



Gone to Dust

Liliana Hart

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The Gravediggers aren't exactly what they seem. They're the most elite of the world's fighting forces—and all they have in common is that they've been betrayed by the countries they've died for. Because they are dead. To their country, their military, and their families.

Sometimes the dead do rise....

Miller Darling is one of the most popular romance novelists of her time. Not bad for a woman who doesn't believe in romance. She's as logical as they come, and she doesn't believe in happily-ever-afters. What she does believe in is family, so when her brother disappears, she doesn't think twice about packing her bag and her laptop and heading out to find him.

Elias Cole lived and breathed the life of a Navy SEAL. Now he's "dead" and his hero's honor tarnished. The only thing keeping him sane are the men who are like him—The Gravediggers—and the woman who makes his head spin. He's never met anyone like Miller Darling. Her smart mouth and quick wit keep him on his toes, and damned if he doesn't find that appealing.

When Miller receives a package from the brother who abandoned her asking for help, it's clear she's in over her head with the mess he's gotten himself into. She needs a professional, and Elias is just the man for the job. Only her brother is a former SEAL—the man who left his team to die—and Elias is more interested in vengeance than saving his life.

Gone to Dust Details

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From Reader Review Gone to Dust for online ebook

Bea Charmed says

Book 1, "The Darkest Corner", suffered from the first book syndrome, with info dumps, and a lot of time devoted to world building. It slowed the book down. Happily, "Gone to Dust" was able to jump off from where book left off and it was much more enjoyable. Part of it's appeal for me was the treasure hunt story line. I enjoy action and adventure movies and this had much of the same appeal - long lost treasure, conspiracies, danger, star-crossed lovers, romance, even a jungle. And yet, it suffers from uneven pacing, just like book though it's a smoother flow. The first chapter had me laughing; Miller was adorably cranky, and she's a bit of a wreck when she's on deadline. Do not come between her and her unfinished book, lol. She's a successful romance author, and a good friend of Tess, the heroine from the first book.

Miller and Elias have had the hots for each other for months now. Two months ago, they hooked up. Except they didn't. Elias left Miller high and dry. But he still keeps an eye on her so when her brother's escapades pull her into his not-entirely legit world, Elias is right there, ready to help. We get some fast-paced action and then it screeches to a halt when Miller's world collides with that of the Gravediggers and we get lots of exposition and details, so many details. Eve, the woman in charge of the Gravediggers, is still a mystery figure. I'd love to know more about her and I hope Hart will give us more insight in the next few books. I'm not entirely convinced she's one of the good guys.

I loved Miller and Tess's interactions and Miller and Elias's interactions, especially the humor. There was strong character development, a little more world building, and lots of action and tension. The ending was a bit of a let down however. Close to the end of the book, Elias screws up and with only a few pages to go, I couldn't see any chance for a happy ending. Then, out of nowhere, Elias sort of apologizes, with not nearly enough groveling, and boom! HEA. It was rushed, it was weak, and it was unsatisfying. I was happy they got their HEA, just not happy with how it happened. Up until then I was enjoying the book, it was fun and exciting. "Gone to Dust" was an entertaining book, good for a lazy summer day.

The Blonde Bookworm says

Gone to Dust is the second book in the Gravediggers series, and it was even more action packed than the first novel. I was instantly sucked in by romance, sexual tension, and the smokin' hot Elias Cole. Hart's writing is fast paced and kept me entertained from start to finish.

The first novel in the series was good, but Gone to Dust was even better. Hart had me laughing, crying, blushing, and on the edge of my seat from page to page. I typically read a book in about a week, but I couldn't put this one down and I finished it in 2 days! I loved Elias and Miller and I think their exciting relationship really pulled me into the story. Miller's wit and Elias' sex appeal were enough to engage any reader!

Gone to Dust was sexy, exciting, and hilarious! I loved how Hart mixes romance, comedy and action all into one. I am super excited for book 3 (Say No More). I would highly recommend this action packed novel to readers who enjoy Janet Evanovich!

Kate's Corner says

This is more my kind of book much better than book 1. I enjoyed this book a lot. Strong plot with some mystery in it and really strong characters.

