



## Nun But The Brave

*Alice Loweecey*

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## **Nun But The Brave** Alice Loweecey

Giulia Driscoll's sister-in-law barges into Driscoll Investigations and promptly passes out from OD'ing on an unknown drug. Two OD'd teenagers are found dead in the park and behind a convenience store. DI's new client insists her missing twin sister is not dead and enlists Giulia as the "Missing Person Whisperer." Hooray for steady work?

The missing sister's trail leads to married, pregnant, ex-nun Giulia's first experience with online dating sites, to the delight of her husband and employees. Those dates lead her to local Doomsday Preppers. They grow their own everything, and that everything may be connected to the drugs, her sister-in-law, and the missing twin. These Preppers are about to learn the true meaning of doom.

## **Nun But The Brave Details**

Date : Published July 12th 2016 by Henery Press

ISBN : 9781635110500

Author : Alice Loweecey

Format : ebook 292 pages

Genre : Mystery, Cozy Mystery

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## From Reader Review Nun But The Brave for online ebook

### Vickie says

I love reading Giulia's investigations. I've enjoyed seeing her become a not-nun and seeing life outside the convent, working with Frank Driscoll, learning the ropes of private investigation.

My attention to detail amiss, I got this one loaded onto the Nook, seeing it was #3 in the series. But it's #3 in Giulia Driscoll series, not Falcone and Driscoll. It didn't affect my enjoyment at all. It's a really good story and could be a stand-alone in essence.

Giulia is exceptionally resourceful and is a superb investigator. She uses her past as a nun to good purpose. I liked the view into the doomsday prepper life. That's where her investigation into the disappearance of her client's sister leads her.

Giulia is level-headed and smart. I could easily see myself being a friend.

Definitely recommend

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### Betty says

Giulia Driscoll's business brings her to the online social networks for the first time. She goes undercover looking for an end the world community. DI has been hired to find a missing twin who enter such a community. Her sister-in-law collapsed at her office from an unusual organic drug. Two teenagers are found dead from the same drug. The use of the word pregnant so many times annoy me. Also, the interchange of Giulia's name with her undercover name is confusing. Will Giulia find her missing client before there are more deaths? I recommend this book.

Disclosure: I received a free copy from HENERY PRESS through NetGalley for an honest review. I would like to thank them for this opportunity to read and review the book. The opinions expressed are my own.

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### Pamela says

Nun But The Brave is the third book in the Giulia Driscoll mystery series. It is a well written and professionally edited full length novel.

I just realized a few weeks ago that the author has three earlier books with these characters which take place before Giulia marries Frank. They are pretty hard to find; I ended up finding one on iBooks and the other two in a distant corner of my county library system.

The plot of Nun But The Brave was interesting and fast paced. The mystery elements were very well done.

However, Giulia's behavior was a real turn off for me. (view spoiler)

I recommend Nun But The Brave, despite the elements of the story that disturbed me. This is a very good series and I recommend trying to find the earlier books.

ARC provided by the publisher via Netgalley.

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## **JoAnne McMaster (Any Good Book) says**

Giulia Driscoll is an ex-nun who runs her own private investigation business. After a recent encounter with a particularly nasty husband, she has decided to stay away from cheating spouses cases, and concentrate on easier things - like missing persons. So when a woman arrives at DI insisting that her twin sister who has been missing for over two months is not dead (as the police seem to believe) but somewhere out there, and likely not of her own free will, Giulia thinks this will be an easy case to solve. Sure, Joanne Philby could have dropped off the face of the earth because she wanted to, but what if she didn't? And therein begins Giulia's strange foray into the world of online dating sites and even stranger foray into the life of Doomsday Preppers...

While it appears at first that Joanne wanted to disappear and create a new identity, small things that Giulia discovers leads her down an entirely different path. Soon she finds herself creating an alter-ego for online dating, one that she hopes will bring her into contact with the person or persons who may have knowledge about Joanne and her whereabouts. But the more she becomes involved in the survivalist cult and its strange leaders, she begins to realize that Joanne is more than likely a victim in all this, and what started out as a missing person becomes something twisted and ugly; and she will need not only the help of her police detective husband Frank and his coworkers, but also that of the one person she hoped never to have to call for help at all...

