

After the sudden death of her husband, Ellen McKenna is doing everything she can to keep her Texas farm afloat. She and her family hope to expand their operation, but times are tough and making ends meet is more expensive than she imagined, much less trying to grow. Many of their neighbors in Cooke County have thrown in the towel and agreed to sell their farms to a local businessman, but despite similar pressure, Ellen refuses to let her dreams die.

On top of the usual hardships, a series of recent storms has left the region partly flooded, and as the heavy rain begins again one morning, all the members of the McKenna family jump into action to protect their land and animals. Ellen's oldest son discovers an injured dog—and the dog leads him to a man barely clinging to life, the apparent victim of a brutal home invasion. Then, Ellen's younger kids go to check on a nearby neighbor and walk into a threat none of them saw coming.

Before anyone can figure out what's really going on in their idyllic rural valley, the storm picks up again in intensity, and the McKenna kids find themselves in over their heads with no way to call for help. To protect her farm and her family, Ellen must face down all the forces trying to tear them apart.

Allison Brennan's talent for twisty, tense pacing combines with a deeply drawn family drama and the unforgiving power of nature in this compelling standalone thriller.

**ALLISON BRENNAN** is the *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author of more than fifty novels, including the Lucy Kincaid and Max Revere series. She was nominated for the Thriller Award for Best Paperback Original Novel by the International Thriller Writers and is a two-time winner of the Daphne du Maurier Award for Excellence in Mystery/Suspense by *Kiss of Death*. Married for more than a quarter of a century, Allison and her husband, Dan, raised five children, and currently live in Arizona, where they enjoy baseball's spring training and exploring the Grand Canyon.

**READ BY AMANDA STRIBLING**



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