Miller Darling romance author. She is Tess's best friend (book one) and in Last Stop she is the town eccentric. She lives life the way she wants to and also lives more in her own world and the world that she writes in than anything else.

I liked Miller but at times she whined when there was no reason to whine. There were some life and death situations and she started rambling about random shite and that she wanted her laptop. Woman you are on the run how do you think that you are going to write one word let alone finish your book. But she dealt well with the hand that she was given and is a solid heroine in my book.

Elias is a Gravedigger, he died only to be reborn again. It was never planned to what happened to him but some choices are taken out of our hands. He was setup and branded a traitor all thanks to Eve just to get him on the team. As a Navy SEAL he is the best of the best.

He wants revenge so although the chemistry is off the charts between our two MC his plan is to get rid of Eve Winter. His main and top priority. He tries to walk away from Miller as he doesn't want to have the added complication of a relationship.

Miller gets into a spot of bother thanks to her brother Justin who has taken on the family legacy. Finding King Solomon's treasure there is only one small problem. It's in cartel territory and you don't mess with the Black Widow and Emilio. Justin although also a Navy SEAL decides to do just that. He is fanatical about his quest for the treasure.

The banter in this book is stronger than in the previous one. I think that due to the characters being different I preferred the vibe that was given off here. A very long time ago when I was younger I watched Romancing the Stone, that film from 1985 with Kathleen Turner and Michael Douglas. It had some strong vibes in relation to that. I loved that film.

Ms. Hart has a unique writing style which I don't always get on with but that is just me. When she lays off the descriptive writing and get more dialogue than I am all for it. Book 3 is out soon and I'm not convinced with the combi of who Dante will be up against. It could be interesting but execution here is the key.

Michele says

See the full review at HarlequinJunkie.com

Gone to Dust was a suspenseful romance filled with one heart-stopping predicament after another. Author Liliana Hart's ode to the movie Romancing the Stone, this was a fun reading adventure I'd take over and over again.

I am seriously loving the Gravediggers series and every single character we've met thus far. And having said that, this could be read as a standalone pretty easily but I think readers would get more out of it if they've read book one, The Darkest Corner, first to set things up. We got to see glimpses of Elias and Miller's chemistry in the first installment so it was great to get more in depth with them here. I was kind of surprised by how much giggling I did whenever Miller and Elias were together arguing, I mean, bantering. [Read More](#)

Catherine (The Sassy Bookster) says

GONE TO DUST is an amazingly exciting, fast-paced and entertaining mystery, heavy on the humor but light on the action we've come to expect, but sooooo good you won't be able to stop reading until the end. When I read that this book was the author's tribute to the movie Romancing the Stone, I was not sure how Ms. Hart would be able to pull that off and still remain true to the concept of this series, but I have to say it really is a fitting tribute. Every page and every scene brought the movie to life without taking away from this story and while there was less action than I expected, I still enjoyed it a lot.

Elias Cole was a hero and legend before he became one of the Gravediggers. With a distinguished career as a Navy SEAL and a loving family, he had a very promising future, until the calculated machinations of the powers behind the team cost him all of it. Now Elias is a very angry man with one thing sustaining him: the desire for revenge against the person who cost him his life, which means he has no room for the emotions that Miller Darling stirs in him. But when she needs his skills to save her brother, he's not going to let her traipse off into the South American jungle without the back-up she needs.

Miller enjoys her eccentric lifestyle which fits her career choice, but beneath all of that is the little girl who lost everyone in her family to an obsession with finding ancient treasure and has since channeled her pain into creating fictional happy ever afters like she never had. Miller does not take rejection lightly and would not give Elias the time of day, except she needs him, in more ways than one.

I had a blast reading this book and laughed so hard at these characters. Miller has a wicked sense of humor and no filter, and her running commentary on pretty much everything was so much fun even when it was inappropriate. Seriously, it felt like I had the movie and the book on split screen.

Elias has the smoldering male thing going for him, but I liked that he was easygoing and laid-back, too. He took Miller's quirks in stride and gave her what her family never did: the knowledge that she meant something to someone. But being alone with Miller is a chance to know her better, and means accepting his feelings for her and making a choice between his happiness and vengeance, if they get out alive.

