



***Into the Fire*
by Irene Hannon**

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***Irene Hannon Sizzles in New Romantic
Suspense Series***

“Exciting mystery will keep readers guessing.”

—*Publishers Weekly* on *Body of Evidence*

Ada, Mich.—Bestselling and award-winning author Irene Hannon was named “the queen of inspirational romantic suspense” by *Library Journal*, and with over sixty novels Hannon continues to prove that she is a master at her craft. Now she introduces readers to another blazing tale in *Into the Fire*, book 1 in the Undaunted Courage series. Brimming with a puzzling mystery, a budding romance, and escalating danger, *Into the Fire* will leave readers breathless but craving more of Hannon’s electrifying tales.

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As a former smokejumper, arson investigator Bri Tucker knows her way around fires. But after a mysterious blaze takes the life of a former colleague, Bri inherits a curious puzzle from him that raises questions about several fiery deaths. Someone, however, doesn’t want her picking up where he left off in search of answers.

When she teams up with ATF Special Agent Marc Davis to solve the puzzle, the danger escalates. But will they manage to track down the person behind the mysterious deaths before their budding romance—and maybe even their lives—go up in flames?

Join Irene Hannon in her brand-new series that is sure to get your adrenaline pumping as you burn through the pages to discover the truth.



Get Connected:

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About the Author

Irene Hannon is the bestselling and award-winning author of more than 60 contemporary romance and romantic suspense novels. In addition to her many other honors, she is a three-time winner of the prestigious RITA Award from Romance Writers of America. She is also a member of RWA's elite Hall of Fame and has received a Career Achievement Award from *RT Book Reviews* for her entire body of work.

PRAISE for Hannon's Previous Novels

"Irene Hannon hit this one out of the park. You can forget about sleep once you start this book! This story and plot grabbed me by the throat and would not let go until I finished this book."

—*Interviews & Reviews* on *Body of Evidence*

"There is little doubt that Irene Hannon is a skilled author with a knack for the romantic suspense genre."

—*Life Is Story* on *Body of Evidence*

"This is one of the best offerings by master of romantic suspense Hannon."

—*Library Journal* on *Labyrinth of Lies*

"Another deftly written and original suspense thriller of a novel by a master of the genre."

—*Midwest Book Reviews* on *Labyrinth of Lies*

"Hannon makes her story hard to put down. Like any good thriller, *Labyrinth of Lies* teems with action."

—*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* on *Labyrinth of Lies*

"*Labyrinth of Lies* by Irene Hannon shows why she is the master of romantic suspense. Readers will always find in her books clever twists, enticing dialogue, likeable and realistic characters, a tinge of romance, and riveting plotlines."

—*Military Press* on *Labyrinth of Lies*

"Riveting suspense focused around controversial issues. Hannon delivers a heart-pounding novel that had me on the edge of my seat."

—*Relz Reviewz* on *Point of Danger*



Interview Questions for Irene Hannon

Into the Fire

Please provide a brief summary of *Into the Fire*.

Here's my one-sentence elevator pitch: A fire investigator and ATF agent join forces to track down a serial arsonist who will stop at nothing—including murder—to carry out a nefarious plan. (Romance ensues as well, of course!)

What was the inspiration for your new novel?

I've written many law-enforcement related books featuring a variety of crimes, but never anything fire-related. This story gave me an opportunity to do that. Plus, after researching the fascinating world of smokejumpers, I knew it was the perfect background for my strong and determined heroine.

***Into the Fire* is the first book in the Undaunted Courage series. How many books will be part of your new series and what ties the books together?**

There will be three books in the series. The link between the books is that they feature three foster siblings from difficult backgrounds. Each story spotlights one of the siblings, but the other two siblings do make appearances in that book.

What do readers have to look forward to in the rest of the Undaunted Courage series?

Book 2 will feature Jack Tucker, a homicide detective, who must determine whether the sole witness in a murder case has lost her grip on reality or whether someone is conducting a relentless campaign to destroy her credibility . . . and perhaps her life. In book 3, the youngest sibling, Cara Tucker, takes center stage. She's a historical anthropologist on sabbatical at a remote estate, where she's researching a vanishing language. When she finds herself caught up in a century-old mystery and murder, however, the local sheriff must track down the killer before he or she strikes again.

Your two protagonists, Bri Tucker and Marc Davis, have very unique professions.

What type of research was required to accurately portray their roles?

As I always tell people, while I write fiction, the professions and agencies and law enforcement protocols I write about are real. Since I'm a stickler for accuracy, I do huge amounts of research to ensure I portray these correctly. In this case, I found plenty of material online about smokejumpers, including female smokejumpers. That was invaluable. For the arson plot element that was unique to my story, I worked with a retired fire chief/fire marshal, who reviewed the scenarios I created. Those kinds of sources help put the final polish of authenticity on my stories.

In Bri's new role as a fire investigator, she inherits a curious puzzle from her predecessor.

What type of questions does this puzzle raise for Bri?

After the death of a retired colleague, Bri realizes he may have been on the brink of soliciting her help with several fires that had been ruled accidental but which continued to trouble him. But she has almost nothing to go on. What cases was he focused on? Why was he still concerned

about them? Who were the victims? But when a few clues emerge that suggest his quest may have merit, Bri digs in . . . and suddenly finds herself in the crosshairs.

What is the connection between Bri and Marc?

When Bri is assigned to investigate the suspicious death of her retired colleague, she's still relatively new to her job. Plus, it's a death that hit close to home for the department, and her boss wants to pull out all the stops. So he decides to have the ATF get involved too. That doesn't sit especially well with Bri, who'd prefer to work alone—but Marc ends up being an asset on both the professional and personal front! ☺

The setting for *Into the Fire* is St. Louis, Missouri. Why did you choose this location?

All but one of my suspense novels are set in the St. Louis area. Since my stories tend toward psychological suspense and aren't generally location contingent, I can set them anywhere. I use St. Louis because I'm very familiar with that setting, and writing about it requires almost no research . . . which frees me up to research everything else in the book.

What are some of the main themes covered in *Into the Fire* and what do you hope readers will gain from reading your book?

Forgiveness, self-esteem issues, overcoming challenges, finding the courage to trust, the importance of family, perseverance. All of those are in the book. Mostly what I try to do with my novels is tell a compelling story that entertains, encourages, and uplifts.

What do you love most about writing romantic suspense novels?

The high stakes, the deep dive into the minds of multiple characters, and the gradual build toward a dramatic climax. I also like watching a romance develop as two characters grapple with dangerous situations. Those sorts of conditions bring emotions to the forefront and allow the characters (and the reader) to get a clear read on their strengths and weaknesses fairly fast.

How can readers connect with you?

Facebook is my favorite place to hang out with readers. I'm there every day, and I love to engage with readers. For general information about me and my books, my website is the best resource—www.irenehannon.com.

GUEST: Irene Hannon, author

BOOK: *Into the Fire* (available October 2023, Revell)