While Giulia expects this case to be merely routine - after all, how hard can it be to follow up on leads the police already have regarding a missing person? - she soon finds out that it's not going to be that easy. Aside from the fact that she needs to join dating sites posing as a prepper in order to find links to Joanne's disappearance, her brother seems to have gone over the deep end, her sister-in-law is in the hospital under the influence of an unknown drug, two young girls are found dead possibly OD'd from the same drug; and Giulia herself, in her disguise of Maria Martin, may have ingested some of that drug.

But it is what she finds when she temporarily "joins" the prepper community that shakes her very core, and she discovers that secrets have a way of rising to the surface even when you try to keep them hidden from the world...

This book, like all of Ms. Loweecey's, was an absolute delight to read. Giulia is no shrinking violet; she has guts, strength, integrity, and intelligence. She doesn't venture forth into situations unprepared; she keeps her gun and cell phone nearby, and is quick-witted enough to extricate herself from what could be sticky situations. She's a person that is full of life, and it shows through in her character, both in words and actions.

When the book finally ends, and we find out the fate of Joanne and what happened to the girls, it is with a feeling of justice served when all is said and done. The ending is just as it should be, giving us a sense of satisfaction. The writing is brisk, the characters well-drawn, the plot interesting and riveting. Highly recommended.

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## **Ukgardenfiend says**

This is part of an excellent series about a nun turned PI.

Here we have family issues – her brother and his wife and their children for her to deal with, her very new pregnancy, and then there are her clients.

And one of her clients seems to have got involved with a group of people who are preparing to live off the grid just in case of Doomsday.

Now Doomsday seems to be a fad amongst people in certain US states - not so much here in the UK but then we don't have quite as much wilderness for them to get lost in and they certainly couldn't hunt for their meat! Not a legal pastime here.

Now you can watch a reality TV show – on YouTube that was aired on National Geographic and there is a Face book page too: <https://www.facebook.com/doomsdayprep...> And you can play a game based on this too – to get you ready for your own prepping I guess. And if you want support there is probably a group meeting near you. I did find a UK shop for UK preppers and a website so I investigated more. They are trying to prepare for natural disasters as well as man-made – which of course include hurricanes. They have a current blog about the 5 best herbs to know about and they surprised me as to which were chosen:

- Burdock for a poultice for bruises and burns, and a root for carbs.
- Dandelion for detox and diuretic (piss en lit as the French call it);
- Plantain for insect bites, rashes, ski infections. Use in a tea for IBS.
- Yarrow for anti bacterial, anti inflammatory, a oultice for deep wounds – which follows, and in a tea for high blood pressure and colds;
- Self-heal for fevers and viruses.

I also love the 'voice' of the convent school teacher. Back in the day I ha done too – and got offered several school teaching posts based on it!

As she says: 'in or out of the convent, crabgrass is easier to uproot than Franciscan values'. These being Respect, Compassion, Service and Integrity.

Some notes on items that interested me in the book:

Coffee growing outdoors in the US is very unlikely but possible in a greenhouse – my plats are currently over-summering there – not growing well but they do take 4-5 years to grow to flowering size. Perhaps they should use the type that likes to grow in shady forest?

Sheep cheese – an Italian that has never eaten Pecorino? Seems unlikely to me. We personally love Pecorino. Pecora means sheep in Italian after all. They come in different ages which makes a difference to taste. They are always slightly salty and make a great alternative to Parmesan. The older the cheese is, ie over 6 months, the drier and more crumbly.

I have had read books in this series before and liked them and this was satisfying in its conclusion where all the questions were wrapped up.

I received this free book in exchange for an honest review

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## Anita says

ARC provided by the Publisher via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

This is a very good, funny at times, cozy-mystery series. The whole series is tough to drop in on, this is my third book and I really feel that I've missed a lot by not reading all the other books Alice Loweecey has written in order. Her other series, Falcone and Driscoll Investigations, must lay the foundation of why she left the Convent and how she and Frank meet and fell in love. Strongly recommend you read Alice Loweecey's books in order. Anyway, Nun But The Brave is a very good cozy with a great plot that has

several things going on.

