



## Voodoo Ridge

*David Freed*

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## **Voodoo Ridge** David Freed

It's 1956. A plane bearing a mysterious cargo takes off from a small airport outside Los Angeles and disappears into a raging storm. Nearly 60 years later, while flying over California's Sierra Nevada Mountains, retired military assassin-turned-civilian flight instructor and would-be Buddhist Logan catches a glint of sunlight on metal and spots what appears to be aircraft wreckage. His life will never be the same.

Logan and his beautiful ex-wife, Savannah, plan a reconciliation in posh Lake Tahoe. But upon landing in the Ruptured Duck, his beloved aging Cessna, Logan agrees to put those plans on hold when he's asked to help guide a search and rescue team to the remote, mountainous crash site. The team finds not only a long-missing airplane, with the mummified remains of its pilot still at the controls, but something much more recent and far more sinister: the body of a young man, shot to death only hours earlier. Someone has beaten the rescuers to the site and will clearly stop at nothing to profit from what the plane was carrying - including kidnapping and threatening to kill Savannah if Logan refuses to help them carry out their getaway plans. With the clock ticking and the love of his life in peril, Logan is drawn into a vexing vortex as personal and potentially deadly as any he's ever known.

*Voodoo Ridge* is a fast-paced adrenaline-fueled thrill ride filled with the kind of unexpected twists, full-throttle action and wry humor that won Freed's *Flat Spin* and *Fangs Out*, the first two installments in the Cordell Logan mystery series, rave reviews and a legion of loyal fans.

## **Voodoo Ridge Details**

Date : Published May 2014 by The Permanent Press

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Author : David Freed

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## **From Reader Review Voodoo Ridge for online ebook**

### **Ole Andreasen says**

Solid third. Ill start the fourth tomorrow.

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### **Erin Garrett says**

As you might know from my previous reviews, I am totally in LOVE with Cordell Logan. This book, however, wasn't my all time fave. It was totally readable, and had an interesting story line, but it was pretty tough to take. I won't say why, as that's a total spoiler, but it had sad points.

Still worth a read just because of the awesome characters.

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### **John says**

I still liked it and will read the next one. It was ok.

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### **Jonathan Dunsky says**

The third installment in the Cordell Logan series is a winner. It begins with Logan and Savannah flying to Lake Tahoe to get remarried when Logan spots what appears to be the wreckage of an airplane on a mountain. He reports this to the police and accompanies them up into the mountains in search of survivors.

There are none. The pilot has been dead for decades and, in addition, there's a body of a man recently shot to death by the airplane itself and clear signs that someone had taken something from it.

Soon, Logan finds himself embroiled in an investigation that will have him risk everything he holds dear.

Excellent writing, pace, humor, and characters. And a clear sign that this series has lasting power.

Ray Porter narrated the audiobook and was his usual excellent self.

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### **Lou Harper says**

I really like this series, but I can't stand the ex, and any of Logan's actions, thought, reactions in connection with his ex.

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## **Allegra Artis says**

This book was very fast paced. I never knew what was going to happen next. I definitely enjoyed it even though I hadn't read any of the previous books. It seemed like the main character was trying hard to get on the good path and make a life for himself but it just wasn't in the cards. I'm not sure I enjoyed the outcome of everything that happened but it definitely was a book full of surprises. I definitely read it quite quickly because I couldn't put it down.

I received this book free from a goodreads contest :)

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## **Chowhound88 (a.k.a. Ralph) says**

This book is a great one! If you don't have a lot of time to read, like me and you want a good mystery. Read this one. The books are pretty much stand alone but you don't get the full ground as you would if you read the first one.

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## **James Fitzgerald says**

I enjoyed Voodoo Ridge immesly. It was from the beginning a page Turner and I am hooked on the character Cordell Logan a retired Natonal security Assassin who is now a struggling flight instructor. He and his ex wife are flying to lake Tahoe to get remarried as Savannah is pregnant with Logan's child on his way to Tahoe he sights a crashed plane and reports it to the authorities. They ask him to help in the search that is also being done by murderous predators. Savannah is kidnapped and Logan goes on the hunt for the kidnapers and murders. I give this book 4.5 stars I am going to read the next one the three nine line. I recommend this book

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## **Yawatta Hosby says**

\*\*\*I received a free copy in exchange for a review\*\*\*

I loved this book. The author was great with voice and characterization. The story never left Cordell Logan's sarcastic wit, and I loved every second of it. Even though the story was in first person point-of-view, I felt like I got to know everyone. The villains and good guys were all three-dimensional. I had three suspects of who was behind the sinister plan, and I was totally wrong. The author did a great job with red herrings!

My favorite lines: 1) "Yesterday. It seemed so long ago." 2) "You get right to the point, don't you?" "One of my many character flaws." 3) "Patience, unfortunately has never been my strong suit."

I'm a sucker for happy endings, so I was excited to see that Logan and Savannah were planning on getting married again. They went away on a honeymoon, never to be the same again. Logan spotted an airplane crash site and reported it. Sometimes it doesn't pay to be a good samaritan. His call led to criminals abducting Savannah to blackmail him into flying the dirty goods out of the state. I was very, very, very

SHOCKED at what happened on page 235!!! I never expected that! It was cool that the author David Freed wasn't afraid to go there. The ending gave me hope for Logan because let's face it, he was my favorite character throughout the book.

I loved all the tension between Logan and his suspects of Savannah's kidnapping. He wasn't playing around! The end of the book made me sad (in a good way).

I RECOMMEND this book to read.

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### **Laurel says**

A great mystery but a hard read.

