



In the Cut (movie tie-in)

By Susanna Moore

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**Soon to be a major motion picture directed by Jane Campion and starring
Meg Ryan
In theaters this fall**

By day, Frannie teaches her writing students about irony and language in all its nuance and unspoken meaning. By night, she compiles a secret dictionary of street slang. One night in the basement of a bar she walks in on an intimate moment between a man and a woman. The man's face is shadowed in the darkness, but she will forever remember the tattoo on the inside of his left wrist. When the first brutal murder rocks her neighborhood, Frannie is propelled into a sexual liaison that tests the limits of her safety and desires, as she begins a terrifying descent into the dark places that reside deep within her. *In the Cut* is a masterfully written thriller that will keep readers tense with its mounting sense of terror.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Several stunning shocks await Moore's longtime readers in her fourth novel. First, there is the change of genre and locale. Her previous books (*My Old Sweetheart*; *The Whiteness of Bones*) have been lush, sensitive explorations of coming of age in a dysfunctional family in Hawaii, in an atmosphere permeated by island spirits and traditions. Here, Moore has honed her prose with knife-like precision to construct an edgy, intense, erotic thriller set in bohemian Manhattan. Her protagonist and narrator, Franny, is a divorced NYU professor deliberately closed off from emotional entanglements. She teaches a class for ghetto youth, meanwhile pursuing her obsession with language; she is writing a book recording the street vernacular and the black lingo of New York's seedier neighborhoods. Though on the surface her life seems circumscribed, she is a woman who takes risks, especially sexual risks. One night, she observes a man with a tattoo on his wrist in an act of sexual congress; though she does not see his face, she remembers the red-haired woman who had performed fellatio when she becomes a murder victim. Questioned as a possible witness by homicide detectives James Mallory and his partner Richard Rodriguez, she enjoys the frisson of danger when she takes Mallory as a lover, in spite of the fact that his wrist bears the same tattoo as that of the probable killer. The predatory, slightly corrupt Mallory is a coolly skillful lover, forcing Franny to push beyond sexual barriers into areas she has never explored. But in testing those erotic boundaries, she puts herself in mortal danger. Moore's control of her material is impressive: as she sweeps toward a knockout ending, she employs the gritty vernacular, red-herring clues and cold-blooded brutality of a bona-fide thriller without sacrificing the integrity of her narrative. The question is: will readers be disturbed? and perhaps repelled by? explicit descriptions of sexual acts, scatological language and gruesome violence? 100,000 first printing.

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From Library Journal

Billed as an "erotic thriller," Moore's (*Sleeping Beauties*, LJ 9/1/93) latest is erotic, but it's certainly no thriller. The heroine is an English teacher who muses endlessly on the meanings of language, even at times when she should be experiencing intense emotion. She witnesses an event that leads to a grisly murder and becomes sexually involved with the cop investigating the case. Her closest friend, with whom she discusses sexual experiences in detail, is viciously murdered and mutilated by the same killer, and she herself falls victim, an interesting trick in a story told in the first person. Not only is the heroine distanced by language from her emotions, but so is the reader. Not recommended, although Moore has a following and larger collections may want to have a copy. Marylaine Block, St. Ambrose Univ. Lib., Davenport, Ia.

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From Booklist

A lot of new novels come bearing the publisher's plug "erotic thriller," but most pan out to be limp in both respects! Moore's smashing new novel is billed as such--and lives up to its promotion to the fullest. Taut and tense, sparingly constructed and beautifully written, this seductive story of seductiveness follows a deadly sequence of events in the life of a creative-writing teacher at New York University. One of her students is getting a little too close for comfort, but that's the least of her concerns. A murder has occurred within earshot and view of her Washington Square brownstone, and the investigating officer, when he comes knocking, presents a beguiling situation. Isn't he the man she saw in the basement of a neighborhood bar engaged in a sexual act with the very same young woman whose photo is shown to her as the murder victim? Isn't it fun, then, finding herself falling into an affair with the detective, all the while wondering if he's a bad cop, a murderer, in fact? When her best friend is murdered, the titillating game becomes far more than that. The twist at the end is the perfect cap on a book that will keep you up all hours finishing it. *Brad Hooper*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Dave Thomas:

Have you spare time for a day? What do you do when you have a lot more or little spare time? That's why, you can choose the suitable activity to get spend your time. Any person spent their own spare time to take a move, shopping, or went to often the Mall. How about open or maybe read a book eligible In the Cut (movie tie-in)? Maybe it is to get best activity for you. You understand beside you can spend your time with the favorite's book, you can better than before. Do you agree with its opinion or you have some other opinion?

Jose Miller:

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Henry Woods:

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Douglas Johnson:

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