This book is certainly not to be missed and I really can't wait for the next book. More than anything though, Eve Winters is a very intriguing character and I hope we get a chance to explore this character in her own

book.

Disclaimer: I voluntarily reviewed a copy of this book. All opinions stated are solely mine.

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Coral says

Plot: 3.5/5

Characterisation: 3/5

Prose: 3/5

How much I enjoyed it: 3/5

Jacqueline's Reads says

3 Searching Stars

Gone to Dust is a standalone and is part of the Gravedigger series. I have major cover love for this book. I originally thought this would be a dramatic read with major suspense, instead I got a light-hearted book with a hint of suspense. I really liked that it was not a dramatic book and I often found myself smiling and even laughing out loud at some of the parts. This kind of reminds me of the Killer Instincts series by Elle Kennedy, but without all the smut.

Miller is an eccentric. She's always on a deadline and hardly has time to eat and bathe. I found her character very unique and kind of out there. I'm not sure I was too fond of her, but I did enjoy reading her. She's just really out there. She was being under attack and all she could think about was saving her laptop (you know because of her books ... I'm not an author so it's something I don't get) she's odd. As an avid reader I always love it when the heroine is a writer, I imagine my favorite authors acting and behaving like that.

She gets a package from a really bad man. The bad man has her brother. I always love a good suspenseful plot. Why was her brother kidnapped? Why is Miller involved in it? What will she do?

Elias is part of a super-secret group and is here to save Miller! I love a good damsel read and Elias played the perfect Hero. He's super smart, strong and kind of a loner because of his past.

There's a nice chemistry between Miller and Elias because they sort of had a fling and I really liked reading the banter between the two. Miller and Elias work together in trying to find Miller's brother and it takes them to the tropics! That was fun to read.

Gone to Dust is an action packed read with lots to keep you going.

A finished copy was provided

Monique says

Review written: June 19, 2017

Star Rating: ★★½?

Heat Rating: ????

An Advanced Reader Copy (ARC) of this book was received free via Netgalley for an honest review.

Note: Until about a week ago, the wrong back cover blurb was attached to this book. If my review is confusing because I am talking about Elias and not Colin, please read the updated cover blurb.

Imagine my surprise when I started this book. I was trying to figure out how Colin was going to make his entrance when it was clear Miller and Elias belonged together. But then the back cover blurb changed and it was all made clear.

Miller, Tess's best friend and romance author, got left high and dry by Elias. Let's just say she was not happy about it. And so begins *Gone to Dust*.

The second installment of the Gravediggers series was a marked improvement over the first. The characterization was much better. There was less info-dumping. The plot didn't wait til the 50% mark to get interesting. But the pacing still dragged badly.

Miller and Elias seriously had the smolder going on. They are hot for each other but Elias isn't having any of it. Until he can't hold out any more. The heat was a factor in more than one way. But there is simply no question, Elias and Miller were meant to be. They steamed up the pages even when they weren't indulging in sexy times, especially when they weren't indulging in sexy times. It was as much a mental as physical seduction.

By the end of the book, I knew them. In contrast to Tess and Deacon who I never really felt I knew, Miller and Elias have great backstories. Motivations, pain, connections: each of them come into this with strong characters. They don't have arcs in the sense that they change by the end of the book, but they do find ways to be who they are with each other. This is huge!

The plot was much stronger than *The Darkest Corner* and it was intensely personal. The very nature of the plot made it more interesting. But it was also far more morally ambiguous than in *The Darkest Corner*. In a way, it's a collision of three worlds: Elias's, Miller's, and King Solomon's. The way they collide is explosive, breathtaking, and deeply personal and painful for both Miller and Elias. The majority of the plot is focused solely on Miller and Elias with minimal interaction with other characters and that gives it an intensity and focus that helps to keep the character-centric aspects and helps to push the plot along.

While the dominant quality of *The Darkest Corner* seemed to be the shadowy nature of the Gravediggers, the theme of *Gone to Dust* seemed to be the moral ambiguity of it. From Elias's experiences as a sniper to Eve

Winters's actions to Miller's family life: there just was no black and white and mostly it was very dark shades of grey. Trust is in short supply and ruthlessness is the name of the game. Exploitation, cruelty, ends justifying the means: this is not a fair world and sometimes even the people nominally on your side are not the good guys. There was a lot of ugliness showcased here.

