

Final Sin

By Chelle Cordero

Deputy Sheriff Commander Jake Carson has his hands full... investigation of a brutal multiple homicide, a troubled son and a vindictive ex-wife. He meets young, free-spirited paramedic Julie Jennings. When Julie becomes the subject of an obsession, it puts both of them in danger...

Book Club Discussion Starters

Final Sin

By Chelle Cordero

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

The introduction, discussion questions, suggestions for further reading, and author biography that follow are intended to enhance your group's discussion of *Final Sin*, written by Chelle Cordero. Ms. Cordero welcomes discussion and interaction with readers, and can be reached at via email at ChelleCordero@gmail.com. Learn more about Chelle at her website <http://ChelleCordero.com> or through Vanilla Heart Publishing, <http://www.vanillaheartbooksandauthors.com>.

ABOUT THIS BOOK

Deputy Sheriff Commander Jake Carson has his hands full... investigation of a brutal multiple homicide, a troubled son and a vindictive ex-wife. He meets young, free-spirited paramedic Julie Jennings. When Julie becomes the subject of an obsession, it puts both of them in danger...

For Matt and Julie, their tour of duty had started out like many others. There had been a call to a minor motor vehicle accident, another for chest pains and one more for a cancer patient who needed to go to the hospital for treatment. Many of the upstate New York communities had contracted with Paramedic services to complement the existing ambulance corps and provide emergency medical response. Whether paid or unpaid, the certified corps always responded with Emergency Medical Technicians who were capable of handling most emergencies. When the Paramedics were dispatched as well, IV drugs and additional hands could often help make critical differences when necessary.

This call had gone out over the radio for a burn victim, so none of the responding police, fire fighters, volunteer ambulance crew nor paramedics were prepared for what they found when they reached this isolated tool shed. From the outside, the grayed wood had seemed serene enough, and the one small window had been caked over with dirt. She didn't think that she would have given the shed a second glance under normal circumstances. But this was far from normal. No one had anticipated the horror scene inside.

Discussion Starters for *Bartlett's Rule* by Chelle Cordero

- Certified First Responders, Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics go through hours of training and must pass both practical and written tests before being allowed to treat patients. Both volunteers and paid emergency medical workers are required to take and pass the same

certifications/licensing. Do you know any emergency medical responders? Emergency medical response is a 24-hour, 7-day a week profession. What do you think their personal lives must be like?

- In NYS, the average Paramedic takes approximately 1000-1200 hours of instruction including both classroom and clinical skills; a Paramedic student must first be a basic level EMT and have a proficiency in Anatomy and Physiology. Paramedics are the highest trained medical professional in the pre-hospital emergency setting. Discuss the types of things that can be done pre-hospital to help stabilize a patient and improve their chances of survival. Have you ever been treated in an ambulance?
- Many municipalities in the United States respond to emergency calls made to 9-1-1. What do you know about your local ambulance/emergency medical services? Do your local responders work paid or volunteer their time to respond to calls? Is your local ambulance service BLS (basic life support) or ALS (advanced life support)? Do you know the difference? If your local ambulance squad is volunteer, what could you do to help them respond in your community?
- Did you know that Enhanced-911 systems display both the phone number and the address of the caller if you are calling from a “landline” phone? Whether you are calling from a landline phone or a cell phone, it is still important to state the nature of the emergency as well as the address and to remain on the line until the dispatcher tells you otherwise. What number would you call in your community for an emergency? What types of things would you call for an emergency response?
- In the opening scene of Final Sin, emergency responders from EMS, the fire department and local law enforcement are all on scene. Different agencies often respond to emergencies and must cooperate with each other. Who do you think should be in charge at a multi-agency response? What factors would change your mind about who takes charge at a scene?
- Jake is a Deputy Sheriff. What is the difference between local police, state police and sheriff departments? Which one(s) serve your community? What steps would you take if you were a police officer and arrived at a crime scene?
- The autopsy suite described in Final Sin has a sign which says, “HIC LOCUS EST UBI MORS GAUDET SUCCURRERE VITAE” (This is the place where death rejoices to teach those who live). What does this mean to you? There are many television shows which deal with crime solving techniques such as C.S.I. What do you know about the use of forensics in criminal investigations?

