



Against the Odds

Kat Martin

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THIS CASE MAY PROVE TO BE TOO HOT TO HANDLE.

There's silver out there: Sabrina Eckhart is sure of it. And when she finds the hidden mine on that big piece of West Texas desert, all of her financial problems are solved. That is, if she can find it. The man with the skills she needs is private investigator Alex Justice—a former navy fighter pilot and a current pain in the neck.

When mysterious “accidents” start to plague their search, it seems Rina's multi-acre inheritance might be more a curse than a blessing. And yet, there's still something sensual about the heat...his arrogance...her stubbornness...being thrust into each other's arms by danger... But the vultures are circling, and if they don't watch their backs, the relentless desert sun could be the last thing Rina and Alex ever see.

Against the Odds Details

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From Reader Review Against the Odds for online ebook

Susan says

Good book. Rina's life as a stockbroker has taken a bit of a downturn, but she feels that she can turn it around if she can find the silver mine on the property her uncle left her. She needs a pilot who can fly her over the land to look for it, and the best man for the job is Alex. She hires him to do the job, and ends up grateful for his skills, as the helicopter they use is sabotaged and they end up stranded in the desert for a couple days.

Rina thinks Alex is pretty sexy, but that he's also an arrogant, egotistical jerk. Alex doesn't have a very high opinion of Rina either, though he's certainly attracted to her. Those two days in the desert make them see each other very differently. After their rescue and some recovery time, Rina is ready to resume her investigation when she's involved in a suspicious car accident. Alex suspects that someone wants her dead, and that it has to do with the mine. He is determined to keep her safe and if that gives him a chance to get her into his bed, so much the better.

The chemistry between Alex and Rina is hot and they can't keep their hands off each other. Neither one is looking for a relationship and agree to just enjoy each other. But Rina worries that it will be far too easy to fall in love with Alex and she doesn't want that. She sees Alex's past, with his playboy ways and avoidance of any kind of commitment and knows there's no future with him. Alex avoids commitment like the plague. He feels that his life is too unsettled to be able to add a wife to it, so he sticks with the light and fluffy affairs. He is a bit of a control freak and feels that he has to be able to be sure of all parts of his future before committing. But his time with Rina is changing him. He feels things for her he hasn't felt for anyone else and it confuses him. I wanted to smack him for his reaction when Rina told him she loved him. It took one of his coworkers to point out that some things just can't be controlled for him to realize what an idiot he had been.

I really enjoyed the mystery aspect of the book. I loved Rina's confidence in her uncle's claim about the mine. She is determined to follow up on it and find the silver. The attacks on her get more intense as the culprit gets more desperate to obtain the mine. I really liked the way all the guys work together to figure out what is going on. I also enjoyed seeing Rina insist on being involved every step of the way. She wasn't going to allow herself to be left out of the loop. I did understand Alex's frustration sometimes when she would interfere with what he wanted to do. There were a couple interesting twists to the final reveal that I didn't see coming.

I also enjoyed the secondary story involving Alex's sister. I loved seeing the relationship the two had, as it showed a different side to Alex. I got very frustrated with Becca when she was trying to force her daughter into the same kind of mold her mother had forced on her. She also had kind of a snobby attitude toward Joe until she finally saw that she was still trying to please her mother. Once she saw her mistakes, things really improved for her. The addition of the murderer/molester to the mix gave Joe an extra chance to show his love for Becca and her daughter. The rescue operation was really intense with some question as to how it would all turn out.

Rhonda says

4 STARS

Against the odds keeps you guessing right to the end who is trying to kill Alex and Sabrina. The action and

drama are nonstop. Thier a few love scenes that I skipped over.

Sabrina Eckhart hired Alex Justice former Navy pilot now P.I. to fly her out to the property she inheirited and help her find the mine her Uncle found.

On thier way out to the deseret to find the property the helicopter they rented started to have problems. Alex used all his skills to get them down without killing themselves. When they got down the copter got fire.

Sabrina had sprained ankle and concussion. Alex had bruised rib. They were lucky. After a couple of days they started to walk out. They were found and flown out of the deseret. On thier way in they found the mine. Sabrina and Alex were attracted to each other. After they got back they slept together and then Sabrina panicked. She did not want to ruin thier friendship. Plus her best friend was married now to Alex's friend and boss Jake.

