



Signature Wounds

Kirk Russell

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While in Las Vegas on his way to a family Fourth of July celebration, FBI bomb expert Paul Grale hears a deep blast and sees the smoke rising. In an unfolding nightmare, Grale discovers his sister, brother-in-law, and many friends were caught up in the explosion. Grief stricken, he is pulled from the main bomb investigation to sift orphan leads. Quietly he begins a relentless search for the bomb maker.

When the FBI suspects his friend and disgruntled former drone pilot for the blast, Grale thinks they're getting it all wrong. Propelled by deep personal loss and an intense need to do the right thing, he picks his way through the smallest of leads and into a maze of twists, turns, and sudden dead ends. When he uncovers another threat, time is already quickly running out. With the lives of so many at stake, Grale won't let himself fail—and he won't rest until there's justice for his family.

Adrenalized, gripping, and all too timely, *Signature Wounds* brings terror to Vegas and introduces FBI special agent and bomb tech Paul Grale, a man whose specialized skill and fierce determination are a lethal combination.

Signature Wounds Details

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Author : Kirk Russell

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From Reader Review Signature Wounds for online ebook

Nazanin says

2 Stars

DNF @ 44%

Paul is a special agent bomb tech. He works with the Critical Incident Response Group. He is on the FBI Domestic Terrorism Squad. One night, when he was on his way to his sister's party he heard a bomb explosion. When he arrived at the party, he found his sister, brother-in-law, nephew and other people dead. So now he works on this case to find the group or the people who did this to his only family.

Fist of all, there were too much names both characters and government institutions like AQAP/SIS/DOD/JTTF/ATF/NSA/TEDAC... (yep, there were more of them) and I lost track of them. I lost interested the deeper I went into the story, I couldn't concentrate on it and I got distracted constantly. And it really wasn't exciting for me, like at all. I think this terrorist/bombing isn't my thing. Overall, it didn't work out for me and please remember it was my opinion so you can pay no attention to it and read it, hope you enjoy it more than me!

Tracey says

Great page turner with characters you can't help but care for and enough twists and turns to hide the ending.

Tulay says

Exciting read.

Very good, very detailed thriller. FBI agent Paul Grale is on way to his sister's 4th July party in Vegas. Stops by on ex-drone pilot suffering PTSD, he was late to the party, that saved his life. But lost his sister, brother-in-law and nephew, niece is alive, injured badly. He vow to find the killers. Terrorist being trained to operate drones, stolen explosives and people train them. Good, exciting thriller, very detailed parts at times lost my interest. This was February, Kindle First free book .

Lena says

If you missed the old 24 then you'll love this tale of two lone wolves fighting terrorist to save the day. The high points are a fair amount of action and a nuanced procedural for those who really want that extra fifty pages to lay out a strong, intricate, *plausible*, terrorist plot. Me:

The Debbie Downers of this book are many. Venuti, the adulterous brown-noser and boss of MC Grale, does everything he can to impede the investigation, implicate the MCs trying to stop the threat, and constantly position himself for advancement. He is also depicted as the model FBI Agent. Under the current

administration I suppose that's about right.

There is also a stark depiction of the abuse heaped on veterans who come back from the war, how easily they are dismissed and maligned. It was hard to stomach.

Similar to 24's depiction of Jack Bauer don't expect the hero to be welcomed home to hugs and kisses and medals. Good deeds don't go unpunished.

I didn't enjoy this book but I'm not sorry I read it. Three stars.

Samantha says

DNF @ 20%.

The writing in this book is so bad and over the top that I wish I could give it negative stars. It's basically like if Michael Bay decided to start writing novels.

I am infinitely glad this was free, and would not suggest reading it unless someone is paying you to do so.

Jim A says

Signature Wounds was made available to me through Amazon First Look program.

It has been several years since I read a novel by Kirk Russell and all I could do was ask myself 'why so long?' His writing is smooth and while there is a lot of dialogue that really isn't needed to keep the story moving, it doesn't bog down the reader.

The story itself centers around a FBI bomb specialist and his search for the person(s) responsible for the bombing of a Las Vegas bar. The bomb killed the agent's sister, brother in law, and nephew. At the same time he's trying to deal with the PTSD of a good friend. Of course the two plots will come together at the end game of the chase.

