



Summary

Ask Cordelia Black why she did it. The answer will always be: He had it coming.

Cordelia Black loves exactly three things: Her chosen family, her hairdresser (worth every penny plus tip), and killing bad men.

By day she's an ambitious pharma rep with a flawless reputation and designer wardrobe. By night, she culls South Louisiana of unscrupulous men—monsters who think they've evaded justice, until they meet her. Sure, the evening news may have started throwing around phrases like "serial killer," but Cordelia knows that's absurd. She's not a killer, she is simply karma. And being karma requires complete and utter control.

But when Cordelia discovers a flaw in her perfectly designed system for eliminating monsters, pressure heightens. And it only intensifies when her best friend starts dating a man Cordelia isn't sure is a good person. Someone who might just unravel everything she has worked for.

Soon enough Cordelia has to come face to face with the choices she's made. The good, the bad, and the murderous. Both her family, and her freedom, depend on it.



About the Author

Emma C. Wells is the author of *THIS GIRL'S A KILLER* (2024 Sourcebooks). She loves anti-heroes, dark humor, witty banter, and ride-or-die friendships. Twisty relationships are her kryptonite (or catnip--depending on how you look at it).

Courtesy of authors website
<https://www.emmacwells.com/>

Discussion Questions

- What did you think of the pacing of the story? Did the suspense build effectively?
- How did you feel about the unreliable narrator? Did it add to or detract from your reading experience?
- How does the book explore themes of revenge, justice, and morality?
- How does the setting of the story contribute to the overall atmosphere?
- How does Cordelia's backstory shape her actions and motivations?
- Did you find yourself sympathizing with Cordelia? Why or why not?
- How does Diane's character evolve throughout the story? What is the significance of her relationship with Cordelia?
- What are your thoughts on the other characters in the story? The victims?
- How does the author handle the balance between suspense and character development?
- What is the significance of the title? Does it accurately reflect the story?
- How does the book explore the concept of vigilantism and its consequences?
- What is the role of chance and fate in the story?
- What are your thoughts on the ending? Was it satisfying?
- How does the book compare to other thrillers you've read?
- What are some of the social and cultural issues raised by the story?

Book reviews

Wells debuts with a fast, funny look at the travails of Cordelia Black, a Baton Rouge, La., pharmaceutical rep who moonlights as a serial killer. Cordelia's life is carefully constructed: she makes sales by day and dispenses with men who've gotten away with violent crimes by night. In her off hours, she hangs out with her college best friend, Diane, and Diane's 13-year-old daughter, Samantha. But when the company Cordelia works for is threatened with a class-action lawsuit related to a medication's dangerous side effects, her life begins to unravel. While she frets about potential layoffs triggered by the suit, the local news starts using the term "serial killer" when reporting on the missing men she's murdered. To make matters worse, she senses that Diane's smarmy new boyfriend may be cheating on her. Cracking under the pressure, the typically methodical Cordelia commits a murder without much forethought, setting in motion a chain of events that threatens to put her behind bars forever. Wells mines plenty of laughs and thrills from Cordelia's attempts to claw her way to safety, with the darkness of the premise nicely balanced by the novel's fizzy first-person narration. Anyone who's ever wondered what kind of trouble a female Dexter Morgan would get up to is in luck.