Then Sabrina was in a car accident when her steering gave out she almost got hit by semi truck. Instead with quick thinking she avoided the semi and got rear ended instead.

The mine her Uncle discovered before he died was actually worth a lot. A few days before her Uncle's death he left everything to her instead of his children because of the way they treated him.

So was someone trying to kill Sabrina because they knew them mine was rich or was thier a different reason.

The women are strong willed, they are likeable. A lot of the men who work with Alex are hot and brave.

They are willing to help each other anyway they can.

I have read a few books in this series The Raines of Wind Canyon of books and look forward to reading the rest of them.

I was given this eboo to read in exchange of honest review from Netgalley.

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? Kimberly says

Kat Martin always entertains me with her ex-military alpha males and the woman who finally win their playboy hearts. Against the Odds is the seventh book from the Raines of Wind Canyon series but don't let that scare you as each works as a standalone. In this novel we get smexy Alex Justice story and a side story regarding his sister and a totally lovable carpenter. Filled with action, suspense and a hot sizzling romance with just enough heat I quickly consumed this.

Alex works with his former military buddies at a security firm in Houston, and he has just collected DNA evidence that leads to the arrest of a child killer. He met hot little redhead Sabrina Eckhart at his best friend's wedding and while there were sparks she clearly didn't like him, so he is surprised and intrigued when she hires him to help her explore a mine she inherited from her Uncle Walter. As a former navy pilot he flies them down in his plane to West Texas and then rents a helicopter to explore the 3,000 acres. When the helicopter malfunctions things get a little heated, as events begin to occur leading him to believe that someone wants Sabrina dead. The tale that unfolds has two suspenseful threads with romances that kept me turning the pages.

Martin has a knack for creating characters that I end up rooting for. They are flawed noble and completely swoon-worthy. Alex Justice with his six-foot frame and piercing blue eyes is no exception. Despite his playboy ways, women from his past respect him and that says a lot. He is dedicated to his work and loyal to his friends and I loved how Sabrina got under his skin. Sabrina had a lucrative career in the stock marketing until the economy took a dump and now finds her net assets depleted so the prospect of a mine excites her. She finds Alex smexy and intriguing but doesn't see them going anywhere. The more she learns about him the deeper she falls. I actually liked her, and despite her need to be in the middle of it all she was pretty leveled headed. The suspects, old characters and Alex's sister added humor, suspense and romance to the

tale.

The world building and weaving of the two storylines was solid, intense and captivated me. Sabrina's inheritance and the threats against her and others made for intense moments and action packed scenes as it thrust the couple together. The second tale regarding the child killer added an extra layer of suspense that had me flipping the pages searching for a happy ending. Sabrina felt genuine and as the reader it was obvious to us how Alex was feeling but watching him figure it all out was fun and honestly I only wanted to bop him on the head a few times. I loved the banter, the tender moments and of course the heat. Martin gives you just enough heat to let your imagination soar and it's one of the things I like about her romances as the suspense is front and center. Kimba @ Caffeinated Book Reviewer

Elli Hunt says

Kat Martin is on my list of favorite Authors and this book was another good read from her.

The story quickly draws me in as I find both of the main characters Alex Justice a private investigator and Rhina Eckhart, an investment banker interesting characters. Rhina wants to hire Alex to help her survey some land that was left to her by her late uncle. Alex just wants Rhina because she is aside from not his typical type one of the most authentic people that he has ever encountered.

The land Rhina inherited was supposedly nothing more than western Texas waste land with an old rumored silver mine that had closed down ages ago. Someone knows better and that someone needs to eliminate Rhina so that they will have the land past into their hands. In the mean time, as they stubbornly determined to find what her uncle thought to be important, they begin to see each other in a more personal light.

The story will keep you guessing right up to the very end as to who is behind the plot to end Rhina's life. Their romance keeps sparks flying throughout and you will want them to find a way to be together after it is all said and done.

Cruth says

What Martin does well is write independent, strong heroines with a mind of their own. Willing to fight for their rights and what is right, enjoying sex, wanting relationships on their terms. And when she gives us one of these heroines in the midst of a suspenseful, dramatic story you can't help but be *happy*. Another enjoyable addition to the series.

