



Chain of Command

HelenKay Dimon

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Retired marine Sawyer Cain can't forget all he's seen and lost, but he can try to start over. Opening a gun range with his closest friends is the first step toward a new life—one where he finally buries the guilt he can't seem to shake. So much depends on the property he needs to buy...and the gorgeous but completely frustrating woman who refuses to sell it.

Hailey Thorne is done—with loss and with anything military, after the closest thing she had to an uncle died in Afghanistan. When Sawyer shows up on her porch he has military written all over him. He's one more in a long line of people who wants the land she inherited, and suddenly he's everywhere she goes. Hailey can't get the broad-shouldered, dirty-talking, dead-serious man out of her head. Or her life.

Sawyer's not above using his skills in the bedroom to try to convince her to sell, and Hailey is more than willing to let him. Their pleasure-only arrangement works...until emotions get in the way. But Sawyer has a secret he's convinced will have Hailey hating him forever, and Hailey's not willing to risk loving anyone she could lose.

Chain of Command Details

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From Reader Review Chain of Command for online ebook

Christa says

In this contemporary romance, Hailey and Sawyer clash over a piece of property. They are attracted to one another, so try to keep their business and personal dealings separate. The two are good characters and I enjoyed watching their romance develop. The storyline kept me interested and entertained.

SamJ ★Needs a HEA★ says

[No (hide spoiler)]

Christi Snow says

My Review:

This is one of those books that is so hard for me to rate...because while I completely enjoyed the book and reading it and the characters, there were major flaws with the overall story line that really weakened it overall.

In this book, Hailey has basically been raised by Rob, a contractor who died in Afghanistan. He was one of Sawyer's best friends, although Hailey never met Sawyer. Hailey inherited Rob's land which he had promised to Sawyer for his gun range. On the surface that all works and the conflict is believable, but as the story progressed, it lost a lot of validity. There are two main issues with this as the conflict...

1. Hailey's property is in San Diego county so it's really valuable and she has a LOT of people who want it. That works in that she's leery, at first, of Sawyer. But as she gets to know him (and love him) it makes NO SENSE why she still holds back. She knew that he was close to Rob. The conflict becomes invalid, but the author continued to draw it out LONG after it was a moot point.

2. There's a scene in the book where Hailey and Sawyer visit a gun range. It's cute in that Sawyer just assumes she has no clue when she knows exactly what she's doing with a gun. Cute, but OMG....it just proves that there's NO NEED for a gun range anywhere around there. They already have one. O.O

I kept waiting for the details of the gun range to be revealed so I could see how it was 'more', but that never happened and it left me shaking my head after the book was over. What was the big deal about their gun range that makes it so special? I didn't see it...or how it could possibly support all the hands in the operation of it as it's planned.

So, while this book was good to read and highly entertaining, there were huge gaping holes in the plot that just ruined a lot of the underlying story for me and took the entire book down a few notches in my estimation/rating.

But what was good were the characters. I honestly loved this cast of characters and although I find the premise of the gun range a little iffy, I fully plan to keep reading the series, because I loved all the characters

we met in this book. I want to know more about Marcus and Will, Jason and Molly, and really want Kat to find happiness again after being shattered by Rob's death. And I really enjoyed Sawyer and Hailey together, too. It was a sexy, hot book and although it has flaws, I definitely still enjoyed reading it.

I received a complimentary copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

Maria Rose says

This sexy romance is the story of Hailey and Sawyer. Hailey is determined to honor the memory of her adopted uncle by protecting the property he deeded to her in his will. But when she meets Sawyer, a military friend of her uncle whom she's heard much about but never met, she is shocked to hear that her uncle promised him the land. She's not prepared to hand it over, but neither does she expect the searing attraction she feels for him. Separating business from pleasure seems like the best way to move forward, but when a decision must be made can they find a compromise that will benefit them both, in and out of the bedroom?

I loved this story! There were several aspects to this story that really made it a winner for me. First of all, Hailey is a kick-ass strong heroine. She knows what she wants, she isn't afraid to speak her mind and she stands up for what she knows is right. She isn't intimidated by a strong man and doesn't back down from a challenge. Sawyer was equally engaging as a determined, capable and equally strong man - one who appreciates Hailey's strengths and isn't intimidated by them. If anything, it turns him on to find out that she's not a pushover and his respect for her is clear. The sexual attraction between them sizzles from their first meeting, but Hailey is no fool and is able to separate her feelings for Sawyer from what she needs to do to protect her land - at least in the beginning. I really liked that Sawyer quickly realized that getting Hailey into bed was something he wanted to do regardless of the land issue - and together they create some incredibly hot and steamy sex scenes that form the backbone of the relationship that is developing between them. Without giving away any spoilers, I also really appreciated how Sawyer's secret was dealt with. There are several secondary characters introduced in this story, in particular a subplot between Sawyer's friend Jason and his sister Molly that will lead to a very interesting continuation of the series. The secondary characters' humorous dialogue and witty banter add a wonderful sense of caring and camaraderie, making the whole circle of friends and family interesting and dynamic. From beginning to end I had trouble putting the story down, drawn in by the relationship, the sexy times and the strength of the characters. I'm looking forward to the next in the series! 5 stars for a really wonderfully told story.