- “A serial killer is typically defined as a person who murders three or more people[1][2] over a period of more than 30 days, with a "cooling off" period between each murder, and whose motivation for killing is largely based on psychological gratification.” (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Serial_killer) There have been several infamous serial killers in history – can you think of their names and their crimes?
- What precautions can you take to avoid becoming a victim of crime? Experts suggest that criminals look for people who are not aware of their surroundings and surprise them. Quickly, close your eyes and describe the setting around you? With your eyes still closed, can you describe the details including clothing of anyone in the room?

For additional information/research:

Look up your local State Bureau of EMS for information or visit <http://www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/ems/main.htm> for more information

Consider inviting a member of your local ambulance corps to your discussion group.

Find out where you can take courses in CPR and First Aid.

Additional Reading: **Choosing a Career in Law Enforcement** (World of Work) by Claudine G. Wirths (Jun 2001)



Photo by Mark Engelman

Chelle has come a long way since first joining the Vanilla Heart Publishing queue of authors nearly three years ago with her first novel, *Bartlett's Rule*. Now with eight novels on the market, she has solidified her standing as a Romantic Suspense author (7 romantic suspense & 1 mystery.) She also has short stories in the VHP anthology *With Arms Wide Open*, Mandimam's Press anthology *Forever Friends*, the VHP anthology *Nature's Gifts*, VHP anthology *Passionate Hearts* and Mandimam Press anthology *Forever Travels*. She is currently working on her next murder mystery.

Bartlett's Rule was named one of Carolyn Howard-Johnson's Top Ten Reads for 2009; *Final Sin* was a 2009 Pushcart Nominee; and *Hostage Heart*, *Final Sin* and *A Chance of Riches* were nominated in the 2009 Predators' and Readers' poll and had top-ten finishes. Chelle Cordero was recently featured as one of the authors in "50 Great Writers You Should Be Reading" published by *The Author's Show* in 2010.

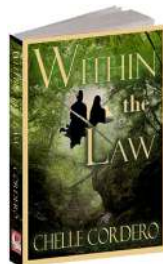
Chelle Cordero belongs to the VHP Authors Group and the Arts Alliance of Haverstraw Rockland Author's Series. Along with fellow VHP authors Charmaine Gordon and Janet Lane Walters, Chelle is part of TLC: Three Local Characters With Stories To Tell, an author book discussion and workshop seminar program. She maintains an author's blog at <http://chellecordero.blogspot.com/>, a promotional blog at <http://cce613.xanga.com/>, blogs frequently at Lindsay's Romantics <http://bit.ly/3rGJ7l>, and offers a weekly writing workshop for Kindle Blog subscribers at <http://bit.ly/pILcG>.

Chelle lives in the suburbs of Rockland County, NY with her husband, Mark, of 35-years and family. They have two adult offspring, Jenni (& Jason) and Marc (& Trish); they also have three mischievous and spoiled pussycats, one of whom has taken up permanent residence on Chelle's desk. Chelle is a full-time freelance journalist for multiple publications, her articles appear regularly throughout North America, and she writes a monthly column on NYS Emergency Medical Services issues (she is also a volunteer EMT and the current President of her local ambulance corps).

More Books by Chelle Cordero



Bartlett's Rule *Bartlett's Rule* shares the story of Lon and Paige's love affair; a romance filled with hardship, emotion, danger and triumph. Falling in love was never the challenge; being there for each other, knowing just what to say and making it work is the real test. Paige and Lon are real; they are human, they cry and they laugh. Paige has to learn to trust. Lon has to learn to be patient.



Within the Law Tom gave up on ever falling in love again the day that he buried his high school sweetheart and fiancé. He started a career in law enforcement just so that he could find her murderer and rapist. Just when he is about to see justice done, he meets Alli Davis-the defense attorney for the murdering rapist who took his love from him.



Courage of the Heart *Courage of The Heart* shows us that sometimes love is the only cure for the very deepest of emotional wounds. The story of the two lovers takes a series of unexpected and fast paced turns where lives, sanity and love are put in jeopardy. Their commitment to one another results in a spirit that binds them together and helps them to overcome physical and emotional dangers.



Hostage Heart Life was hard after the hurricanes swept through, destroying her parents' home and livelihood... An errand for her boss - a chance encounter with a crew of bank robbers - a kind man who tried to help her ... a man who isn't all he seems...no, he is so much more.