Giulia is hired to find a missing person. Her investigation into the life of Joanne leads her into the sordid world of online dating and into the world of Preppers, those people who plan and prepare and live for the end of civilization as we know it. To say that Giulia is out of her element is an understatement. The only thing she understands about the Preppers is their cult-like tendencies.

When her estranged sister-in-law shows up at her office suffering from a drug overdose and the bodies of two teenagers are found with the same drugs in all their systems, Giulia needs to track down exactly what is going on and why she has a suspicion that it is all related to her missing person somehow.

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### **Anne says**

What I didn't know considering Nun Too Soon was labeled as book #1 is that this is really book 4 (and 6) featuring Giulia as a main character. I kept feeling like I was missing something. Yes, 3 other books and a short novella to introduce this spin off.

I liked the mystery story lines for both books and was happy they were so different. I felt they were well developed and made sense. Despite there being a lot of Catholic issues mentioned, particularly in Nun But The Brave, it wasn't preachy or irritating to me and I have a low threshold for stuff like that.

What I didn't like was how I felt I was dumped into something already in progress. I didn't feel any real connection between Giulia or any of the recurring characters, though Zane was new to the series too. Since I didn't connect with them or care about them, I was a bit bored. Truthfully, I was more interested in why Giulia left the convent and was frustrated on not getting those details. The prequel novella is currently free on Amazon so I'll give it a read and I may have one of the Falcone and Driscoll books which precede this series.

I would really recommend readers start with Force of Habit, what I would really consider the first book.

I received both books from Netgalley in exchange for my honest review.

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### **Christie says**

I got this book as an Advanced Reader Copy clear back in 2016, but I just got around to starting it a couple days ago, and just finished it earlier today (sorry, Alice!).

This is the third book in the Giulia Driscoll Mystery series, but I'd never even heard of the series before winning this copy from a contest last year, so this is the only one I've read. Now I want to read the rest of the series!

The characters were engaging, and I was pulled in from the first page. I have a couple friends who are Preppers (although not to the extent of these guys---they're not convinced the world is going to end any day now, they just want to be ready in case something major does happen---they're not crazy, just thinking ahead) so I've heard some of this before, especially the whole living off the grid idea from one of them. He

would be perfectly happy living without technology, as long as he had an endless supply of books to read and a lantern to read them by once it got dark. Of course, he's not a Luddite by any means, neither of my friends are, they both recognize the value of technology in our society, they just try not to be any more dependent on it than they have to be. They're more like Giulia in that respect---she does her own canning, grows a lot of her own vegetables, and has other skills that a Prepper would find valuable, but she is perfectly content living in a technology-filled world with working indoor plumbing, electricity, and Starbucks. Being a former nun, however, Giulia could also just as easily live off the grid if she absolutely had to...she just wouldn't want to.

Giulia learns way more about Preppers than she ever wanted to when a client asks her to search for her missing twin, convinced she's still alive even though everyone else she talks to (other than their brother) is equally convinced that either the missing woman is dead or missing voluntarily, having decided to start a new life elsewhere...which is where the Preppers come in, as she did join them (briefly) before realizing that particular group had some major flaws that she wanted no part of. Until the last couple chapters, I was convinced the person responsible for her disappearance was one person (in my defense, he really did seem like the most likely suspect) only to realize it was someone else entirely. That doesn't mean there weren't some shenanigans going on at the Prepper community, but they didn't involve the young woman's disappearance.

All in all it was a very clever story, and I learned things I didn't know before about the Prepper lifestyle (and yes, would have been just as happy to not learn, but am not sorry I did), as well as a few things about Catholicism (like what Saint Anthony is the patron saint of...he's actually the patron saint of Native Americans, something I had never heard of before, and he is also known as the "finder of lost articles," something else I'd never heard of before...so two more things to add to my vast store of mostly useless trivia).

The fourth book in the series is supposed to come out sometime this month, which means I'm going to have to start watching for it to hit our local library's new shelf sometime around Thanksgiving, and looking for the first two books, so I can get caught up on Giulia and her world!

