



## This Year's Black

*Avery Flynn*

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## **This Year's Black** Avery Flynn

A fighter since birth, Allegra “Ryder” Falcon would rather trade in her all-black wardrobe for head-to-toe hot pink than let anyone ever see the cracks in her tough exterior. But one night with a stranger changes everything.

Devin Harris may have given up his MMA fighting dreams for high fashion, but that doesn't mean he isn't always in control. So when someone embezzles millions under his watch, he isn't going to let the private investigator working the case go it alone—even if she is the woman who blew him away in bed and then blew him off.

Just when it seems like it couldn't get any hotter between Ryder and Devin, the case takes them to a tropical paradise where the danger increases. From the catwalk to the pineapple fields, they have to work together to track down the missing millions before the thief finds—and kills—they.

## **This Year's Black Details**

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Author : Avery Flynn

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## From Reader Review This Year's Black for online ebook

### Rosa Sharon (iScream Books Blog) says

Everywhere and nowhere...

This is the 2nd book in the Killer Style Series and I liked it even more than the first. Ryder cracked me up with her witty banter, internal dialogue, MMA skills, and her b\*\*ch-please look. She's been burned by a long string of bad choices and has decided to give up relationships for a year. After having the best one-night-stand of her life she sneaks out, blocks his calls, and plans to never see him again. Woo Hoo! the sparks fly when she ends up in the same room with Devin, the sexy, muscled, tattooed hotness that threatens her ability to produce a single coherent thought. I love this series which is a combination of humor, suspense, action, and sexy.

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### Jennifer says

#### Originally posted at The Book Nympho

Ryder Falcon is the little sister to Tony, the hero in *High-Heeled Wonder*. She works for Tony as a forensic accountant at Maltese Falcon Security. Being the youngest of a large Sicilian family, Ryder has worked hard to make a name for herself. She's good at her job but after a really bad relationship that she's hidden from her family she doesn't trust her own judgement anymore and have sworn off guys.

With the plan for a year of no commitment relationships and training inside a boxing ring she thinks she will be safe from being a victim again.

All the lessons she'd learned while sparring with Cam at Paulie's Gym came into perfect focus. *Keep your guards up. Don't stop moving. Attack first. Hit hard and hit often. Aim to disable. Then get the fuck out.*

This quote from *This Year's Black* perfectly describes Ryder's way of not only handling herself in a fight but it is also how she handles herself in her dating life.

That is until she shares one night with Devin Harris. The business name that's gorgeous, well-built and tattooed. Oh and it's awesome in bed. He so her type and that's why she keeps running from him.

It's refreshing to read a romance where the chick has the commitment issues and the guy is the one calling and wondering why she won't return his calls. Don't get me wrong Devin is no push over. He has over come his own family issues to become the strong and successful guy he is. So he's an alpha male that happens to work in the fashion world. That just means he can apprentice the sexy high heels his woman is wearing when he is bedding her.

Not that Ryder wears heels. The couple could not be more different and yet similar. Ryder's idea of fashion is wearing all black from last year's line while Devin is dressed to the nine. But under their clothes they are both strong and carrying people.

While *This Year's Black* is the 2nd in the *Killer Style* series by Avery Flynn you could easily read it without reading the first book, *High-Heeled Wonder* but I recommend both books to readers that enjoy their romantic suspense on the sassy side.

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## **Alison says**

Received via Netgalley from Author

This is the second book in this rather stylish series from Avery. It stands alone from *High Heeled Wonder* (but you should read it as you will miss out on another good book and Tony!!)

Anyway - a good healthy dose of sex, sunshine, fashion and gun toting jewel thieves - what more can you want from a book. The book has some witty dialogue that had me laughing out loud and I am surprised my paperwhite didn't burn out with the chemistry between Ryder and Devin!

I read this is a few sittings and it would make a perfect holiday read.

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## **Kooky says**

ARC from Netgalley

In book 1 from this series we were introduced to Maltese Security. This book focuses on a different person from that agency, Allegra 'Ryder' Falcon. She's assigned a job at a major fashion store, where, posing as Devin Harris' assistant in order to stay undercover, she needs all her knowledge of forensic accounting to find who has embezzled millions from the company. Problem is, Devin Harris is a "jock turned fashion executive; rich kid made good; a man who rarely spent a night alone unless he wanted it that way" and she had an unforgettable one night with him. Harris wanted more afterwards but she ignored all contact. After being hurt in the past, she's committed to a year of no strings attached sex.

