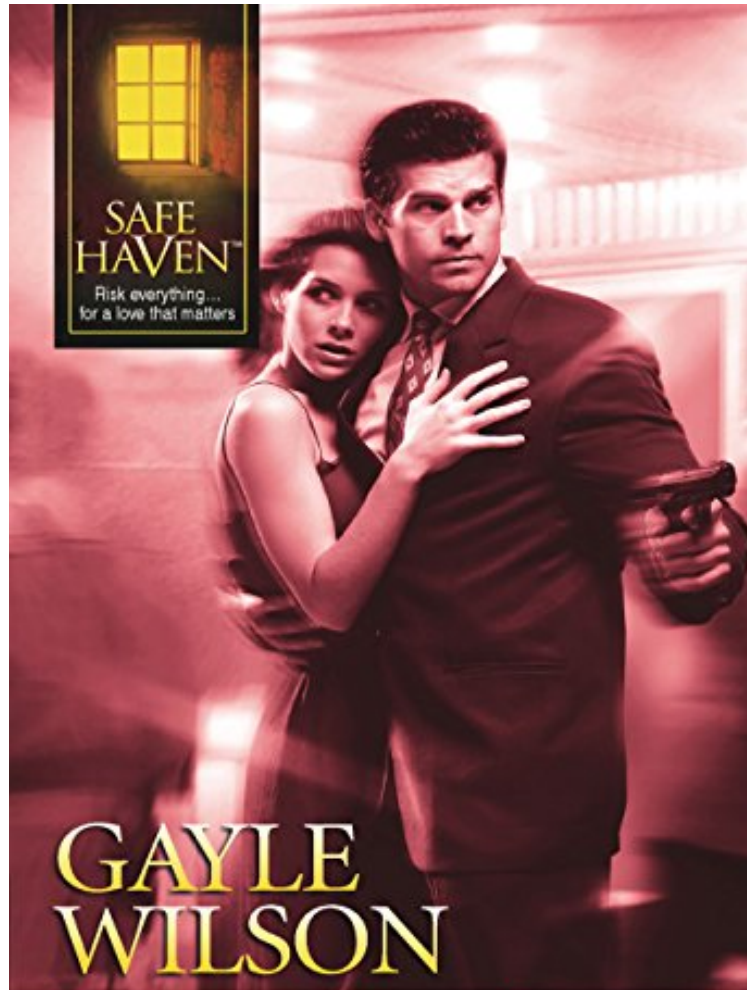


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## Her Private Bodyguard (Mills Boon Intrigue)

Von Gayle Wilson

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*Her Private Bodyguard*

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**Von Gayle Wilson : Her Private Bodyguard (Mills Boon Intrigue)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Her Private Bodyguard (Mills Boon Intrigue):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A Different Kind of Mystery ManVon Penny Griffin, Intrigue FanGayle Wilson's team of former CIA operatives are back in "Her Private Bodyguard," a different kind of story from the first books in the "Men of Mystery" series. Valerie Beaufort doesn't want a bodyguard. Grey Sellers doesn't care. She's probably not in any danger, but Grey's been hired to make sure nothing happens to her anyway. Isolated on her ranch, Grey discovers that the greatest danger to a man