But on top of all of that was that life is precious, take happiness while you can. And so Elias and Miller take life together.

I'm eager to read *Say No More*, Dante's story but my heart is still with Colin. I will say though, that *Gone to Dust* has certainly raised my curiosity about Eve and I wonder if that curiosity will be satisfied.

This review is ©June 2017 by Monique N. and has been posted to Netgalley.

Dawn says

Full disclosure, if you read my review of book one in this series you know my review was unsure of this series, but this is fantastic!!

This is Elias and Miller's story and it's comical with action and love and loyalty. Elias is a Gravedigger and Miller is a romance author. Miller is also Tess's best friend.

Miller always has running commentary in her mind and a wicked sense of humor with a laser sharp tongue that she doesn't hesitate to cut Elias with. When she receives a delivery just as she's trying to finish her most recent book he world is thrown into torment and adventure for real.

As the guys hear what's going on the decide to go make sure the girls are going to be fine, and not a moment too soon.

There is plenty of adventure and action in this romantic suspense book along with the humor. I loved every second of it.

I received this ARC in exchange for an honest review.

Jo says

She didn't see how this could possibly end well. He drove her crazy, and still, all she could think about was getting him naked.

And the Gravediggers series continues with Miller Darling and Elias Cole. Miller we met in the previous book, she's the best friend of Tess, she's a romance novelist and she's hilarious! I really loved Miller, her sarcasm, her love of books and romance, how comfortable she is in her own skin and also how vulnerable she can be at times. Even though Miller believes in giving her characters their HEA, she doesn't believe in it for herself, but she does believe in loyalty and family, so when her brother goes missing and she receives his finger in the mail, she's determined to go rescue him. Even if it means accepting help from the man who hurt her months ago, who left her sexually frustrated and feeling rejected – Elias Cole.

"You tempt me, Miller. Make me want things I know I can't have."

Elias was a Nave SEAL in his other life, before he was declared a traitor and believed dead by everyone he loved and knew. Now he lives for vengeance and he can't afford the feelings Miller makes him feel, which was why he walked away that night months ago. But Elias is the best man to help Miller find her brother and keep her out of trouble, even though she has trouble written all over her. I really liked Elias and how he loved to rile Miller, pushing all her buttons.

"Living in your head must be interesting," he said.

"I keep myself entertained," she said with a shrug. "At least I'll never be boring."

"You're definitely not that," he agreed.

The romance between these two was full of heat and playful banter. Elias could be quite serious as times and I loved how Miller made him laugh, how in the end she made him realise that his life could be so much more than getting revenge. And I loved how he made Miller see that she was special and worthy of love.

I'm really loving the action-packed plot in this series and how the author balances it with lots of dry humor. Where the previous book played off in their small town, this one had us following Miller and Elias trying to find her brother in Santa Cruz, where he went missing while searching for King Solomon's table. I really enjoyed the change of scenery. And of course I love the Gravediggers, men who thought honorably for their countries, but forced to die in the eyes of the world and now fighting terrorism from their graves. All the Gravediggers are so sexy and with such different backgrounds and I must say I really want Axel's book, the only one of them who was married and who had to leave his wife behind.

This is such an excellent series and I can't wait to read the next book. A must read for all RS fans.

Chris C - A Midlife Wife says

Awesome read!! Elias is hot!! copy rec'd for review consideration

In the first book we are introduced to Miller and Elias. The two had a few encounters and then became the topic of this book. The author has given these two some great characteristics that had me turning the pages as fast as possible.

Miller, a romance novelist, has a lot of quirky tendencies but is very humorous and sometimes extreme. However, in times of stress she is actually quite calm. Plus, she has a major thing for Elias. He knows how to rock her world... then kill the moment.

Elias is an angry man. A member of the elite squad of Gravediggers, his addition to the group came under questionable circumstances. Brooding, but so very capable and sexy. His heat factor shimmers on the page. Yum.

Together Miller and Elias travel to extreme conditions and managed to steam up the pages quite a few times. Their connection truly is a thing of beauty.

