



A Shot of Red

Tracy March

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During the launch of Moncure Therapeutics' new flu vaccine, Mia Moncure is rocked by news that the public relations director at her family's company has been found dead in Switzerland. A cryptic video warns her that something is amiss with the vaccine, and convinces Mia that his death wasn't accidental.

Determined to expose the killer, Mia heads to Lucerne, where her own life is threatened. Desperate for backup, she turns to Gio Lorenzo, communications director for a high-ranking senator, even though she's still reeling from their one-night stand months before. Mia and Gio race to uncover a deadly scheme that threatens to ruin her family's company. But time is running out. Millions of people are being vaccinated, and any of them could be the next to die.

A Shot of Red Details

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Author : Tracy March

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From Reader Review A Shot of Red for online ebook

Tobi Forget the Housework, I'm Reading... says

First thoughts after...

I'm going to have such a book hangover!

How distracted did I get?

A Shot of Red is an action packed romantic suspense. The story had a perfect mix of romance and suspense. I enjoyed Mia's character so much and watching her learn from her mistakes in the past. My favorite parts are with Pearl in Haiti and Mia making sure the orphan children got flu vaccines. Gio, he just steals your heart. A gentleman, hottie mctottie and hero you can't go wrong reading about this leading man. Mia and Gio had me rooting for them from beginning to end. You could cut the tension with a knife between the two. Lila, what an awesome grandmother to have! Spunky, strong and all knowing. This story is edge of your seat to the last chapter. If you enjoy romance, mystery, suspense or all of the above wrapped up in one fun bow I highly recommend this book!

Melissa says

This book is a great read. Mia and Gio story is a mystery, some detective work, adventure, and finding love.

Andretta Schellinger says

Mia is a strong willed, powerful woman who has chosen to take after her grandmother, the leader of one of the largest pharmaceutical companies in the United States if not the world. She is not normally one to let emotions dictate anything; however the majority of this book from her running to Haiti to possibly searching for a killer is based on her feelings that not all is right and to better serve her grandmother along with herself she must find the cause of those feelings.

Tracy March did a very good job of making the characters real and making you like or hate them. Her character attributes are just as you think they are, if you immediately dislike them then you will probably dislike them the entire book, same with characters you are immediately drawn to.

I really liked the entire book, it was suspenseful, tense, sexy, and sent a shiver down my spine on just how easy it would be to mess with someone's health. I did not like the ending though, I really wished that the author had just ended it about two pages from the end, not counting the epilogue. Adding in that last twoish pages really undermined the entire book and didn't fit in at all with what the story was about, at least in my opinion. Since I don't spoil I cannot tell you what happened.

Michelle Steffen says

If you love action and thrills this is definitely a book you'll enjoy, reading it reminded me of old Alfred Hitchcock edge of your seat, gripping, nail biting, who done it adventures. A great read in my opinion. The heroine will eventually inherit a large pharmaceutical company, unfortunately due to politics and greed a flu vaccination isn't what it seems.

You'll never guess who done it! Kept me guessing right up to the end.

Lola says

I got a copy in exchange for an honest review

I was in the mood for a suspense book and am trying to read more books in this genres. A Shot of Red is an interesting story and I really liked the political aspects and the vaccine plot. Pretty soon it's obvious something is going on with the vaccine and I couldn't wait to find out more alongside main character Mia. The political aspects surrounding the pharmaceutical company Moncure where done really well and I liked how some characters seemed to focus on the fact people where dying while other where more focussed on the problems for the company, it made for an interetsing dynamica. And while A Shot of red was an enjoyable story that kept me reading, there where also some things that could've been done better.

One of my biggest issues with this book is a certain plot twist at the end. If you think back to the story, nothing seems to make sense anymore in light of this relevation and it feels like the story is falling apart with it. You know some books are fun to re-read because then you see the hints and can make sense of things earlier? Well with this book the story would be ruined when you re-read it. Nothing makes sense in light of the last plot twist and actions and motivations aren't properly explained. I would've liked this story better without that twists, it didn't add anything except for the surprise element at the end.

Mia was a great character, she genuinely cares about people and wants to do things to help them. She also is loyal to her family's company, but for her the people are more important than the reputation of the company. I liked her and thought she was a great character. When she first gets hints something might be wrong with the vaccine she reacts very believeable. The cast of side characters mostly consist of character that shouldn't be likeable like Mia's mother, Richard and Mia's brother. I did like Mia's grandmother Lila, she was an awesome character and some of her actions towards half of the book made me like her even more.

The romance also is an important part of this book, but the romance didn't do it for me at all. I couldn't feel their chemistry and while there was some lust between them, I didn't feel their emotional connection they claimed to have. They where nice together and Gio was really protective of Mia, but I just didn't feel chemistry and I wish they talked a bit more. There are a lot of misunderstandings between them and there wasn't enough talking and finding things out about each other. It just didn't work for me and I didn't care about the romance and even skiped some of those scenes later on in the book.

To conclude: A Shot of Red is an interesting story that kept my attention. The political aspects where done well and I liked the mystery surrounding the vaccine. I didn't like a certain plot twist towards the end and thought it ruined the story a bit, as many things didn't make sense in light of that. I liked Mia as a main character, but the romance between her and Gio just didn't do it for me. They had some lust going on, but nothing more it seemed and their misunderstandings where annoying. All in all an enjoyable book and I liked the suspense and mystery aspects, but it could've been better.

Ren says

4 stars

A Shot of Red is a mix of suspense, thrill, romance, with a hint of Dan Brown's conspiracy and politic plot. This book remind me at the time when I read old Linda Howard's romantic suspense and Sandra Brown.