Having to work together is difficult to say the least, both strong characters wanting to take the lead, "be it the bedroom or the boardroom, few people ever challenged him" until now, and both feel the understated tension as they recall the night they spent together. For a large chunk of the story "if they weren't fucking, they were fighting". Keeping it professional and nothing but business gets harder and harder.

When they get into a tricky situation and are fenced in by 7 well built bad guys, they work together "as if they'd been doing it their whole lives, she and Devin instantly took positions back to back, guards up and fists ready". They made a bad ass team!

I hate camping, ugh, but the sex scene in the tent got me hot and bothered and could convince me that camping could be fun.

They make a great couple both in the sparing of words, the way they fight as an experienced duo and in their lust filled relationship. The plot was excellent and full of action.

You don't need to have read book 1 for this book to make sense but I do recommend it as it was a good read.

Now that Tony and Ryder from Maltese Security have had a story, I'm wondering if Carlos and Cam are going to have their own books? I hope so.

## Shannon says

*Ryder Falcon. Shit, with a name like that she should be in skin-tight red leather, fighting super villains in a comic book.*

This Year's Black starts off with Ryder having to work a case of stolen funds for a department store with her one-night stand Devin. And let's just say he wasn't too happy she snuck out and avoided his attempts to contact her. Not only that but he feels responsible that an employee has been stealing from them. Seems like a pretty standard mystery with sexual tension storyline, right? Wrong! First of all, I was completely surprised how fast Ryder figured out who the thief was. But I later realized that it didn't matter if they knew who it was because they weren't going to apprehend the crook easily. And that's where all the fun came from. Having Ryder and Devin forced to be together on this case was great. Their interactions were what made the book. It was basically like watching an episode of Castle and I love Castle so take that as a big compliment in case there was any doubt ;).

The only downside to the book is that it was too short for me. It just flew by and I wanted the case to be stretched out more even though there is only so much chasing you can do in a book before it gets boring. Call me greedy but I wanted more...more wit...more tension...more mystery. I think I'll just settle for picking up High-Heeled Wonder, the first book in the series that features Ryder's brother, Ted. All in all, it was a good, fast read with great kick ass characters.

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## Margaret says

Once again Avery Flynn delivers a delicious story with an extra helping of sexy and a double portion of snarky banter, all served up on a platter full of the fashion world. This second installment in her Killer Style series had me laughing and fanning myself as Ryder and Devin have to work together to uncover an embezzler while the sparks are flying between them and danger seems to find them at every turn.

I just loved Ryder. She was one strong, kick-ass heroine who has been hurt in the past by a relationship gone bad...and has put herself in a one-year time out as far as relationships are concerned.

“She loved her best friends, but she'd made her decision of a commitment-free year to retrain her guy-dar so she'd stop falling for the same brand of shithead as she had in the past and she was sticking to it.”

Devin was sexy as all get out and, despite his rough exterior and the scars he carries from his past, was sweet and everything you would want in an alpha male. He can't believe it when he finds out that the PI that his boss has hired to help investigate the embezzling going on turns out to be Ryder – the woman who he had a steamy, one-night affair with...the woman who snuck out in the morning and refused to answer any of his calls afterward. Of course the tension between the two makes for some fabulous scenes, especially since Devin can't help but find himself turned on by everything that Ryder does – even when she's telling him where to go and how to get there!

“Devin had been told, subtly, and not so subtly, to fuck off too many times to count, but this was the first time that his only response was a twitch behind his zipper.”

And when their investigation has them travelling together to attend fashion week on an island off the coast of Chile, the close proximity has sparks flying as both Devin and Ryder try to keep from acting on the attraction that they both feel.

“Trapped in midair, halfway into the nine-hour flight, Devin acted out his own version of Jack typing in the old Steven King movie, *The Shining*. But he was punching random letters on the keyboard to keep the horny away instead of the crazy.”

As their investigation begins to ruffle the wrong feathers and they find themselves having to rely on one another to stay alive, I loved watching Devin and Ryder work together to keep each other safe – and I especially loved the just how much respect Devin gave to Ryder and her ability to fight and protect herself.

This was a fun read, especially with all that witty banter, snark and fun commentary that Avery Flynn adds to story. One of my favorite lines, from the beginning of the book...