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## **Doward Wilson says**

Meet former nun turned private eye, Giulia Driscoll. When her sister-in-law passes out in the office of Driscoll Investigations, Giulia discovers that she has O'Ded on some new drug mixture. Then her police detective husband, tells her that they have two dead teenagers from the same drug. Giulia is then hired to find the missing twin sister of her new client. The investigation leads Giulia to using online date sites for the first time, giving her husband and employees many laughs. The missing twin's trail leads to local Domsday Preppers who grow everything they need, including drugs.

This is the third of four books in this funny and entertaining series. I enjoyed it very much and will be going back to read the other books. The characters are well written (the author is also an ex-nun) and the mystery plots offer many twists, turns and clues before the final outcome.

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## **Carla Johnson-Hicks says**

This is the third book in the Giulia Driscoll series and I have read them all in order. It is not necessary to read them all, but what I have noticed is that Giulia's character, along with Sydney and Zane have definitely developed with each subsequent book and the cases they have dealt with are more detailed and interesting. I love the quirkiness of the DI staff along with her husband Frank and the police she works with. If you have not read any of the books in this series, it will become apparent quickly that Giulia is an ex-nun.

In this book she is hired by a woman to find her missing twin. The police think she disappeared by choice but her family and some of her co-workers and friends do not believe that is the case. As Giulia delves into the case, she ends up going undercover on a doomsday dating service. She meets some interesting people and it becomes a little dangerous for both her and the child she is carrying. We also meet her niece in this story. It was mentioned in a previous book that her brother will not speak to her or let anyone in his family see or speak to her since she left the convent. Her niece wants her to find out what has happened to her mother. She ODs at the beginning of the book which is totally out of character for her. Frank is also investigating the overdose deaths of three teenagers. As the story progresses, Giulia begins to think that all these things are tied together.

This is a very good, funny at times, cozy-mystery series. Nun But The Brave is a very good cozy with a great plot that has several things going on, but it is well-written and not the least bit confusing. The pacing of the book was excellent, and the various characters were realistic. Giulia makes several references to being a nun being similar to cult-like living, at least in the subservient, non-questioning side. I recommend this book for lovers of mystery and PI procedure. It has a very engaging and intriguing storyline that I think will appeal to many different people.

I received a copy of this book from the publisher via Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.

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## **Jeannie and Louis Rigod says**

This series just keeps getting more interesting with each volume. In this third installment in the life of Giulia Driscoll, former Nun, we are introduced to her Brother, Sister-in-law, niece and a startling cult.

Giulia is now in the early stages of her first pregnancy and to solve a serious missing persons, drug cases, and cult situation, she must subject herself to strange smoke, odd foods and scary persons.

This book needs to be read to be believed and trust me, you will be glad you did!

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## **Barbara Hackel says**

I love this series and wasn't disappointed by this third book. When Giulia's sister-in-law overdoses in her office I was shocked. Next came a client with a twin who disappeared. Then there were two teenage girls who overdosed and died from something similar to the sister-in-law's drug of choice. How on earth will Giulia ever figure out all these cases? Besides all that, Giulia is pregnant, and shouldn't she be resting more and working less?

Fortunately Giulia is a relentless investigator who eventually figures out the twin's disappearance has to do



with Doomsday Preppers. I enjoy the way the author educated the readers as Giulia learned about the prepper communities and all their quirks. It was fascinating, and I especially enjoyed learning about the tiny houses that are used by preppers. (I admit I have been fascinated by pictures of them on Pinterest!)

The pacing of the book was excellent, and the various characters were realistic. I also found the references to being a nun similar to cult-like living, eyeopening. All in all I recommend this book for mystery and PI procedure, and engaging storyline!