I'm going to have to go back and find some more of his work and add it to my TBR list.

Melissa Merry says

Gripping suspense.

This is the first book I have read from this author. I must say it kept me up well past my bedtime. The writing was superb. The world building had drawn me in then kept me on the edge of my chair. I know this is a story, but it makes you wonder if this could happen here or anywhere for that matter. The hero, Paul, works in the FBI, is driving to a Fourth of July party, which his sister, her family and their friends were killed from a bomb exploding. The author takes us through the process involved in tracking down those responsible. This is a very good book, well thought out. You won't be disappointed in this one.

Kathy Martin says

FBI bomb expert Paul Grale is on his way to his sister and brother-in-law's Fourth of July party when the unthinkable happens. A bomb goes off using stolen C-4 and killing his sister, brother-in-law, and nephew. It also leaves his sixteen-year-old niece grieving and fighting for her life.

Paul is immediately immersed in the investigation while grieving himself and worrying about his niece. The case gets complicated very quickly when agents from a variety of Federal agencies get involved. Paul feels that they are following a false trail when they target his friend Jeremy Beatty who used to be an Air Force drone pilot until he was medically discharged with PTSD. Beatty got on the DoD's radar when he was hired to teach pilots to fly drones in the Far East.

Now, Paul is trying to exonerate his friend and track down the elusive bomber before he uses the rest of the C-4 and destroys another target in Las Vegas.

This was a fast-paced thriller with a plot ripped from the headlines. Sleeper terrorist cells, Latin American drug cartels, and the whole rise in popularity of drones both in the military and as weapons for terrorists keep this story moving.

I liked Paul who had a dogged determination to find and stop the bomber. I liked that he had connections with a number of law enforcement organizations. I liked that he was at odds with his supervisor in the FBI but found ways to work around him.

Fans of thrillers will find much to enjoy in this one.

Carol says

I never finished it. I wanted to like this. The storyline looked very interesting, and I made it through half the book and then gave up.

There were way too many characters. I felt as though the story kept switching around and I had to closely follow what was going on while trying to remember all the names.

It was also a bit technical, and I could skip paragraphs and still figure out what was happening. Sadly, I just had to put it down.

Corey Thibodeaux says

These Kindle First books are bumming me out. I haven't read one in more than a year, but I don't know if I can do another one.

I will preface by saying this book was not bad. I thought I was picking a one-off crime thriller, but instead picked an inevitable series about a chill FBI agent who knows a lot about bombs. Not my thing, but that's on me.

This book exceeded in one area in particular, which kept me reading: It never went overboard or completely against the grain. The characters were rational, they worked through disagreements like professionals and bomb-guy Paul Grale didn't go rouge out of vengeance. His backstory was a little messy, but made him likeable enough. He is not your typical macho Jack Reacher, John Wick type.

As technical and rational this book was, it did feel a bit safe. It was like reading files from an FBI case - purely factual while you were left to infer the emotional toll. This is not my type of genre, so maybe that's what the book was supposed to be.

But man, it would have been cool to see Paul go Rambo with some homemade explosives based on his background. Kamikaze drones, Semtex 'nades, flash bombs. There will be more books, so there is still time for this side of him to develop.

Ray Milligan says

Great Read.

I had not read any books by Kirk before this one, but will be getting some others real soon. An exciting book.

Alan says

Very well done. Characters developed, and a good storyline. I'll read more books by this author.

Sandra says

5 Gold Stars!

"Signature Wounds" just zoomed to the top of the list of My Best Reads for the past year, or 2 or maybe 3 years. For me, this book has it all; a great plot, thrilling action-packed drama, suspense, and true-to-life characters. A terrific page turner that held me from start to finish. I will definitely be checking out more of Kirk Russell's work.

Gail Abramowicz says

INTENSE

This story is so believable it's scary. My first read by Mr. Russell and I liked his style. Big five.

Don Gorman says

(2 1/2). I don't know why, but this book really stayed in my head until I finished it. I don't know if it was the uber-contemporary theme that was so believable, or the old tried and true thread of the good guys being distrusted by the bureaucratic powers that be and being made out to be something else. I really liked Paul Grale, and how could you not like his hideout old acquaintance, Jeremy. A wild ride, with very soft twists and turns that get more action packed as they are unearthed. A good thriller.