“Cam’s dating history was as long and sordid as a pornified version of *War and Peace*.”

Looking forward to the next book in the *Killer Style* series!

I was given a copy of this book by the author for an honest review.

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## **Rachel says**

Avery Flynn ratchets up the snark, fun, chemistry, action and suspense with this the second instalment of the *Killer Style* series.

I absolutely loved this book and stayed up late reading it because I didn't want to put it down. Ryder and Devin are now a favourite book couple. They were just so much fun to read.

One of my favourite things about this and all of this authors books is the humour mixed in with the intrigue, suspense and serious moments. It's lines like below that had me chuckling and garnering strange looks from others.

Ryder "Muscles, tattoos, ass worth crying over, totally my type and, therefore, exactly the kind of guy I should stay away from " And Devin "Nothing gets his blood pumping faster than someone telling him he couldn't do something. And Ryder was a waking stop sign"

It was meant to be a one night stand, a stop in her commitment free year.

But when a work assignment throws Ryder and her Devin together can they keep their hands, mouths and

other body parts away from each other so one night doesn't become more ?

And would it be so bad ?? Especially if it was with mister tall, delicious, tattooed and oh the client ?

Plus they are the trail of an embezzler, on a deadline, and slowly falling for each other. Can they over come all this and their pasts to find happiness ?

When you pick up a Avery Flynn book you already know its going to be good and she did not disappoint with this outing.

I just finished this visit to Harbor City and I'm ready for a return visit. Hopefully to with Drea and maybe Cam ? I can't wait for the next book, I am hooked on this series.

I received a copy of this book from the publisher for an honest review.

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### **Nicola says**

This was fabulous and Avery Flynn has balanced a story with suspense and action with sizzling sexy content perfectly. I have to confess I haven't read the first book in this series, but it's definitely on my reading radar now as if it's half as good as this I'll be a happy lady.

Ryder Falcon is one tough lady. Strong, sassy and stubborn, she has made it her mission to ensure she can take care of herself for personal reasons. The same reason why she has declared a commitment-free year has pledged she will only date a man once. When she is placed to investigate an embezzlement case, she doesn't expect to be working alongside the man who rocked her world for one night. Under the corporate suit, Devin Harris is an ex-MMA fighting, cocky, tattooed brute of a man. She may have hauled-ass after their night of extreme pleasure, deleting & blocking his number, but their attraction to one another is undeniable. Ryder can try and fight it, but Devin is simply irresistible...

Their chemistry is off-the-scale-sexy and leads to some page-burning intimacy as well as some lovely touching moments. Together they fit and Ryder stirs something deep in Devin. With his own painful secrets my heart ached for him, but underneath the bad-boy exterior is a man who knows all the right things to say:

**"This is what you do to me every time I so much as think about you. And if I don't stop, I'm going to come in my boxers instead of buried deep inside you, which is the only place in the world I want to be right now."**

With humour and wit amongst the page-turning suspense and the page-burning sexy content Avery Flynn has brought everything I love in an action romance. *This Year's Black* is a book I recommend.

*I received a copy of this courtesy of Entangled Publishing for an honest & unbiased opinion.*

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## Mason says

Ryder Falcon isn't your typical protagonist in many ways, yet she's a perfect fit for author Avery Flynn's **THIS YEAR'S BLACK**.

Ryder is strong and independent, but has a vulnerable side she tries hard to hide. She's been in an abusive relationship so now she's afraid to trust and love again.

Ryder, who has a forensic accounting degree, works for her brother's security company, Maltese Security, doing mostly low level jobs. When she's assigned an embezzlement case for Dylan's Department Store, she determined to show her family she's got what it takes.

However, Ryder runs into a bit of a problem when the store owner wants her to work with his second-in-command, Devin Harris. Devin is the one-night stand Ryder has refused to return calls from and has been avoiding.

Working together, Ryder and Devin will have to fight their feelings for one another while trying to catch the embezzler. Things turn deadly, as well as heat up, as their investigation takes them to a tropical island.

The author has created likable characters with faults and issues readers can relate to. She reverses things having the man rebuffed and the woman with commitment issues. The characters' interaction is engaging and draws the reader in.

**THIS YEAR'S BLACK** is a fast-pace story filled with suspense and steamy romance. The action grabs the reader and holds on until the end.

This is the second installment in the Killer Style series, but can be read on its own. This is a tantalizing read that will hold you mesmerized with a spirited heroine and a sexy hero.