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### **Ralph says**

4.0 out of 5 - Enjoyable third installment in the Cordell Logan series

The adventures of Cordell Logan, wise cracking, cash-light flight instructor, aspiring Buddhist, and former black ops soldier continue. Logan has reconciled with his ex-wife, Savannah, and while flying up to Lake Tahoe to be remarried, he spots the wreckage of a plane and so begins a series of events that will change everything for Logan.

This is an entertaining mystery that moves along quickly and is a fitting conclusion to the three book story arc. As with his other books, Mr. Freed incorporates aviation as a key part of the plot. Although the Ruptured Duck (Cordell's airplane) is out of action for most of the story, the flight scenes are fun to read and feel real.

(view spoiler)

It is wonderful to have Ray Porter back in the captain's seat doing the narration. I enjoyed his performance in Flat Spin and missed his narration in Fangs Out.

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### **Stuart Law says**

As with Fangs Out and Flat Spin, Freed has created another engrossing and razor-sharp mystery adventure. Like all good authors, Freed writes what he knows, and his expertise lends the Cordell Logan series a rare authenticity. Freed has intimate and in-the-trenches knowledge of police investigations, military intelligence, and aviation, and it shows. Alongside James Salter, Freed may be the finest chronicler of what it's like to fly a plane.

Like John McClane of the "Die Hard" series, Cordell Logan again finds himself at the center of the action, a reluctant and conflicted hero. Yet, despite some cursory similarities, Cordell bears only passing resemblance to the action/adventure archetype. He is cynical and prone to rage and violence. He also possesses wit, charm, a sense of duty, and a desire to change. A former operator, Cordell struggles to adjust to the civilian world, and careful readers will appreciate Freed's thoughtful portrait of a post-military life. Cordell's

experiences, instincts, and training often hamstring him as he grasps for meaningful relationships and steady employment.

Voodoo Ridge's setting provides Freed with an opportunity to take us deep into the shivering winter of the Tahoe Basin. Typically a tourist haven for Bay Area urbanites, the northern Sierras become an icy hell for protagonist Cordell Logan, and Freed captivates with vivid renderings of the hostile and unforgiving wilderness.

Voodoo Ridge is an excellent addition to the Cordell Logan series, and I can't wait for the next.

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## **Sheila says**

Cordell Logan has known lots of violence in his life. But now he's trying hard for a Buddhist's calm. It's logical, then, that the Cordell Logan mysteries, by David Freed, should be filled with so many instances of life's balance, frayed and renewed. And Voodoo Ridge is no exception.

Logan's struggles to make ends meet just might be over as he remarries the oil-rich wife who left him so in need of Buddhism and peace. A new leaf is turning in his life, perhaps. The former wife pays for a Lake Tahoe wedding and Logan flies her from LA in his beloved newly-repaired plane. But there's a mystery to be solved on arrival, and Logan's dogged determination to figure out all the answers leads to danger, trouble, and grief.

Sometimes you read a book and beg the author "Please don't go there." And, of course, he does. Tom Clancy lets the bomb go off. Chris Cleave burns the stadium. And David Freed? You'll have to read this and see. With plot twists and turns nicely balanced by twists of turns of character, the escape of flight offering its beautiful contrast to hard realities on the ground, and hope carefully measured against despair, this is a novel where everything might hang on a single snap decision. Meanwhile the reader is pulled along, sharing the agony of the moment, and waiting for light.

Voodoo Ridge is a worthy and powerful third entry in the Cordell Logan series. It comes the closest to losing its Buddhist balance, but hope still lingers and the reader clings to it as surely as Logan does by story's end. "The Buddha said that uncertainty along the path of life is the only certainty," he muses on the final page, then adds, "Sorry I stabbed you, buddy."

Please, let there be more. And please, don't let Logan change too much.

Disclosure: I was given a free preview edition by the publisher and I offer my honest review.

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## **Liz says**

Easily readable mystery with some twists and turns and I did not see the ending coming- I guess I like smart ass bad boys for my detectives. I loved Parker's Spenser and this guy reminds me of him.

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## Amy says

Third in the Cordell Logan Mystery series. My first. Logan's an intriguing character with his Buddhist studies (though NO ONE can truly be a Buddhist and NOT be a vegan. Buddhists DO NOT KILL unless threatened.), his past experience with counter-intelligence and his current job as a flight instructor. All this gives him insight into cases and the wherewithal to get to places many can't very easily access. In ***Voodoo Ridge***, Logan and his ex-wife decide they're going to marry for the second time up at Lake Tahoe. They fly in for the weekend when Logan notices an abandoned plane in the mountains. It turns out to be an abandoned government issued 1959 plane that had been carrying dangerous cargo. A deep mystery involving secret weapons linked to a CIA weapons testing unravels with which Logan becomes involved.

Not sure that Logan has a cross-sectional appeal. So many sexist comments and macho elements cloud a rather strong thriller concept. At one point Logan says: "*He'd kidnapped my woman, terrorized her gentle soul.*" Yeah yeah Logan. Get over yourself. YOUR woman? NO woman, no person is YOUR property. Icky. Strike. Then at another point he goes to a library and has an interaction with a female librarian: "*Her smile was one part professional and about three parts lonely.*" Oh David Freed. Can you BE any more clichéd and sexist? Strike. While ***Voodoo Ridge*** is a decent mystery and I wanted to see what the strange cargo was in the plane, I don't care enough about Cordell Logan to keep reading his mystery series. He's got too much of the guy-rescuing-pretty-and-helpless-women-ego.

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