Debra McEathron says

I enjoyed this story about a woman believing in her uncle's dreams and making them a reality. Also dealing with jealous family members, hair raising adventures, and love.

Jennifer Blouch says

I can't stop reading this series! I am just so in love with the characters. Alex Justice (I like his whole name) has got to be the sexiest fictional character alive! Sabrina is just awesome in a down to earth could be your best friend kind of way.

All of these books have a similar romantic story line. Bad boy player vs. good girl falling in love knowing it can never last. Somehow it doesn't get old. Every new story is a breath of fresh air in this series.

E. says

Against the Odds by Kat Martin is a romantic suspense tale set in Texas that features Sabrina (Rina) Eckhart who is searching for a way to deal with the change in her financial circumstances due to the vagaries of the stock market. She hires private investigator Alex Justice whom she knows because of his association with her best friend's husband. Unfortunately, what seems to be a straightforward case of investigating her recently deceased uncle's legacy of a mine rapidly ratchets up into a death defying trip that doesn't have sinister overtones until additional facts hint at an insidious plan. Rina has resisted her attraction to the frustratingly competent investigator and as events unfold she realizes that her life may be in danger but the one person who can protect her may prove to be dangerous to her heart.

This romantic suspense story provides a great tale of adventure and greed played out amongst the searing Texas sands. The rising action showcases the sexy hero's spectrum of skills obtained through his various life experiences, including service as a navy fighter pilot. The reluctant acknowledgement of the rising attraction between the two main characters is nicely balanced by the deepening mystery which surrounds Sabrina's inheritance and it is great to get glimpses of characters who figured prominently in other books in this series. There is a nice secondary romance played out amongst the supporting characters and the framework is started for more exciting tales in this entertaining series. This is a fun read for anyone who enjoys romance, danger and mystery with a hefty sprinkling of capable and sexy heroes and the feisty women who capture their hearts.

A copy of this title was provided to me in exchange for an honest review.

Dawn ♥ romance says

This romantic suspense had a nice complex plot with lots of twists and turns but I didn't like the main characters. The hero was anti-commitment to the extreme. The heroine went on investigations that should have been left to the police. Stock broker on leave Rina hires PI Alex to take her to a remote piece of land she's inherited to see if it has a mine.

Pheonix Fanfiction says

These are my thoughts and feeling while reading:

0.0% Hopefully I'll get a chance to start this soon :) Looking forward to it - I miss reading haha :) This also seems good; Im excited to start this one usually Im nervous with this series - i think its coz im in the mood for romantic suspense and because its been a few days since Ive read anything :)

This weekend has been so busy I literally havent even started this and I wanted to 3 days ago!! Ive decided not to read this yet but reread rock chick #3 to get back into reading! :D This will def be up next though :D

Finally getting around to start this - I hope life settles down soon but I really dont see it happening :(

3.0% **Hey, Red. Haven't seen you in a while." Her pretty mouth tightened a little at the nickname, which he'd given her because she reminded him of a little red fox—though he'd never told her that.**
Awwww that's kinda cute haha :D

8.0% **There was just enough time to throw himself over her, protecting her as much as he could,**
Oh Alex! There's something about a man who protects a woman!

10.0% **Icy fear crawled down her spine.**

Mine too :/

13.0% **The fever I'm running is a lot lower down. If you don't quit wiggling, I'm going to show you exactly how hot I am."**

Haha I think I'm really gonna love Alex if that lines anything to go by! I hate the fact Ive had zero time to read the last few days :(

15.0% **Turning he stormed off, leaving her sitting there fuming. Maybe it was better this way. He didn't need a pain-in-the-ass redhead in his life.**

oh just when you were getting on so well :(

17.0% **"Sorry, love. I'll have to make you a new pair."**

Im really starting to love that Alex calls Rina love and I have no clue why but I really really like this line haha I may be slightly strange haha :P

21.0% **She didn't need a man. She had figured that out the hard way.**

Poor Rebecca :(Im looking forward to seeing more of her and Joe they seem really interesting :D

25.0% **Alex's jaw tightened. Hernandez might be good at his job, but he was clearly a ladies' man. And it was also clear he wanted more from Sabrina than just her business.**

Hahahaha I think Alex may be jealous hahahaha :D <3

26.0% That was one HOT kiss!