FTC Full Disclosure – A copy of this book was sent to me as part of the author's virtual book tour in hopes I would review it. However, receiving the complimentary copy did not influence my review.

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## Vicki Fischer says

**George Dylan**, owner and CEO of the high-end, exclusive Dylan's Department Store was in negotiations for a huge merger that would expand his posh department store world wide. He needed this merger to take place without a hitch! There **was** a problem, however! It seems someone had been pilfering money from the company, and they needed to be found ! The heat was on....

Enter investigator, and security profession, **Ryder Falcon** who was brought in under the pretense of personal assistant to **Devin Harris**, Mr.Dylan's general merchandise manager.

After presenting her findings, hearing George Dylan's response, and viewing an "inter office letter" he had received from his executive assistant Sarah Molina, the answer was quite clear!

**Sarah Molina**, George's executive assistant for over 30 years had gone back to her home and family in the Andol Republic and had **monetarily** compensated herself with funds from Dylan for the LACK of

appreciation she received.

As it would happen, Fashion Week was about to begin. Timing was PERFECT!! George Dylan had his private plane readied for Ryder and Devin to travel to the beautiful Andol Republic to hob nob with the fashionistas, check out the fashions, and make it their mission to bring back Sarah Molina on their flight back home!

**No spoilers here!** I've just touched the surface of **This Year's Black !** I promise, when you pick up your copy.... The journey will begin and you'll experience ALL of the emotions and backstories of Ryder and Devin. You'll understand them from the "outside" as they take in all of the adventure, suspense and danger. You'll also sense from the "inside", their hurts, egos, held back feelings, passions, and **true desires!**

That's the thrill of an Avery Flynn book! Characters come alive before your eyes!

**This Year's Black: A Killer Style Novel** is fast paced, easy to read, and engages you from the first page to it's finale that's literally worthy of a "Big Screen" Climax! - **ENJOY**

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## Zarith dol says

ARC received from the author for an honest review

Sorry for the late review but it is worth the wait cozz I LOVING this book. It is a sequel from the first in the series High-heeled Warrior (if you haven't read it, buy them now as it is on sale). This story featured the sister of the hero from the 1st story, Allegra 'Ryder' Falcon and her one night, Devin turned out to be her newest client for her family security company.

After leaving Mr Temptation bed the morning after and block his number, Ryder never in her mind to not only met him but they paired up to investigate an embezzlement that happen in Devin's employer company. Out of country to chased a corporate thief, the spark that never die btw them ignite. Ryder, burned before tried to stay professional but, Devin is persistence. Can they found their HEA while chasing the villain who is out for vengeance? Or will their ego gets better of them.

5 stars again to Avery for writing such a wonderful sequel. Some characters from early book made a cameo, but the story is all about the main characters. They are both good in what they do, combustible when together and kick ass to get the job done. Humours are there and the plot is different from the 1st book which is very good. Overall it is a great story, a must buy for all romance reader. Double thumbs up, recommended.

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## Mele says

This is a review of the book "This Year's Black" by Avery Flynn  
I received an ARC of this book in exchange for an honest review.

5 - stars

A solid 5 star adventure. How can you not love a kick ass, literally, kick boxing, private investigator and forensic accountant named Ryder Falcon. I loved this girl from page one. Take a gorgeous, smart, sexy couple, a hero with a touch of emotional damage, and amazing chemistry and you have Ryder and Devin.

Ryder, working as an investigator for her brother's security agency has been handed her own case to investigate the embezzlement of several million dollars from the Dylan's Department store, before the

company has to open its books for a pending merger deal. She's ready to take on the task at full speed, until she meets Devin. He's the one night stand in her year of not getting personal, who got into her head. He wants to know why she didn't return his calls and she wants to keep things impersonal until she feels that she can trust her gut again when it comes to picking a new guy.

Add one embezzlement, a scorned woman, a sexy location, and two hot bodies, and you have the making of "This Year's Black." The steam comes off the pages when Ryder and Devin get close to each other.

I enjoyed this book fully. I couldn't put it down because I didn't want to miss a moment of these two people getting together. Grab your little black dress, your high heels and your bathing suit. Avery Flynn is taking you on an adventure. Join the fun and head off to the Andol Republic with Ryder and Devin. This couple is hot and the sex scenes are hotter.

