



## Pride and Perilous

*Mark McNease*

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Manhattan's Katherine Pride Gallery becomes the center of high art and low death in *Pride and Perilous*, the second of the *Kyle Callahan Mysteries*. Amateur photographer Kyle is about to have his first photo exhibit at the gallery, just as someone begins killing people connected to it. Bodies start to fall and Kyle realizes somebody wants this gallery closed forever. Joining Kyle and his partner Danny Durban are several of the characters from *Murder at Pride Lodge*: Kyle's down-but-never-out TV reporter boss, Imogene Landis. Margaret Bowman, aging owner of successful New York eatery Margaret's Passion. The odious Linus Hern, restaurateur from hell and Danny's nemesis. And Detective Linda Sikorsky from the New Hope, Pennsylvania, police force. She worked on the *Pride Lodge* murders and became close friends with Kyle and Danny. She's in town for the opening of Kyle's show and to fill them in on the new woman in her life. No sooner does she leave the train at Penn Station than she finds herself joining Kyle in the chase to stop a killer as time ticks away. Can they do it before the clock strikes death again?

## Pride and Perilous Details

Date : Published June 11th 2013 by CreateSpace

ISBN : 9781481978590

Author : Mark McNease

Format : Paperback 189 pages

Genre : Mystery, Romance, M M Romance, Contemporary, Business, Amazon

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## From Reader Review Pride and Perilous for online ebook

### D.L. Williams says

Pride & Perilous was a great read, very entertaining. This is the second Kyle Callahan mystery that I have read. I enjoyed revisiting the characters, eavesdropping on their lives. I got caught up in the story and I found myself begging Kyle to hurry up and figure out who the killer was so the people he was killing could be saved. McNease has a way with words, my favorite line: He hadn't slept since returning from Philadelphia at one o'clock that morning. He'd thought he might, given how tiring it was to strangle someone. I am looking forward to finding more of Mr. McNease's books.

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### Ed says

#2 in the Kyle Callahan series. Disclosure: I obtained this book from the author through First Reads. I have severely mixed feelings about this novel. The multitude of settings and the flashback opening made the book difficult to get into; however, once in, I found it had a strange appeal. The plot flow seems to be leading up to a "Bridge of San Luis Rey"-like convergence at amateur photographer Kyle's debut gallery show. Several things interrupt the flow and enjoyment of the novel. Mis-placed trust in Spellcheck allows several homonyms to slip into the manuscript; lack of spacing between scene shifts has successive lines (p.173) placing the killer with his intended victim and a seeming incongruous question about traffic - actually asked by a detective in a cab; and, (p. 175) the killer takes a photograph but he is called Kyle, the protagonist, which is confusing because Kyle is a photographer. Last is the matter of sexual orientation: Chap. 2 has the murder of a transsexual; Kyle and his gay partner, Danny, attend the gay wedding of Kyle's first partner; two of the three other murdered artists are also gay, and the third is lesbian, partnered with a lesbian bus driver interviewed by Kyle; the receptionist at the gallery is gay; the killer and the person plotting to ruin Danny are both gay; the visiting police detective and her domestic partner are both lesbian. The only significant straight characters are all older women - The gallery owner, the minor celebrity Kyle works for, the woman who owns the restaurant Danny manages, and Danny's mother.

The lack of diversity is disconcerting.

Kyle Callahan series - The Katherine Pride Gallery is the center of high art and low death in Pride and Perilous, book II of the Pride Trilogy and the second of the Kyle Callahan Mysteries. Kyle, an amateur photographer, is about to have his first exhibit at the gallery, in Manhattan's Meatpacking District. As time ticks away, bodies begin to fall and Kyle realizes somebody wants this gallery closed forever. Join the chase as Kyle and his partner Danny Durban reunite with Detective Linda Sikorsky from the New Hope, PA, police force. They met solving the murders at Pride Lodge, and Linda has come to town for Kyle's opening, only to find herself joining forces with him again to capture a killer ... before he captures them.

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### Rod Hensel says

This second book in the Kyle Callahan series takes many of the characters of the first book and fleshes them out to make them people you care about. Add to that mix a serial killer pursued by a mature gay couple living in Manhattan, and you have an atypical murder mystery that takes you away from your daily troubles to live in the LGBT senior culture of New York.

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### **Jan says**

Very well crafted. Threads braided together: thoughts and actions of the killer, recognition of patterns in the deaths, investigation and projected probable increase in body count, impending personally stressful intrusions, happiness for a good friend. It was a captivating story, and I found that I needed to read it compulsively despite my strong aversion to serial killers, a real nail biter.

I have the audio edition, and K.C. Kelly really nailed the character differentiation and thread of suspense. I received this book for free in exchange for an honest review upon my request from the publisher, narrator, or author courtesy of AudiobookB00m.

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### **Kathy says**

I thoroughly enjoyed this book. The interweaving of the stories, Danny vs. Linus and Kyle vs. Kiernan, was done masterfully. The book is not a long one, so the author does not waste a lot of time on non-essential sidetracks and is very concise. The characters of Danny, Kyle and Linda are well done and endearing. Set in the world of emerging artists, this book can give the reader a great feel for just how desperate people are to find success and get ahead in their fields as well as find satisfying relationships. Also, the insiders view of NYC is fascinating. The author definitely knows how the city works and how the art world works. I loved the fact that Kyle and Danny's friend Linda just happened to be in town and how the author flawlessly integrated her and her detective skills into the storyline without making this feel phony. The mystery involves Kyle working to uncover who is killing emerging artists, while he and his partner prepare for a visit from his mother and a first showing of his photographs at a gallery. However, though important as a backdrop, it is obvious, from the start, that photography is not Kyle's first love--solving mysteries is. The way the author portrayed the affection and love of the two main characters, Danny and Kyle, without going overboard only added but did not detract from the story. Finally, by integrating the story of Danny and Linus and keeping it to one of the main themes, the search for relationships, was well done--and didn't muddy the book with a lot of extras. I have not read the first book, but, after reading this one, I am definitely going to look for it as well as any other in the series. I highly recommend this book to anyone who enjoys a good mystery and who is looking for one that is great but not like the usual run-of-the-mill books out there. I received this book from a goodreads give away to read and review.

