

Kelly Simmons' Fix to Matty Dalrymple's Query Letter for Suspense Thriller ALWAYS FAITHFUL

Before

In my suspense thriller ALWAYS FAITHFUL (85K words), retired Marine Corps Lieutenant Faith Dixon is struggling with the loss of her legs in combat, the death of her father, and guilt over her actions in Afghanistan. After a disturbing exchange with a bereaved father who accuses his son's fellow Marines of leaving him behind, she realizes how tightly her nerves are wound.

She escapes to a remote cabin in Maine with Brewer, her mentor's Labrador Retriever, hoping for some R&R. Instead she encounters a series of increasingly alarming events: threatening emails, the appearance of a menacing stranger, approaching rifle shots in the dead of night, and an attack on the rocks at Bass Harbor Head Light.

Faith is determined to stand her ground. But when her prostheses and Brewer are stolen from the cabin, there can be little doubt that someone is sending a message. She must dig deep in an effort to save herself, to redeem herself for her actions in Afghanistan, and to ensure that no one is left behind.

ALWAYS FAITHFUL combines the personal trials of Robert Galbraith's (J. K. Rowling's) Cormoran Strike with the strong female lead of Nevada Barr's Anna Pigeon Mysteries.

I am deeply indebted to the veterans, amputees, and medical professionals who helped make sure I got Faith's story right. I have attached a list of those subject matter experts, as well as a description from my primary amputee subject matter expert / sensitivity reader about his involvement and the changes I made as a result of his input.

I am the author of the Lizzy Ballard Thriller Trilogy *Rock Paper Scissors, Snakes and Ladders*, and *The Iron Ring*; the Ann Kinnear Suspense Novels *The Sense of Death* and *The Sense of Reckoning*; and the Ann Kinnear Suspense Shorts, including *Close These Eyes* and *Write in Water*. I am a member of Mystery Writers of America and Sisters in Crime.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Matty Dalrymple
matty@mattydalrymple.com

After

Marine Corps Lieutenant Faith Dixon is struggling with the loss of her legs in combat, the death of her father, and guilt over her actions in Afghanistan. After a blow-up with the bereaved father of a fellow Marine, she knows she needs a re-set, and escapes to a remote cabin on the Maine coast.

But instead of peace and quiet, she encounters a series of increasingly alarming events: threatening emails, the appearance of a menacing stranger, rifle shots in the dead of night, and an attack on the rocks at Bass Harbor Head Light.

When her prostheses and her dog are stolen from her cabin, there's no doubt someone is targeting her. With the local police skeptical, and no unit to back her up, she is forced to save herself – from the imminent threat and from the secrets she carries from Afghanistan.

ALWAYS FAITHFUL is a blend of the personal trials of Robert Galbraith's Cormoran Strike with the strong female lead of Nevada Barr's Anna Pigeon Mysteries.

I'm a member of Mystery Writers of America and Sisters in Crime, and the author of the Lizzy Ballard Thriller Trilogy *Rock Paper Scissors, Snakes and Ladders*, and *The Iron Ring*; and the Ann Kinnear Suspense Novels *The Sense of Death* and *The Sense of Reckoning*.

Since you're looking for strong suspense novels, I hope you might agree to read a few chapters?

Sincerely,

Matty Dalrymple
matty@mattydalrymple.com

P.S. I am deeply indebted to the veterans, amputees, and medical professionals who helped make sure I got Faith's story right. I'm happy to send you a list of those experts and to outline the changes I made as a result of their wisdom.