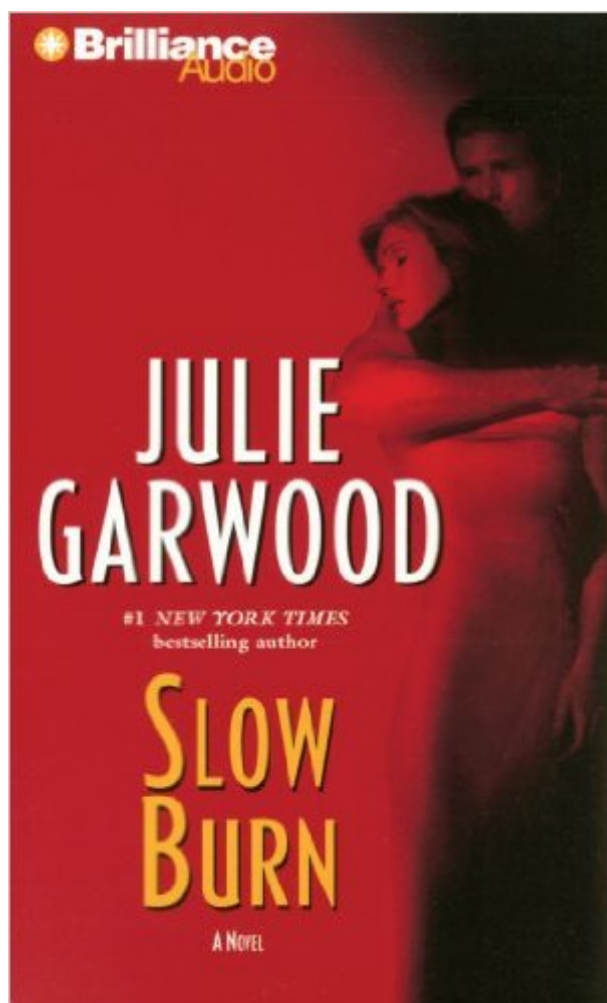


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# Slow Burn (Buchanan-Renard-MacKenna)



## Synopsis

Living a successful life in Charleston, South Carolina, Kate MacKenna has always been able to turn her challenges into triumphs. But now the fates seem to be lining up against her . . . in a lethal fashion. While attending a reception at a friend's estate for a controversial artist, Kate is nearly killed by an explosion. Once home, Kate is hit with the news that the prosperous fragrance company she has nurtured from the ground up is in jeopardy: It turns out that her late mother used the business as collateral for a huge loan, and full payment is due in three weeks. Kate's still reeling from this devastating news when her younger sister's volatile ex-boyfriend shows up and threatens her. Then Kate receives a call from her best friend, Jordan Buchanan, who is hospitalized and scheduled for surgery in Boston. Though stretched to the limit, Kate immediately rushes to her side. Once she knows that Jordan is going to be fine, Kate abandons her calm façade and allows herself a major meltdown, doing something that is totally uncharacteristic: She has a one-night stand with Jordan's brother Dylan. Coming to her senses, Kate returns home determined to get back on track and save her business. But the mishaps keep coming. At Jordan's insistence, Dylan checks up on Kate. He's convinced that she's merely having a spell of bad luck - until he discovers how many people want Kate MacKenna dead.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Slow Burn by Julie Garwood is a compelling story of mystery and romance. Kate MacKenna has had a near miss on her life when a bomb goes off at a charity event she is attending. She is drawn out of

town when her friend Jordan has a medical crisis. While there she falls into the arms of Dylan Buchanan, Jordan's brother. This is a complication she thinks she doesn't need. After another near miss with another explosion Dylan comes to town to get to the bottom of who wants to harm Kate. Dylan a detective is on leave after being injured on the job. He tells himself that he is looking after Kate at his sisters request but he comes to realize its always been Kate for him. Getting to the bottom of these accidents is further complicated when it comes to light that Kate has inherited a boatload of money. Dylan and Kate's romance is loaded with wit, charm and oozing sex appeal. The I Love You scene still makes me smile. The intrigue in this story is intense and heart pounding. Julie Garwood has written another exceptional story. Can't wait for the next tale.