Note: a copy of this novel was provided by the publisher via NetGalley for review.

Darcy says

I normally really like this author, but this one fell flat for me. It wasn't because I didn't buy into the romance between Hailey and Sawyer, but more that I had a hard time buying into their trying to have some sort of relationship while trying to keep the property thing between them. It didn't ring true to me.

I did like all the friend that surrounded Hailey and Sawyer. I loved how each and every one of them chimed in on things. It seemed like everyone's opinion changed as things went on, it was interesting to watch. I liked how everything settled out. I thought it was the best resolution for them all.

I found myself intrigued by the next couple. I have a feeling there will be lots of drama there.

Roz ~ My Written Romance says

I was provided with an ARC by the publisher via NetGalley. Any and all opinions expressed are mine.

Chain of Command was a lot of fun to read. It had not only moments of emotion, great humour, and some damn hot sexytimes - the characters were people I found myself caring about and cheering for.

You can read the full review at **My Written Romance** .

I cannot wait for the rest of the Greenway Range series now. This was a fabulous way to kick it off!

Laura Hannaway says

This was a very well written and enjoyable story.

I liked Sawyer a lot, he was kind honourable, funny, and of course sexy :) I particularly liked his relationship with his friends Jason and Marcus, he was funny and loyal and their friendship showed a lot about his character. Hailey was a little more complicated. Although I sympathised with how difficult a start in life she had, I still found her a little too acerbic for a lot of the story. Although she could be funny and loyal as well, her deep distrust and dislike of Sawyer's military background coloured her part of the story and it took me a lot longer to warm to her than I expected. However when I did get to that point I thought she was lovely and was really rooting for them to get their HEA.

I did like the ending a great deal and can't wait to read Jason and Molly's story (he has a lot of work to do!!)

Highly recommended as the start of a great new series!

* ARC provided by NetGalley in return for an honest review *

Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews says

Slick's review posted on Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews

4.5 Stars

When I read a book and I finish it and I want to pick it up and start it over again, I know I've read a special book and HelenKay Dimon's Chain of Command is just such a book. From beginning to end I loved this rollercoaster ride romance between two people who had something big standing between their relationship.

What I loved is that despite the mistakes they both made along the way, despite their meddling friends, and despite the fact they both knew being together probably wasn't the smartest choice...together they made it work and along the way they both discovered a love neither one expected making it all that much sweeter.

From the first moment Sawyer Cain lays eyes on Hailey Thorne he knows he's in trouble and that's before he realizes she's the woman that stand between him and his dream of business ownership. The sparks that fly off these two from the first encounter are enough to light up the darkest sky and as this story progresses the intensity of their attraction only gets stronger. I love that Hailey is a strong woman; that she takes care of herself and her friends, she speaks her mind, and she is self sufficient. What I love more is that Sawyer sees all of that in her and respects her for it and only wants her more because of it. He isn't intimidated by her strength; he revels in it. So in addition to being a stand up guy who wants nothing more than to make sure his friends and his sister are all together in one place to give them all a sense of family and to make a living with their business he also wants to help Hailey with her struggles as well as her friends. While Hailey questions his motives at times, in reality he really is just one hell of a great guy.

The road they travel to a relationship is not easy. Between Sawyer wanting a piece of the property Hailey was left by his Marine buddy, Sawyer's friends and sister counting on him to obtain said property to ensure their business gets off the ground, Hailey trying to make a decision she can live with, and several other issues thrown in for good measure these two endure a whole host of obstacles they must address and overcome. What I love is the advice and help they both get from their friends and family who all seem to be able to see how perfect they are together even before they are willing to admit it. One place these two have no problems communicating is in their sexy times together. I love their no holds barred reaction to each other and the explosive way they come together.

As this is the first book in a series we are introduced to a lot of characters but each one added to the love story between Sawyer and Hailey. Not once was I overwhelmed with all the characters because they were integral to the plot and forwarded the story and made me excited about what is to come in this series.

A sophisticated plot with many twists and turns, charismatic characters you can't help but love, ravenousness sexuality with enough dirty talk to melt your panties, and an amazing grand gesture from both main characters make Chain of Command a book I couldn't put down and a fantastic start to a new series.

Review copy provided for an honest review.

TJ Fox says

There were so many things that were off on this book that I couldn't even manage an okay rating for it. One of the most annoying and noticeable issues was with editing. I think one part was the result of a conversion issue between one format and another resulting in quite a few sentences ending in "3/4" instead of whatever text was supposed to be there. It is really hard to figure out what is being said in conversations when huge parts of those conversations are missing. That is not an issue with the writing, but with some technical issue on some other person's part. There were other issues that were related to editing and writing that were just as annoying. So many times words were either missing or wrong and I'd have to go back and reread parts a couple of times to try and figure out what was actually meant. Nothing is worse than being yanked out of a story to try and figure out something shouldn't have even been an issue.