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## **Dee says**

### ***Review Copy Provided By Author***

Oh where to begin, after I finished up *High-Heeled Wonder* a few weeks ago, I wasn't sure if Ms Flynn's second book in the series could be more enjoyable, since I seriously enjoyed it (I mean, mystery featuring a fashion blogger), but when I saw the Allegra "Ryder" (sister of the hero in the first book) was going to be the heroine in the second book I was intrigued – she was the kind of female who reminds me, of, well me...haha! well, not really, but a kick-ass, no excuses, get the job done kind of chick, who also isn't dumb, like so many heroines in romsus/mystery type books (you know, the ones who are TSTL – for lack of a better word). But at the same time, she isn't afraid to ask for help (holy crap – a character that actually realized they aren't invincible...shock gasp). And then there is Devin – the bad boy to the core, trying to hide who he really is under dress shirts and ties – listening to what society/his family think he should do. There was something about him that made me just want to give him a huge (and do other dirty things to him – hehe).

I will admit that I'm kind of conflicted over whether I liked the mystery more in the first one or this one – although I will admit this one had less mystery (since I figured out the who-dun-it before the reveal) than the first one, but more suspense in the resolution of the storyline. Plus the vivid images that Ms Flynn painted of the island just sucked me in (I really could have booked a ticket then and there).

I will say my one gripe is the dress that Ryder is wearing on the cover, it just so wasn't sexy in any way shape or form, at first I thought she might have been pregnant and trying to hide the evidence, but no, it was just really loose and gathered in weird places – yeah, I know probably pedantic, but it so wasn't sexy to me.

All I can say, is that she needs to hurry up and write more books! 4 stars overall and a recommendation for anything who likes hot romance with a touch of mystery.

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## **Maria Rose says**

This new action packed romance is the story of Ryder, security expert and all around bad-ass woman, and Devin, a business man who needs Ryder's help to catch an embezzler. Ryder and Devin shared an explosive one night stand after which Ryder refused all of Devin's attempts to contact her. Forced into close proximity

again, Ryder must choose whether to follow her mind or her heart.

I enjoyed the playful interactions between Devin and Ryder. Through alternating points of view, the author has given a sense of Devin's frustration with Ryder for not letting him in, and Ryder's fear of falling for someone who will break her heart. The story was fast paced with multiple action scenes, bits of suspense, sexual tension and steamy love scenes. I also liked the fashion quotes highlighting each chapter, a reminder of the overall background of the story as being set in the fashion industry, as well as the attention to clothing detail. Ryder comes across as a strong confident woman and I liked that Devin admires and respects that while at the same time showing his Alpha male side when it comes to her protection.

Readers of contemporary romance will enjoy this well crafted, entertaining story. Definitely a recommended read!

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### **Denise Van plew says**

This is the first time for me to read any of this author's novels but I do so love the combination she has put together in this novel. It is quite exciting to pick up a romance that has more than boy meets girl but has also intrigue in the form of a mystery with it. In this novel the boy and girl being Ryder and Devin are told they must work together by a client who has hired her security firm she works in to solve who is the bad guy before a important business deal goes down. Devin also works for the client but in his company via a department store. She must pose as Devin's personal assistant while seeing who has their hands in the cookie jar. Funny thing is one night long ago they worked perfectly well together but not in a business sort of manner but they did get together oh so well or so he thought. So the author has set the stage of intrigue you are now also intrigued enough that you are not going to close the cover on this one until you are also let in on what and whom they discover. What they do discover has them going on a journey after one crafty woman who scorned can make for a nasty enemy as the case may be here. But where they are going they are the ones who have to watch their p's and q's because they will be on her home turf with some bad amigos with her and everyone seems to jump to the tune of a bad family there if they want to see another day. I do so love murder and mayhem with the heat which to my delight this novel has turned into such as my surprise it is not just a boring case of who do it far from it. Time also is of the essence here while also at the same time they rediscover each other in more ways than one. It has just the right amount of romance and heat which is important in a novel such as this. Hair raising events do take place also is so very necessary in keeping my attention for very long. Oh I might of also could have been caught ohing and ahing too plus these two do work so well together. So to say all well that ends well and all that love conquers all well that would be telling which would just be wrong of me to spoil it for any one wanting to find out for themselves how much they can be kept on the edge of their seat by this author. It would also be to your advantage to turn the pages for yourself to see just how well this author can entrap and spin a tale for reading pleasure. Received a arc for a honesst review.

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