28.0% **Wrong place, wrong time, nothing more than that.**

Hmmmm really?? Im wondering if there's more to it??

It wasn't long ago that Sabrina had helped Sage come to grips with her attraction to her big, handsome bodyguard, the man who was now her husband. It was only fair to return the favor. Sage bit back a grin as she turned and headed for the door. She had no doubt Alex would be going to the benefit and who he would be bringing. Men could be so much fun.

Haha go Sage!! <3 <3

31.0% **"It's all right, baby," he said, as if he knew she was about to fall apart. "We'll take it slow and easy."**

This is hot!! I love it! <3 <3

33.0% **When Sabrina said nothing more, he jerked open the door and stormed out of the apartment.**

Oh poor Alex! :(Though he did just get a taste of his own medicine :) really starting to love these two - looking forward to what happens next :) <3

34.0% **Then everything went black**

Oh shit!

thought you said she was a pain in the ass." "She is a pain in the ass." "But she's your pain in the ass and she's in trouble, right?" "Close enough."

I LOVE THAT! <3

41.0% **In the morning, he'd awakened with a raging hard-on, swore an oath at women in general and especially the one down the hall, pulled on his swim trunks and headed outside to the pool. He did laps for half an hour before returning upstairs to shower and dress for the day.**

Haha poor Alex - though I LOVE that Rina can affect him that much! :) <3

42.0% **Her eyes remained on his. She was breathing a little faster and so was he. He reached out and gently cupped her cheek. "I'm going to kiss you, Sabrina. I really need to." He didn't say more, just pressed his lips to hers and savored the sweetness.**

Awwwwww ALEX! <3 <3 I think I just fell in love with him! <3

43.0% **He nearly came when she started to move, easing up, then sliding the length of him. He clamped down hard on his control and let her set the pace, determined to make it good for her. She looked beautiful lost in her pleasure, and his own pleasure built. His groin tightened. His erection pulsed and throbbed. He couldn't remember wanting a woman the way he did this one.**

So hot! Ive officially fallen for Alex!

Those are...very nice things to say, but they don't change anything. You're not the kind of man who can be happy with just one woman—and why should you be when you look the way you do?" "For chrissake, Sabrina—the way I look doesn't have a damned thing to do with any of this. I'm not interested in seeing other women. Not as long as we're involved. Does that make my feelings clear?"

Ive officially fallen for Alex

46.0% **"Let me know when you find her." "You just get things ready. I'll call you when I've got the information."**

??? Who the hell is trying to kill her?!?"

48.0% **"We're going out. All of us or just you and me. Whatever you want. Tomorrow night."**

Haha Go Joe! I really like that Kat Martin has a side couple in all her books! :D

50.0% **We have to be careful not to jump to conclusions, but I have to tell you, from my point of view, your uncle's death is just one coincidence too many."**

I agree Alex, it seems too much of a coincidence!"

52.0% **You'll be safe as long as you're with me." But she wasn't safe with Alex. Because every day she**

spent with him, she fell a little more in love with him. Sooner or later, Alex was going to break her heart. And there didn't seem to be a single thing she could do to protect herself.

Oh Rina :(<3 <3

55.0% **His jaw hardened. Alex caught her shoulders. "Whatever you think, the fact is you need me. And dammit to hell—I need you." She gasped as he hauled her close and kissed her, not a sweet, apologetic kiss, but a hot, greedy kiss that turned her inside out. "It's you I want—can't you see that?"**

Okay Alex I forgive you! <3 <3 <3

"Don't go," he whispered against her ear. "I don't want you to go." And though she knew the risk she was taking, the yearning in his voice was enough to convince her to stay.

