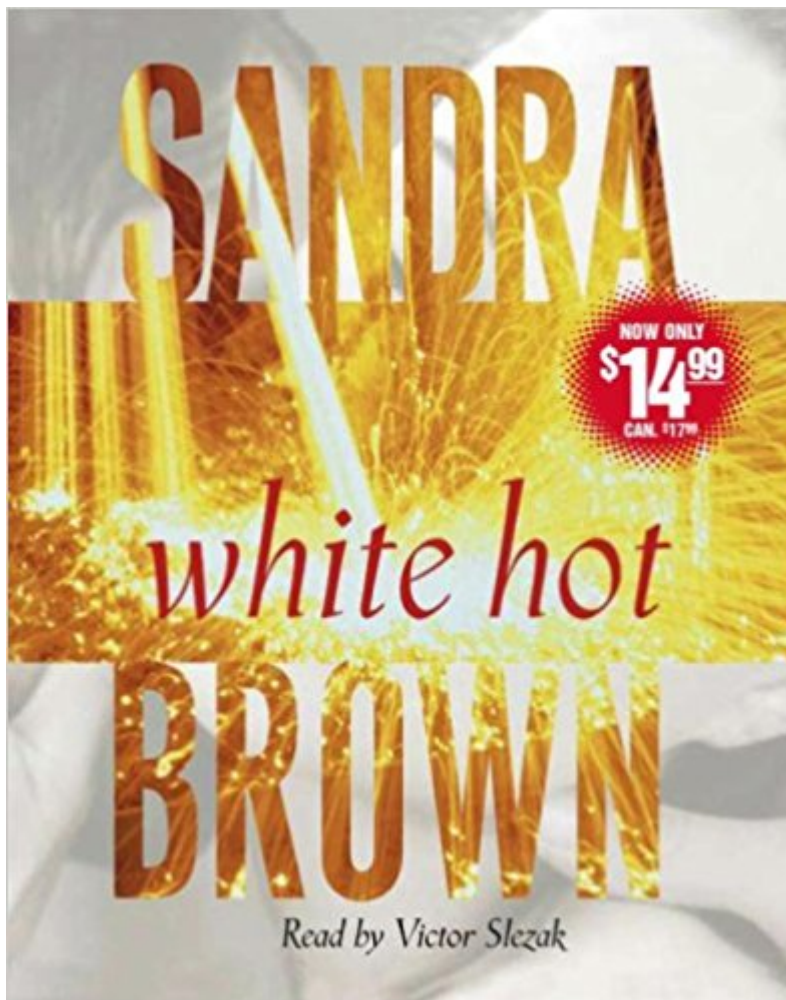


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# White Hot



## Synopsis

When she hears that her younger brother Danny has committed suicide, Sayre Lynch relinquishes her vow never to return to Destiny, the small Louisiana town in which she grew up. She plans to leave immediately after the funeral, but soon finds herself drawn into the web cast by Huff Hoyle, her controlling and tyrannical father. Hoyle owns the town's sole industry and runs the lives of everyone who lives there. Her father and older brother, Chris, are as devious as ever with their new partner-in-crime, a disarming lawyer named Beck Merchant. When Sayre is thrown in closer contact with Beck, she senses something more sinister is at play. As she sets out to learn just what did happen to Danny, Sayre is inextricably drawn into a struggle with striking laborers, her unscrupulous father, and her growing love/hate relationship with Beck -- a man with mysteries of his own. A brilliant combination of hard-edged suspense and intense emotion, *White Hot* is master storyteller Sandra Brown at her very best.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

White-hot labor disputes, family conflict, murder and romance are ablaze in bestselling Brown's latest romantic thriller (after *Hello, Darkness*), when Sayre Lynch returns to Destiny, La., for her brother Danny's funeral. Estranged from her family for 10 years, Sayre arrives in town believing Danny committed suicide, but suspects otherwise after a surprise encounter at the cemetery and a disquieting interview with the sheriff's deputy. The Bayou-born firebrand now San Francisco interior decorator stays to investigate her brother's last days, confronting her father, Huff Hoyle, the powerful owner of the foundry that provides most of the town's jobs and all its corruption; defying

her brother Chris, Huff's heir apparent and OSHA's worst nightmare; and becoming the first woman on the floor of the hellish factory that fuels the family fortune. At every turn, Sayre crosses paths with Huff's handsome lawyer henchman, Beck Merchant, irresistible although he represents everything she despises. The steamy pair cannot escape each other or their conclusions about Hoyle Enterprises. Brown makes up in pace and intensity what she lacks in prose style, guaranteeing readers a brain vacation in print, much like watching a favorite movie: an exciting yet familiar experience, the satisfactory resolution never in doubt. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Brown's latest thriller centers on a successful but corrupt family in Destiny, Louisiana. Sayre Lynch vowed never to return to Destiny after she changed her last name and finally escaped from the influence of her controlling father, Huff Hoyle, who owns the iron foundry that the town is built around. But when Danny, her younger brother, is found dead with a shotgun in his mouth, Sayre reluctantly goes to Destiny for his funeral and is annoyed when her father's handsome lawyer and go-to man, Beck Merchant, approaches her. When the young officer investigating the case notes that some of the evidence points to murder rather than suicide, Sayre finds herself unable to leave Destiny. She's annoyed by Beck's constant presence, and she's not sure if he's trying to help her or throw her off the trail. Nor does she trust her father or her older brother, Chris, who is just like him and is a prime suspect in Danny's murder. Sayre isn't convinced of his innocence, by any means. As she tries to figure out how the intriguing, charming Beck fits into the picture, she finds herself deeply attracted to him. Although not quite as successful as her last few thrillers, Brown's latest still sizzles, thanks mainly to a compelling cast of characters. Kristine Huntley Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