Beyond the technical and editing issues, the story itself just didn't interest me at all. The characters were not

well developed, made no sense and didn't mesh with what the author was supposedly trying to portray. Both were so sex on the brain you would think that they were horny teenagers that just discovered sex with another person for the first time. Don't get me wrong. I love a good sexy story as much as the next person, but so many times sex came up and totally overrode a serious conversation at completely inexplicable points in the story that I was left wondering how we went from point A to point B without a transition. Not only that, those scenes were generally lacking and on the dull side.

I felt the same way about the dialog. There would be a thread of conversation going along and at the next turn of character speaking, you are on some completely other thread without any recognizable tangent. That left me wondering if the whole format transition issues had eliminated larger parts of the book and not just parts of sentences, but I really think that was just the way this was written. I was beginning to wonder if I was going to have whiplash by the time I finished. That was if I didn't think that I'd lost all ability to follow a conversation or story line. For a bit there, I felt kind of stupid because I didn't get half of what I was reading. There was no natural conversational or scene transition rhythm.

The format and editing issues had me nearly stopping this book early on, but I pushed through. Being an optimist, I had hope it would get better, but by the time I finally finished, this really wasn't worth it because there just wasn't anything that I found redeeming in it.

Jess says

Perfectly fine as a contemporary romance, but I'm just not in a place with gun people where I could be okay with this, and I should have recognized that going in. It's really too bad, because I like some of the things that I think were coming, but I am going to have to pass on the rest of the series.

Paris says

I enjoyed this book a lot more than I was expecting to. Sawyer and Hailey were compelling, fascinating characters with heartbreaking pasts and interesting hang-ups. Their first two meetings were funny, especially the meeting on Hailey's porch. Their chemistry was combustible, especially when they were trying to fight it. I really loved watching them get to know each other and discover the secrets that they were both holding on tight to.

The secondary cast of characters were just as fun and now I cannot wait to read more in this series. I really want to continue to get to know all the characters and see how the gun range works out for everyone. The story and the characters kept me turning the pages and not wanting to put the book down. After the few sections written in Molly's POV (Sawyer's sister), I cannot wait to read her book. Jason needs a smack in the head to maybe knock some sense into him. How he could possibly miss what is right in front of his face is beyond me, but it will definitely lend to some entertaining reading.

I've read other books by HelenKay Dimon and I had enjoyed those. Apparently, I had forgotten how much I enjoyed those by the time I picked up Chain of Command. I will definitely read more by HelenKay. I need to get my hands on some of her previously published books as well as anything else that she puts out in the future.

Nicole says

I really, really liked this one. The hero and heroine were great, the chemistry was off the charts, and the secondary characters were amazing. I can't wait for more in this series!!!

Full review to come at www.thebookpushers.com

Judy says

I started to label this book a contemporary romance, but ended up changing my mind. Sawyer a former Major in the Marine Corp, his buddies are either former Marines or Seals, and there are several scenes where one of Hailey's friends is dealing with a Navy jerk ex-boyfriend. But that's not why. Hailey has complicated issues dealing with military men. She lost her parents, a former boyfriend and the uncle who raised her to fighting overseas. The military is almost like a secondary character, or at the very least, a massive deterrent to Hailey and Sawyer's HEA.

Hailey is quite the spunky character. She does a great job of standing up to Sawyer and anyone else who tries to push her around. Sawyer on the other hand, turned out to be sweeter and more compassionate than one would think just looking at him. I liked that the characters weren't cliches or caricatures, and the story didn't take these routes either. I was surprised several times with a direction the story went or how something played out. Plus the secondary characters were great fun and really added to the story.

My biggest complaint is, that for me the blurb didn't really match the book. That last paragraph doesn't fit the vibe of the story. Sawyer didn't begin a sexual relationship with the intent to "win her over". And his big secret was only an issue for like 2 chapters and it got resolved. It upsets me that when the blurb doesn't match the book. It leaves me feeling discombobulated trying to figure out if I missed something or did someone not read the book, or did the story get changed at the last minute.

Overall, this was a quick read for me, keeping me interested and allowing me to read it in one sitting. This was a good start to a new series and I look forward to reading the next book. Hopefully the blurb will match better next time. I took away a star for the issue with the blurb, and gave this one 3 stars.

Thank you to Netgalley and Carina Press for the opportunity to read and review the book.

Danielle says

Loved! I loved how Sawyer fell for her. I adored each character and I can't wait wait for more of this series. The writing was so great it just flew by. One minute I was starting it the next it was over and kept me craving for more. Domon has a way with descriptions and words that just keeps you entertained and intrigued.

KindleJo Jo says

4.5 Stars

Overall, I loved this book and recommend it to romance fans everywhere. Ms Dimon is a master of show, not tell and pens amazing characters. You'll be wanting to pick up this gem right away! Me, I'll be rocking in the corner until I get Jason & Molly's book.

Review posted here: <http://wp.me/puDkz-7fe>