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### **Missjoanie says**

Yes, the main protagonists are gay but the focus of this book is on the murder mystery. So if you are looking for romance in the foreground this is not the book for you.

There is evidence of loving relationships but they are in the background instead we have twisted love arising from the harm we do when we think we can discard other people without a backward glance.

The book can be read as a standalone but is best understood having read the earlier book in the series.

The ebbook I give 3.5

K C Kelly as always does a sterling job with the narration so I give this 4

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## **Norma says**

( Format : Audiobook )

""We used to be outlaws.("")

What a pleasure to meet up again with Kyle and his six year long partner, Danny. Life for this couple is pretty hectic at the moment: Kyle is best man at his friend's wedding, he has his first photographic exhibition coming up in a few days and their friend Inspector Linda is coming to stay. Meanwhile, Margaret's Passion, the restaurant where Danny works, is under threat. Then an artist acquaintance is murdered. Time for Kyle to investigate ...

The joy of this book goes well beyond the story, though it is a good one: a psychological thriller with the killer's own point of view interspersed between the chapters on Danny and Kyle. No, the greater pleasure lies with the characters themselves, a comfortable older couple with their everyday hopes, fears and friendships, so well portrayed that they become real people. And this fully three dimensional roundedness is enhanced by K.C.Kelly's reading. His voice is gentle but clear, pleasant on the ear and conveys emotion without hysterics. He is the perfect narrator for this excellent series.

Each of the Pride novels is a stand alone and this is no exception. But beware, they are addictive. My deep thanks to the rights holder, from whom I received a complementary review copy of *Pride and Perilous*, via Audiobook Boom, for reuniting me with this delightful couple. It's like meeting old friends.

Highly recommended

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## **Nancy says**

I requested this mystery through First Reads because of my fondness for novels about art, artists and the gallery and museum scene. I also am a genuine fan of a good series. If I love one book by an author, I am thrilled to find twenty more with the same characters.

This is one of a handful of self-published novels that I have received through the First Reads program. In return for the privilege of receiving one of these books I try to be open-minded, fair and constructive in my comments. The element that *Pride and Perilous* shares with the other self-published novels I've read is that it needs a gifted professional editor. Someone who is paid to be brutal, constructive and critical.

Despite the potentially interesting subject matter, I never managed to escape into the novel. The language, the characters, or the plot never managed to engage me---but they could have, or should have.

I'm going to re-read and edit this review before I push "save" and I encourage Mr. McNease to do that with this book.

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## **Wyrn says**

I wasn't sure if I'd like this book compared to the first one, but I have to say I was surprised. Enjoyable and we get to see a bit more of each character and learn about this. Good mystery which kept me guessing. The only criticism is that I found sometimes there was too much descriptive narrative going on and my attention drifted.

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### **Robert Helms says**

4.5???. I enjoyed the first book in the series but this book (the second) was even better. The dual story ARC's the murder mystery and the underhanded Business revenge story, which is continued. Knowing who the murderer is from the beginning doesn't decrease story's effectiveness. Following the the murderer's actions and finally discovering the reason for his actions is the heart of the story. Can't wait to read the next in the series, hoping it is as good as this one.

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### **Darlene Ferland says**

This is a "first-reads" give-a-way book and the second Kyle Callahan book. Suspenseful and filled with twists and turns that are mostly unseen. The setting is a Manhattan Art Gallery where Kyle is presenting his first photography exhibit. When someone wants to close the gallery forever, Kyle and his partner, Danny, take on the killer with many of the characters that Mark McNease introduced in the Murder at Pride Lodge series opener. Thank you "first-reads!"

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### **K says**

This is the 2nd Kyle Callahan mystery and it should be noted it is not a romance. The MC's are an established couple in their 50's with Kyle about to have his own one man show at Katherine Pride's gallery, but people connected with a previous show are being murdered and it's Kyle, with the help of Lindsey, the newly out lesbian detective who is visiting him to put the pieces together.

This isn't a who dunnit as that is known from the start as the narration is shared between various characters - including the murderer. Like the first book it's well written with some nice characters but in places it falls a little flat - in particular the side story of Kyle's partner Danny, his employer and long term rival which kind of fuzzled out and went nowhere.

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### **Averin says**

The same problem as the first book. McNeese creates full characters and locales, but is too wordy. And the cardinal sin of murder mysteries that reveal the murderer immediately.

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### **carol bondell says**

I enjoyed the story and the mystery, but really didn't get into the book. It was going back and forth within the story line. The characters were interesting and the fact that Kyle was getting his first exhibit made it show the interest he had in the murders.

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### **Will says**

I found this book on a list of LGBT books. I read the blurb about it and downloaded it, not knowing what to expect. I will say, in not knowing what to expect, I thoroughly enjoyed it! The author does a great job introducing characters who had previously been introduced in Book 1 of the series (which I had not yet read but have since started reading) and it does not feel like overkill in how he introduced everyone. The author sets the scene and brings alive the story of murder in real locations, including Chelsea, Hells Kitchen, and the Gayborhood. While many of the characters are LGBT, not all are, and this book does not have any LGBT erotica that has become all too synonymous with books in this genre. For anyone in the LGBT community or allies who enjoy fiction, this is a good book to put on your list.

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