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Hannon's "Dark ambitions" (book review)

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Book Reviews

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Hannon, I. (2019). *Dark ambitions*. Grand Rapids, MI: Revell. 367 pp. \$15.99. ISBN 9780800727703

Dark Ambitions is the third, and final, book in Irene Hannon's Code of Honor romantic thriller series. In this romantic thriller, former Army helicopter pilot Rick Jordan turns to a private investigative firm to find a former army acquaintance who is in danger. Heather Shields is the private investigator placed in charge of Rick's investigation. They soon find out that there is far more going on than a simple missing person's case. Their investigations quickly find them looking hard into the past of a gubernatorial hopeful. While investigating, Rick and Heather begin to fall in love but choose to wait on exploring their relationship until the case is solved. The book is set in St. Louis, Missouri like most of Irene Hannon's books.

Dark Ambitions, while the third in a series, serves well as a standalone novel. The characters featured in the first two books do make appearances but their backstories are not necessary to enjoy this book. Irene Hannon's ability to create loveable characters is evident with her creation of Heather and Rick. They are given pasts that are relevant to the storyline which makes their personalities and actions realistic. This book is a quick thrill ride that will not offend anyone with sensitive emotions. The theme of the novel is how God works miracles for those who believe in Him. This theme is especially evident in the culmination of the action. There is a definite twist to the ending that surprised this reader. Irene Hannon is a talented author who excels at fast paced action combined with reserved romance. Thus, *Dark Ambitions* is an excellent addition to any Christian fiction collection.

Reviewer

Elizabeth Parish, University of Arkansas at Monticello