The ending leaves a lot of open questions that will hopefully be answered as the series moves forward. I'm

actually not sure who the next Gravedigger to be featured will be. But with a handful of these delicious men available, it can only be a fabulous read.

With a bit of suspense and a whole lot of steamy romance, this book is sure to kick off your summer reading list with a bang. While you do not have to read book one, I think it is worth it to soak up all of the swoon-worthy men the author subjects us to!

Cannot wait for the next one to come!

Full Review - <http://amidlifewife.com/gone-to-dust-...>

♥Rachel♥ says

Gone to Dust was an adventure, and hot romance all wrapped into one thrilling story! Sort of **Romancing the Stone** meets **Mission Impossible** except instead of a treasure hunting scoundrel for the hero we have Elias Cole, an ex-SEAL and complete sweetheart!

Miller Darling is a romance novelist immersed in writing the last bits of her latest novel for her fast approaching deadline; surviving on coffee, junk food, and the occasional shower. Miller wakes the heck up when she receives a very disturbing package in the mail demanding her presence in a foreign country or else her brother, Justin, dies.

Miller is shocked and fearful, but not altogether unsurprised at the trouble her brother has gotten into. Her parents were obsessive in their search for the treasures of King Solomon, and that fanatic type drive led to their deaths twenty years earlier. After their deaths, Justin took up the searches and left Miller behind in Last Stop, Texas. If it weren't for Tess, her best friend, Miller would've felt very alone in the world. Well, alone except for the annoying Elias Cole; a man who worked her up and left her wanting. He's part of Tess's mortuary crew, although if Miller thinks hard about the situation it really doesn't make sense for all these military-type hotties to be working for the funereal home since Last Stop is a dinky town.

Miller is in need of some help, and she's about to get it along with some answers about those sexy "gravediggers".

I enjoyed **Gone to Dust** so much! More than **The Darkest Corner**. Like I said, it was a fun adventure; action, beautiful settings, a gorgeous high tech yacht, and a strong capable alpha male like Elias to share it with. Miller is no slouch in the equation as far as characters go. She's a romance writer, who may not have experienced the world first hand, but she's researched the heck out of situations, and Miller's imagination is rich with possibility, and useful information. Readers will definitely appreciate her occupation! The story was exciting, fun, with loveable characters and a smoking hot romance! I had a lot of fun with this fast, action packed ride!

A copy was kindly provided by Pocket Books in exchange for an honest review.

This review is also posted at The Readers Den.

Dísir says

Elias Cole and Miller Darling have a recent and unhappy history, and it's mostly a funny one of unfulfilled sexual tension where Elias left Miller, well, wanting. They're brought closer together by circumstances that are odd but befitting the life of a romance author who lives inside her head when she receives a finger with a ring that says her equally oddball and irresponsible brother has gone missing.

Elias is literally forced to go with Miller as she goes after her brother and the journey is a hilarious one, peppered mostly by Miller's fanciful imaginings that started to feel a lot like a parody of romance authors whose heads stay mostly in the clouds. I loved every minute of the banter, especially how often Miller makes Elias speechless with her overactive imagination.

At the same time, Elias's own reasons for wanting revenge lends gravity to his purpose for being a Gravedigger and I was eagerly waiting for his backstory, as I do for the rest of the motley crew. Sadly, not too much of it is given and his purpose in seeking revenge is somewhat dimmed by the end of the book, proving a disappointment as I half-expected that goal to be fulfilled.

But as far as pairings go, I loved how Elias/Miller both surprised me at every turn, both with their conversations and actions that were as non-stereotypical as they could be in this genre. That they made me laugh most of the way was a fantastic bonus that helped make this book a standout.

Like the first book, this one made me sit up and take note, not just because of the intrigue that's presented here—I've not forgotten that the funeral parlour in an ugly town in Texas houses the world's deadliest operatives—but also because of the direction that the story took. I'd been expecting more counterterrorist-type scenarios as it did in Deacon's case, but that was hardly the case this time around.