\*One of my personal favorites and a first-rate thriller that only Sandra Brown can master. Its a must read!.....The one thing that Sayre Lynch promised herself was never to return to her hometown of Destiny, Louisiana but when she received a message that her brother Danny had taken his own life, she had no other choice. It had been ten long years since she's been gone and she was hoping by standing from a distance at the funeral, she could sneak right back to San Francisco without even being noticed. Of course, that was about to all change as she heard a seductive voice behind her ear. She spun around only to see a dark-haired blonde with a downright handsome face, gorgeous

green eyes, and a body made for sin. His name was Beck Merchant, a lawyer working for the man she truly hated most of her life, her father Huff Hoyle. Not only did Huff own the Pipe Casting Co., but the whole town as well. And her brother Chris was no better. Once accused of killing a worker at the plant, Sayre knew without a doubt that Chris had done it and the jurors were most likely paid off. When a very young and sharp sheriff's deputy starts probing into Danny's suicide, he is convinced that it's murder and Chris is behind it. Meeting Sayre for the first time, Beck could not stop thinking about her and thought she was the most beautiful woman he has ever seen and unlike Chris who was spoiled and a complete womanizer, he kept his feelings for her a secret. When Sayre learns that the business is unsafe for the workers, she makes the decision to stay in Destiny and to ruin Huff Hoyle if it's the last thing she ever does. Accusing Beck as a partner-in-crime to her father, it doesn't take long before their attraction for each other takes over. Being their lawyer, Beck has his own agenda including his very own secrets and lies that no one knows about and unbeknownst to Sayre as well. As Sayre begins strikes against her father's company and someone gets hurt at the plant, secrets start to surface. Just when she thought she knew just about everything, nothing could prepare her for the whole sickening truth. Between a betrayal so horrible to think of, the truth about her brother's death, corruption, a twenty-year old murder, the love/hate relationship she has with Beck Merchant and most importantly, the true identity of someone very close to her. Can she do this and stick it out? Finally, to get all the answers to her questions? If she is ever to find happiness in her life, she knows what she has to do by staying to the bitter end to see it through and hoping beyond hope that it's not too late by showing her heart to someone who truly cares!.....thank you

Sandra I never like read two books by the author back to back but after I submitted my review of Above and beyond this book suddenly appears on my Kindle unordered. Being free I had no choice but to read it. And glad. That I did. From the smoked town to the belching blast furnaces I was overwhelmed by the evil jerks father and son. Then bloody murders all over the town. Then the attempt of Sandra sex stuff kept me reading. Then I was gripped by the man hunt with a bit more sex throne until the gruesome end which I leave for new readers to enjoy Now on to another author.

Where better to sizzle than a foundry in southern Louisiana, especially in the summer? It requires Tobasco sauce, of course, and a family filled with a ruthless patriarch, a deceased saintly mother (if she weren't long dead, she'd be broken), an amoral philandering elder son, an escaped beautiful and successful daughter, and a prodigal son whose recent suicide may not be actually that. Add a

sexy family lawyer, an alcoholic high school sweetheart, a secret fiancé, a corrupt sheriff, a scary ex-con and a threatening union organizer, and we have the makings of an engaging plot. There is a history of accidents in the family business (the aforementioned foundry) which seem to be negligent if not downright murderous. I was hooked even before knowing any of this; Brown's setting of the story in the opening pages is absolutely charming. Read this book when you can afford the luxury of getting lost in it.

As a long time fan of Ms Brown, it is hard to give a negative review but this is a weak, badly crafted novel. It rambles, has main characters who do not connect emotionally, and offers situations which are completely unbelievable. The overly long story felt forced, heavy, and unpleasant. The only character for whom I cared the least bit was the dog. Awful bad guys, awful good guys. What's to like? Layered onto that was a transparent political statement depicting a stereotyped greedy and corrupt industrialist who oppresses the helpless, suffering workers. Ugh! Very 1920's but written during the overly regulated 2000's. However, Sandra Brown has written many excellent books so, for new readers, please look for her good ones. *Rainwater* is one of the best books I have ever read and has stayed with me for years.

Sandra delivers again in that there is suspense, romance and. A variety of characters. That said, I never totally fell in love with any of them. Would have loved having the character of Danny be a little more "present. " before he was killed. The main character Sayre is a little hard to fall in love with especially since the book started out with her behaving in a way that was inconsistent with the "high morals" of her character, namely refusing Danny's phone call. The back and forth love/hate relationship between Beck and Sayre gets a little tiresome. There was quite a bit going on in terms of subplots but the suspense had me on the edge at times and Brown did tie things together nicely in the end. While not her best, I would definitely recommend and will continue to look for material by this writer.

Just when I think Sandra Brown won't catch me off guard again, she surprises me once more! The unraveling of the story line kept my kindle in my hands and had me predicting possible culprits. I never suspected such a climax!

From the moment I saw the movie *Smoke Screen* and then devoured the book, I've been a HUGE fan of Sandra Brown's....Have read several over the last few years and am loving every single one

as I continue to knock them back...She is my new Sidney Sheldon, who will forever be THE MASTER OF SUSPENSE....:)

No company can get away with unsafe working conditions like in this book. Too much sex, reads like porn.

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