<3 <3 LOVE ALEX <3 <3

57.0% **Rina blanched at the cutting remark, the kind she had never heard him make before. He didn't want her pity. If she hadn't understood that, she might have been angry.**

Im glad you know that! It saves so much unnecessary drama :) <3

62.0% **This guy Justice isn't a fool. He knows it's one of us—just not which one. We need to lay low for a while, let all this blow over."**

Who the hell is it?! I think I have an idea but I keep changing my mind haha :)

64.0% **You don't trust Ben and Jake?" she asked, forcing her thoughts back where they belonged. A smile flickered at the corner of his mouth. "I trust them with my life. With my woman? Not so much." He grinned and his dimples popped out,**

Awwwwww Alex!! <3 <3

65.0% **Tell your uncle I said hello.**

:O is that who I think it is?! Holy shit!"

72.0% **"I'm crazy about you, baby. Someone wants to kill you and I can't—won't—let that happen." Her gaze found his, held. "You're...you're crazy about me?" He smiled. "What did you think?" He kissed her again, a long, slow, unhurried kiss that had her molded against him and made him hard. "You think I work free for all my clients?" Her lips edged up but tears brimmed in her eyes. "Alex..."**

I LOVE ALEX (and Rina) <3

74.0% **"Tell you what, buttercup," Joe said, walking into the bedroom. "You stay home a couple of days and you can work downstairs with me.**

Awww love Joe! And I knew it :(

78.0% **"I don't need fancy," Alex said. Leaning over, he pressed a soft kiss on her mouth. "I just need you." Her mood seemed to lighten. She gave him a slow, sexy smile. "That's good to know, flyboy. Her gaze drifted down to the bulge at the front of his jeans. "Looks like you've got exactly what I need." Alex grinned. "How far did you say it was to that motel?"**

<3 <3 <3 <3 <3

80.0% **She looked over at Alex, saw that he had fallen asleep but didn't let go of his hand. She loved him so much. He was the best man she had ever known and until he walked away, she belonged to him, body and soul. Sabrina ignored the painful squeezing of her heart that told her how much it was going to hurt when she lost him.**

Oh god! I really love these two - they're going to break my heart aren't they? I hope not!

81.0% He'd told her how much he cared and he'd meant it. But he wasn't ready for a permanent relationship. It just wasn't part of his plans for the future. Hell, he didn't have any plans for the future, which was exactly the problem. Which meant this thing with Sabrina was going to have to end. Alex ignored the ache in his chest that hurt nearly as much as the wound in his side. He'd worry about all of that later.

Oh Alex! You two are going to break my heart! AND I don't think I'm going to get time to finish this tomorrow -- uni work/living with friends is really cutting into my reading time! I'm lucky if I get an hour every two/three days at the moment! :(

82.0% She looked out the window at two of the people she loved most in the world and felt as if a heavy weight had suddenly been lifted off her shoulders. As she started for the door to see how the tree house was coming along, she smiled.

Awwww I really do love Becca and Joe and Ginny! :D <3

83.0% "I want you," he said. "I ache with wanting you, Becca. I want to spend the night in your bed more than I want to breathe, but I'll leave if that's what you want."

:O JOE! <3 <3

85.0% "Tell your brother I said hello." Through a haze of pain, she struggled to remain conscious. "Don't take her...please..."

Oh my god!

88.0% You want Ginny, you can have her. All you have to do is come inside and get her." Alex's fingers tightened around the receiver. "Count on it."

I love how Alex will do anything to get Ginny back! <3 I hope neither of them are hurt n Bagley gets what's coming to him!

He blew out a frustrated breath, raked a hand through his thick black hair. "Get in the goddamn car and once we get there, you do exactly what I tell you—got it?"

Aww poor Ben but GO RINA AND SAGE!!! <3 <3

90.0% But I don't need your protection anymore. I need your love and that's something you just aren't able to give me." He swallowed. His chest felt as if a band was tightening around it. "I don't see why we can't go on the way we are now. We're good together. Surely you can see that."

Oh no :(Alex is breaking my heart - although if I was Rina I'd be doing the same thing! <3 <3

92.0% Either you are or you aren't in love with Sabrina" "And it's your business because?" "Because I'm your friend." Alex came up out of his chair. "All right. Fuck it. I'm in love with her, okay? Probably been in love with her since she called me an arrogant jet jockey and went on to tell me all the reasons she wasn't interested in a guy like me. Satisfied?" Jake just shook his head. "I don't get it. If you love her, why don't you just go get her?"