'Gone to Dust' has a heavy focus instead on the journey that Elias and Miller took and the development of their relationship, but eschewed the details about the treasure, the myth and Justin's ultimate fate in favour of banter and steamy sex. In fact, the story ended very soon after they yanked Justin out of his hiding place and got the bad guy, making me feel as though I was left hanging when Elias and Miller finally decided that they loved each other enough to stay together after a very brief meltdown on Elias's side.

I think I would have enjoyed it more if the ending had been less abrupt and if I'd seen more of the Gravediggers in action—there were admittedly fewer scenes with them here than in the first book—mostly because their strange relationships and quirky interactions were the highlight of this series so far. The rushed epilogue felt like a HFN without a definite plan for the future (that itself is briefly explained) but still, it would have been nicer to have 'Gone to Dust' more conclusively wrapped up without me feeling stunned and wondering if some pages had been missing after all.

Still, it's a memorable read and as a series that's only just beginning to gather steam, I'm eager to see what Hart has in store next for this group of unlikely brothers.

*ARC by netgalley
(always grateful, mind)

Mandy says

I received *Gone to Dust* in return for an honest review from the publisher.

Miller's is a popular romance writer currently hard at work on her most recent novel which she needs to finish in the next week to meet her deadline. When pulled from her writing groove by the UPS delivery guy she heads off to visit her best friend Tess which just happens to be what she needed. However, it's while they are in her house that the house was attacked forcing the Gravediggers to swing into action and save the day but not without revealing who they are.

Miller learns that her brother has been taken hostage by a very dangerous cartel and the only way to get him back is to travel to Guatemala. Eve won't let the Gravediggers roll into town and take out the cartel but thanks to Elias's vacation time he and Miller to hopefully make it in and out with her brother alive. With the help of her own bad-ass SEAL who's better than John Cena can they survive an action-packed adventure like her books?

I like Miller a lot she's smart, but it's the movie references she uses so much that sealed the deal. Elias has issues, it's to be expected after having to fake his death and join the Gravediggers but he's just biding his time till he can take out Eve. He doesn't want to fall for Miller even though he's been having feelings for her since he first met her. They just work well together, it's steamy but it's always snarky which I liked plus so many movie references.

I just finished *The Darkest Corner* and had to read *Gone to Dust* knowing it's Miller's story. We are given a little taste of her in the first book but the second one is all about her and finding a happy ever after with her own Gravedigger. *Gone to Dust* may just be my new all-time favorite book ever because it reminds me of my favorite movie *Romancing the Stone*. It even starts off just like the movie with a scene from the author's book, a rescue trip to South America to save her brother, an action-packed treasure hunt and a much deserved happy ever after. I truly loved every moment of *Gone to Dust* It's beautifully written with amazing characters and a captivating story. I know this book will be on my re-read list in the future. I highly recommend checking it out if you love an action packed romance.

Kristin says

This is the second book in the Gravediggers series and it focuses on Miller, a romance author, and Elias, who is not too thrilled with his gravedigger life. He's convinced that the organization who "saved his life" by faking his death so that he could join their elite team are actually the ones who put his life in jeopardy in the first place. Then there's the eccentric Miller who shuts herself away for weeks at a time working on deadlines for her latest novels. However, her quiet life of writing just got a whole lot more interesting when her brother's finger gets mailed to her by a drug lord/treasure hunter who wants her to find King Solomon's table which he claims her brother knows the location of. With the help of Elias, these two take off on a crazy adventure to try to save her brother.

This book is full of adventure and danger as they trudge through the jungle in search of her brother. The previous book really set up who and what the Gravediggers are and what their day-to-day life is like. This one however has a lot more danger and suspense to it since not only do they have the cartel hunting them but the land itself isn't helping their journey any. There was always something going on in this book. Which may

be why I never really felt the connection between Elias and Miller. One minute they're fighting danger and the next they're kissing. They spend a week dodging bullets in the jungle and all of a sudden they love each other. I just didn't feel the romance I guess.

Gone to Dust will have you on the edge of your seat the whole time. The jungle is not a safe place and when you add the fact that the cartel is hunting them as well, you've got one action-packed story. Up next is a character that we don't see or hear from all that often. He's always quiet and seems to go off on their down-time to who knows where. So, I'm interested to see what his story is.