Entrepreneur Kate McKenna has survived not one but two bombings, as well as a near fatal hit and run. She and her two sisters have just discovered that their mother, who died a year earlier, mortgaged Kate's business and soon they will lose their home, as well as Kate's livelihood if they cannot come up with a balloon payment. She travels to Boston to see her best friend and former college roommate, Jordan, who is undergoing surgery. While in Boston, Kate has a one night stand with Jordan's sexy brother, Dylan. When Kate reveals to Jordan all the bad luck that has come her way, Jordan becomes concerned and asks that Dylan to travel to South Carolina to look after Kate. Dylan is still is upset with Kate for taking off without saying goodbye, but goes down there anyhow. While the two decide to keep it platonic, she is summoned to a Savannah, Georgia law office for the reading of her uncle's will. When it's discovered that Kate will inherit the bulk of the estate, there are a whole lot more suspects to sift through. Garwood mixes humor with suspense and romance to come up with a knockout mystery about a woman who suddenly finds herself the victim of a mad bomber. Dylan and Kate ooze chemistry and Garwood gives them some great bantering dialogue. Dylan's way of telling her he loves her is priceless. I often guess who the baddie is, but this one had me baffled right up to the revelation.

Julie Garwood is an automatic buy for me and has been for years. When she first started penning romantic suspense I was afraid that her beautiful voice so apparent in her historical romances would be lost. Well, her voice has changed probably due to her change in genre but she still has managed to create vivid characters that are not only likeable but also entertaining. Someone wants Kate MacKenna dead. So far they've tried to blow her up twice in two different but nasty explosions, and they've tried to run her down. The big question is why? She's not rich, (she has recently just found out that she and her sisters are in danger of loosing their house due to a bank loan their mother took

out to cover her hospital expenses) not beautiful in her mind, and she lives a real simple life. Oh, she has friends and she has a burning crush on her best friend's brother Dylan. This is a big problem as she can't love Dylan and the fact that this handsome police detective is willing to put his life on the line for her only complicates things. Specially as she does need a knight in shining armor to keep her safe. Dylan has a thing for "Pickle" and his feelings for her are growing by leaps and bounds. When his sister Jordan asks him to fly down to keep her safe he does but he has no idea that Kate really is in trouble and that the person who wants her dead won't stop until she is. Will Dylan be able to keep her safe? Dylan and Kate were wonderful protagonists! I've loved the Buchanan Family series from the get-go. This story is no exception. Although I miss the historical romances that this author used to write, her romantic suspense still entertains. Ms. Garwood is a wonderful addition to the romantic suspense genre. Official Reviewer for Romance Designs

I've read some of Julie Garwood's other books and liked them but I couldn't stand this book. WARNING!! There will be some SPOILERS in this review!!! I got about 2/3 through the book before I had to stop. These people are not real, or even close to real. It took half a page to go from, 'oh I think he's sexy', to 'oh I guess I do like him', to 'He's so perfect...Oh! I've fallen in love!'. But it's a romance novel I can get over that, it's not good but I'm not expecting a lot here. What I can't fathom is she and her sisters are in money trouble, their mother signed all their money and assets away (which she shouldn't be mad about?) they're losing their house, have no life savings, the youngest can't go to college for more than a semester, the middle is losing her company, and the oldest will probably be fine. Their great uncle dies and leaves Kate a lot of money, he's kinda mean so her first instinct is to give it to her depraved, horrible, spoiled cousins? Wait, what? She changes her mind when they say mean things about her dead mother, then the next day has decided that her uncle was colder and meaner than she thought so she now doesn't want to use it to save her family (who are sweet kind and all things good) but instead wants to get rid of it in a way that leaves nothing for anyone in the family. What the hell?! Where is the logic? She is now actively making things harder for herself and her family. Perhaps she should just keep enough to not be homeless and pay off the loans? Nope she wants to get more loans that she can't pay off, like anyone would give them to her. Great plan. She is way too stupid to have started her own company in high school and gotten an MBA while running it. This is why I stopped reading the book, the people are too fake, I don't - can't care about them, and most of what they do doesn't make sense.

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