Go Jake! Aww Alex :(You're breaking my heart :(

93.0% The weight on his chest seemed to lift away. "I'm in love with her. I need her. I want her with me. God, I've been an idiot, haven't I?" Annie shrugged. "You're a man. Sometimes, that's just the way men are." Alex laughed for the first time in days. Cupping Annie's wrinkled face between his hands, he gave her a smacking kiss on the lips. "You're the best, sweetheart."

<3 <3 awwwwwww yay! GO ANNIE!! <3 <3

94.0% Awwwww! <3 <3

95.0% **"I came here to kill you."**

Oh shit!

"What?"

:O OMG! WHAT?!?

"Jesus!" Alex said again, awe in his voice. "It's okay. I've got it under control."

Yeah you do! Love a strong woman I have a suspicion that Alex does too! hahahaha <3 <3 <3

96.0% **His sister was wearing a ring now, too.**

Oh yayayayay! so happy - I think my heart melted! <3 <3

97.0% **He thought of all that had happened, of the unexpected twists and turns that kept life interesting and had led him to Sabrina. Thought how lucky he was to love a woman willing to travel life's uncertain paths along with him. Alex took her hand and started walking, looking forward to the journey ahead.**

Awww Perfect! <3

100.0% I just loved Alex and Rina! It took me ages to read it coz of life but I always had a hard time putting it down! I loved this a lot more than some of the others in this series!

I think it has a lot to do with me having a break between books coz they do all follow the same formula - a good one but it can still get repetitive :) I loved Alex and Rina - they were perfect together! I loved seeing more of Sage and Jake too! Looking forward to reading Bens book soon :D <3

Bernie says

Against the Odds review

Against the Odds is the seventh exciting romantic suspense book in The Raines of Wind Canyon series written by author Kat Martin.

Lyndi W. says

I hated Sabrina, but loved everything else.

Dorine says

Rated 3.5

An investigator and a stockbroker make a deal that neither of them are sure they can keep if they allow themselves to fall in love.

Sabrina "Rina" Eckhart, a stockbroker, inherits land from her uncle in west Texas and hopes that it will pan out since she's putting everything she owns on the line. Her uncle had always followed his dreams, ignoring others' doubts, but this time she's sure he's right about his land producing silver. It would have made more sense for his three children to inherit the mine, but none of them ever showed an interest in their father's dreams. Rina had felt a special connection to her uncle and he knew she'd follow through on what he started.

Alex Justice, private investigator and pilot, is surprised when Rina wants to hire him to help her do an aerial tour of the land she has inherited. He had always been attracted to Rina but she pushed him away every chance she got in the past. There's no way he'd refuse her if she'd only ask for more than a business relationship. But business is all she's thinking about, isn't it?

Rina and Alex fly to west Texas and rent a helicopter to get a closer look at the land, to hopefully find the mine she assumes is there. But something goes wrong with the helicopter and they crash, barely escaping alive. Stuck in the desert wasn't what either of them had in mind. Can they survive a few days together in the wilderness, relying on their skills and wits? What if the crash wasn't an accident? Can Alex keep Rina safe without falling for her?

AGAINST THE ODDS is book seven in the RAINES OF WIND CANYON series and I suggest that you read the previous books prior to this one for full enjoyment. I didn't and I had a hard time following along with so many characters making an appearance. This novel is a romantic suspense and it's filled with numerous dangerous situations that the characters have to overcome, hoping to do so without harming those they love. Unfortunately, I felt that the multiple storylines and repetitive danger kept me from connecting with the main characters' love for one another. For me, one less villain and more time with the main couple outside of the suspense might have convinced me more. I really enjoyed the scenes from the desert when Rina and Alex were alone, working together to stay alive. It was realistic and showed their survival instincts, as well as how their personalities meld without outside influences.

Filled with villains, lots of action and a network of friends who support one another, AGAINST THE ODDS proves that family members aren't always the ones who put everything aside to help one of their own.

Review and book courtesy of Romance Junkies.

Corinne Akers says

Loved this book too!!

Cheri says

Wow! Another great read from this series. Lots of action and suspense in this one. As well as romance and sex done KM style :)