A Chance of Riches The day that Ben Johnson was hired as a bodyguard for some rich widow and her kid, he never expected to be working for the woman who had abandoned him just when he had needed her the most so many years before. Damn it all, he still wanted her. Samantha Chaunce never thought she would see him again. She never thought she would have to explain why she married the rich man over the man she had sworn she once loved. And she certainly never expected to find out that her rich husband had been murdered and fingers were pointing to her former lover.



Common Bond, Tangled Hearts Layne Gillette's world is turned upside down when a man she has never met shows up to lay claim as the father of her 6-year old son. Justin, the victim of a fraternity prank, and Layne, the subject of a forced insemination, have produced a beautiful child that they are both willing to protect at all costs. The two parents realize they can love each other, but when Layne's abusive "ex-husband" shows up, they are torn apart by danger, kidnapping and lies. Justin won't give up until Layne is returned to him. Layne uses her newfound strength, courage and knowledge to defy Charlie's ugliest demands.



His Lucky Charm What happens in Vegas doesn't always stay in Vegas... this time it follows Brandon and Caitlyn across the country and into a world of espionage and danger. The one thing that Brandon knows for sure is that he can't afford to lose his lucky charm, Caitlyn. Will their romance survive a foreign threat to national security, kidnapping, personal tragedy and a murder attempt?



ONE SCENE DO NOT CROSS

CHELLE CORDERO

Final Sin

by
Chelle Cordero

Deputy Sheriff
Commander Jake
Carson has his hands
full... Investigation of
a brutal multiple
homicide, a troubled
son and a vindictive
ex-wife. He meets
young, free-spirited
paramedic Julie
Jennings. When Julie
becomes the subject of
an obsession, it puts
both of them in danger...

Vanilla Heart Publishing
VanillaHeartBooks@Outdoors.com



ONE SCENE DO NOT CROSS

CHELLE CORDERO

Final Sin

by
Chelle Cordero

Deputy Sheriff
Commander Jake
Carson has his hands
full... Investigation of
a brutal multiple
homicide, a troubled
son and a vindictive
ex-wife. He meets
young, free-spirited
paramedic Julie
Jennings. When Julie
becomes the subject of
an obsession, it puts
both of them in danger...

Vanilla Heart Publishing
VanillaHeartBooks@Outdoors.com



ONE SCENE DO NOT CROSS

CHELLE CORDERO

Final Sin

by
Chelle Cordero

Deputy Sheriff
Commander Jake
Carson has his hands
full... Investigation of
a brutal multiple
homicide, a troubled
son and a vindictive
ex-wife. He meets
young, free-spirited
paramedic Julie
Jennings. When Julie
becomes the subject of
an obsession, it puts
both of them in danger...

Vanilla Heart Publishing
VanillaHeartBooks@Outdoors.com



ONE SCENE DO NOT CROSS

CHELLE CORDERO

Final Sin

by
Chelle Cordero

Deputy Sheriff
Commander Jake
Carson has his hands
full... Investigation of
a brutal multiple
homicide, a troubled
son and a vindictive
ex-wife. He meets
young, free-spirited
paramedic Julie
Jennings. When Julie
becomes the subject of
an obsession, it puts
both of them in danger...

Vanilla Heart Publishing
VanillaHeartBooks@Outdoors.com



ONE SCENE DO NOT CROSS

CHELLE CORDERO

Final Sin

by
Chelle Cordero

Deputy Sheriff
Commander Jake
Carson has his hands
full... Investigation of
a brutal multiple
homicide, a troubled
son and a vindictive
ex-wife. He meets
young, free-spirited
paramedic Julie
Jennings. When Julie
becomes the subject of
an obsession, it puts
both of them in danger...

Vanilla Heart Publishing
VanillaHeartBooks@Outdoors.com



ONE SCENE DO NOT CROSS

CHELLE CORDERO

Final Sin

by
Chelle Cordero

Deputy Sheriff
Commander Jake
Carson has his hands
full... Investigation of
a brutal multiple
homicide, a troubled
son and a vindictive
ex-wife. He meets
young, free-spirited
paramedic Julie
Jennings. When Julie
becomes the subject of
an obsession, it puts
both of them in danger...

Vanilla Heart Publishing
VanillaHeartBooks@Outdoors.com