with secrets isn't a bullet, but a woman like Valerie. Although all of Wilson's present-set romances have been published under the Intrigue banner, they really fall into two different categories: romantic suspense (the "Home to Texas" trilogy, the first three "Men of Mystery" books) and more standard long contemporary romance ("Each Precious Hour," "Never Let Her Go," etc.). In the first, the suspense and the romance unfold at the same time, as the characters fall in love while struggling to stay alive or solve a mystery. In the second, the characters fall in love in the middle of relatively uneventful surroundings. The danger, only alluded to before, appears in the final half or third to test the relationship or force them to confront their feelings, more a plot element than a full part of the story. "Her Private Bodyguard" falls firmly in the second category, a tale heavy on the romance and light on the action. In the first respect, Wilson gives readers a romance to cherish. Grey and Valerie are her usual hard-edged hero and fiercely independent heroine, two people with no intention of falling in love and no idea how to deal with it when they find they are. Their interactions sizzle, and both are well-drawn three-dimensional characters. Unlike in Wilson's last book, "Each Precious Hour," we get to see them grow and change and their love story clearly develops over the course of the book. They also have a ton of angst to work through and by the time the book closes with a triumphant and poignant scene, we get to bask with them in the glory of overcoming their pasts and fears. At the same time, two very unhappy people bickering and mistrusting each other with little plot movement to break it up can make for slow going after a while, even for those (like me) who like some angst. Of course, no one expects comedy or even lighthearted moments in a Wilson book, but in some of her others the suspense element has served to balance the angst. Here, not only do the characters each have a dozen chips on their shoulders (Men, her money, painkillers, her disability...why isn't Valerie in therapy?), but there is nothing to break up the anguish for most of the book. It got to be pretty depressing after a while. For the first 150 pages (out of 251) there is only one sort-of suspenseful moment; the conflict is all internal and most of the events are along the lines of "Should Valerie take an aspirin?"/"Should she take him a dinner tray?" There are almost no secondary characters to speak of, as they are given the most perfunctory characterization; the four main suspects blur together. Beautifully written though it is, even readers engrossed early on may find the book a bit of a slog by the midway point. The final third is pretty action packed, though the change is so radical from the earlier sections it is almost jarring. The CIA also feels like an afterthought and not as compelling as before. Readers just finding the series may want to start with the first three books (the RITA nominated "The Bride's Protector," the even better "The Stranger She Knew," and "Her Baby, His Secret") while they're still available, since the references to characters from those books in this one may be meaningless or confusing. Those who like the emphasis on the love story, the angst high, and don't like other elements interfering may find this to be their favorite. I'm sure some will love it. In any case, readers may want to know this is a very different kind of story than the other "Men of Mystery" books, and for me at least, not as fulfilling. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Dull Von Ein Kunde I concede that the author has the ability to reveal many layers of her characters many romance authors would never dream of finding. That does not amount to much if you cannot stand the characters. Fine characterization does not compensate for a story that moves slower than syrup and delivers obvious twists in the ending, particularly when the characters are as unpleasant as these. I cannot abide characters who wallow in anger and self pity. They deserved each other, I will grant them that. I nearly gave up halfway through the book. The mystery/suspense element was not being advanced and I did not want to spend one more minute watching the characters either sulking by themselves or being cold to one another. The sexual tension was high but I could not understand the appeal either character had for the other. The author does give readers an uncommon opportunity to be acquainted with every aspect of her main characters. I unfortunately found they were not they type of people I wanted to know, in real life or in fiction. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Depressing is right! Von Ein Kunde I'm so glad someone else said it! I need characters I like and identify with for a story to work. I didn't like these people. They didn't like themselves. I don't know why they liked each other. I never knew meeting someone who is down on themselves all the time was attractive. Don't get me wrong. I like characters who feel pain and emotion. I might not have been in the mood to indulge these two. Right before this I read a new Superromance where the hero was in a wheelchair and the heroine was an Olympic runner who might never run again. They had REAL problems and fears and did about ten times less moping than these two. I rolled my eyes when Gray's past was revealed. I thought he must have killed a million people for all his bellyaching. And Valerie? A man done you wrong ten years ago and not even that bad? Move on already! Maybe it caught me in the wrong mood. I will think twice before buying this writer's work again.

Kurzbeschreibung A MAN IN THE SHADOWS Ex-CIA operative Grey Sellers had settled into a quiet, anonymous life. No secrets, no bullets, no nightmares just the way he wanted it. Until he was hired to protect reluctant heiress Valerie Beaufort from a killer. He'd sworn not to get emotionally attached to the assignment but Valerie was so much more than that. Valerie hadn't wanted a bodyguard, even one as sexy as Grey Sellers. But with him, Valerie finally felt like a woman a woman willing to let a man into her heart. Yet Grey's secrets were deep and his past even deeper. Would she discover the man he truly was before it was too late? Kurzbeschreibung A MAN IN THE SHADOWS Ex-

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