one and gulped it down.

The heroine is still getting into trouble because she acts without thinking, usually acting on her "gut" feeling more than any true evidence. Of course, the authorities wouldn't believe her gut so she does what she feels she "needs" to to solve the mystery and get the story. This gets her into some very scary, dangerous situations.

The part of the storyline, throughout the series, that I don't understand is why she is so in love with her rancher. He has no understanding of her having a career. I understand him worrying about her getting into situations but he seems to want a stay-at-home wife not an equal partner. (this is my feministic streak showing).

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