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## **DelAnne Frazee says**

Title: Nun But the Brave - Giulia Driscoll Mystery Book 3

Author: Alice Loweecey

Published: 7-12-2016

Publisher: Henery Press

Pages: 292

Genre: Mystery, Thrillers & Suspense

Sub Genre: Women Sleuths, Cozy Mystery, Amateur Sleuths; Police Procedural

ISBN: 13: 9781635110494

ASIN: B01E5YNFLC

Reviewer: DelAnne

Reviewed For: NetGalley

Rating: 4.5 Stars

I received a copy of "Nun But the Brave" from NetGalley and the publisher in exchange for my honest review.

### **Description From the Publisher:**

Giulia Driscoll's sister-in-law barges into Driscoll Investigations and promptly passes out from OD'ing on an unknown drug. Two OD'd teenagers are found dead behind the police station. DI's new client insists her missing twin sister is not dead and enlists Giulia as the "Missing Person Whisperer." Hooray for steady work?

The missing sister's trail leads to married, pregnant, ex-nun Giulia's first experience with online dating sites, to the delight of her husband and employees. Those dates lead her to local Doomsday Preppers. They grow their own everything, and that everything may be connected to the drugs, her sister-in-law, and the missing twin. These Preppers are about to learn the true meaning of doom.

### **Books in the Giulia Driscoll Humorous Mystery Series:**

- CHANGING HABITS (prequel short story)
- NUN TOO SOON (#1)
- SECOND TO NUN (#2)
- NUN BUT THE BRAVE (#3)

· THE CLOCK STRIKES NUN (#4) May 2017

My Review of "Nun But the Brave":

If you have never read any of Alice Loweecey's books ou are in for a treat. Former nun and now married private investigator Giulia Driscoll is a character that makes one hunger to read more about. Originally introduced in the Falcone & Driscoll Investigation series where she meets and marries her husband, Frank. We are now seeing her sister-in law. The returning characters are all well done and we meet a few new ones. Unique plots from Loweecey are common. She does a wonderful job of bringing the characters and scenes to life for the reader. Pulling them in and making them a part of story that flows quickly with plenty of twists and turns. Giulia goes where angels fear to tread to find the answers and help her clients and family.

My rating of "Nun But the Brave is 4.5 out of 5 stars.

Amazon link: [https://www.amazon.com/dp/B01E5YNFLC/...](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B01E5YNFLC/)

Barnes and Noble link: <http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/nun-b...>

GoodReads link: <https://www.goodeads.com/book/show/29...>

The Reading Room link: <https://www.facebook.com/permalink.ph...>

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## **HENERY PRESS PUBLISHING says**

"Loweecey's characters are colorful without being caricatures, and once again we're lucky that Giulia Driscoll left the convent behind. She solves the crime with a happy mix of online savvy, humor and intelligence." – Sheila Connolly, *New York Times* Bestselling Author of *An Early Wake*

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## **Andrea Stoeckel says**

[I received this book free from the publisher through NetGalley. I thank them for their generosity. In exchange, I was simply asked to write an honest review, and post it. The opinions I have expressed are my own. I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255 "Guides Concerning the Use of Endorsements and Testimonials in Advertising]

"George Orwell was right: All Preppers are equal, but some Preppers are more equal than others."

Giulia and her husband Frank are up to their necks in trouble yet again. Driscoll Investigations is doing well.

Frank is still on the force. Zane and Sidney are still holding down the fort when Giulia goes undercover. And then, Giulia literally runs into her sister-in-law, and the whole thing goes TILT.

With Anne being hospitalized, Giulia calls her brother who is getting closer to a rubber room himself, and after the information is relayed, he proves he'll never be "normal". She fears for her niece and nephew as she tunes him back out of her life. As this is going down, a client comes in with a missing person case. Little could she know the two cases dovetail as Giulia goes undercover as a mousey woman and learns more than she wants about people getting ready for the end of the world as she gets to infiltrate a "Doomsday Prepper" compound and their charismatic leader. Will she find the lost sister? Will she find what caused her sister-in-laws collapse? And, can a Doomsday Prepper live on home grown coffee and goat's milk?

I started this book about six hours ago, and literally haven't stopped reading. I love this author's quirky sense of the absurd coupled with her tight descriptions of the action driving the story forward. Henry Press landed a winner with Alice Loweecey. Here's hoping her inventiveness keeps the "Nunmobile" running a long time!

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