This book basically about Mia Moncure, the heiress of Moncure Therapeutic and her journey to investigate her ex-boyfriend's death. She believe that her ex death somehow connected with her family business, a business that produce vaccine that believed to cure the flu epidemic in USA. So, Ms March bring readers to follow Mia's trip into Lucerne, Switzerland to unravel the truth.

While in the other side, Mia also deal with her feeling to Gio Lorenzo, a man who work to Mia's mother, Senator Moncure. To have a relationship with him is dangerous and forbidden. But Gio is not a man who easily to give up. Together with Mia in Switzerland, he will do anything to ensure the safety of a woman he loved, when someone try to kill them.

I admit I read this book very slowly, much because my tight schedule and the early part make me bored. But, when Mia found that her ex might be murdered to hide a sinister wrongdoings, things got interesting. I love that Ms March took me into Lucerne, Switzerland. She mix myth (about dragon. Love dragon!), art and so many description about Lucerne, from Mount Pilatus, Reuss river, Museum Sammlung Rossengart, and much more. I wish, someday if I have money, I will go there. Of course, with ease not like Mia who constantly on alert, because someone target her when she at Lucerne.

The thriller and the suspense is well written, same with the conspiracy and politic part. Some part that irk me, maybe is the romance factor. Don't get me wrong, Ms March did know how to write a steamy scene. She also make Gio as sexy as hell. But, I just wish that Mia do not act as coward. Gio see her as sexy, independent woman, and dedicated. But what Mia did to him is otherwise. I want Mia to stop hiding from her feeling, because what she did to Gio, somehow was awful.

Other part is.. ehm, the sex scene. I'm so disappointed when Ms March didn't write the actual sex scene, when Gio first have sex with Mia, and when they met again after 8 month. I become panic. No way I read so much sexual tension between Gio and Mia, a sexy and hot foreplay between them to finally read fade to black scene in the end, right? It's like slam a door in front of my face, and I admit that I'm a little bit pissed off. Surprisingly, their time in Switzerland and in the end is well, I give my smut approval, which make me a happy reader. Well, it's not that I read this book just for the sex only, but when the hero described with a physical description that make your mouth drool, add it with hot foreplay, of course I want a hot and sizzling sex scene after that. Amirite?

One thing that I like is a twist near the end. Well, to sum it up "don't see it coming!". Even, I think that the reason why someone target Mia and Gio is a little bit meh and I have a "oh, really. It's the reason why the culprit do that?". So this is why I reduce the star, but oh, well, A Shot of Red still an enjoyable read for me. Especially when knowing that Gio love to ride bike. I love men who ride bike (sssst, don't tell my husband! :P)

Recommended if you want to read a romantic suspense while also enjoying lush description of Lucerne, Switzerland.

Amy R says

A Shot of Red is a thrilling romantic suspense that pulls you into a complicated story with edge-of-your-seat danger, irresistible passion and leaves you with so much hope.

A Shot of Red is a story about so many things – love, death, betrayal, deceit, and hope. There are several story lines that are going on and Tracy does a fantastic job of weaving them all together to make for a very intriguing read.

In short, the heroine Mia, learns that several vaccines her company Moncure Therapeutics formulated may have been tainted during the manufacturing process and she is set out to find the truth because hundreds are dying. When things turn dangerous and she is nearly killed, Gio rushes to her aid. From there they have quite the adventure in digging up any evidence they can find.

A Shot of Red is definitely a book you need to read carefully. Tracy alternates between past and present at the beginning of the book and if you don't pay attention you could miss it. Once I realized that, I didn't have any problems following along with the story and the style of the writing.

I found Mia to be very compelling. She wasn't the damsel-in-distress heroine, but an assertive, decisive woman who knows the difference between right and wrong. She knows what she wants and goes after it, which was very refreshing to read! Gio is a no-nonsense type of guy so the two of them compliment each other. He is a little torn between his job (working for Mia's mother who forbids any relationships between her staff and her family) and his feelings for Mia. The chemistry between Gio and Mia is undeniable, but the complication of their situation prevents them from going all in with their relationship. Love will find a way, though, right? Tracy does a fantastic job with the building of their romance. The intimate scenes are done extremely well, are very romantic and hot, but also fit the story. I will admit those scenes left me squirming in my seat while reading them!

The overall story is a tricky one and several times asked myself how Tracy plotted it all out. She develops the characters in A Shot of Red extremely well, describes settings so well that you feel as if you are living out the story and she is also a master of twists and turns. The ending totally blindsided me. Just when I thought the book was over, and I felt a little disappointed in the ending, BAM! She threw in another twist and ended the story perfectly. Well done, Tracy. If you like romantic suspense, you must try A Shot of Red.

Georgianna Simpson says

A Shot of Red by Tracy March is a thriller, mystery, romance, adventure type story and that's just the beginning. It's a full out novel of the finest quality. I will be wanting to read much more of Tracy March's work.

To really set this up properly I'd practically have to write a small novel...so here's a quick set up, but all those wonderful details that really make the story, you must discover for yourselves.

This story features huge corporations, corrupt governments, greed, family dynamics of the powerful and so much more. It's well written, intricately plotted and wonderfully twisty. In short, one of my favorite kind of stories! Tracy March has written a great book here and I will be reading more of Tracy's work in the future, I hope.

Mia is a young executive for her family's firm Moncure Therapeutics (they make vaccines for diseases). She broke up with her recent boyfriend, Brent, because he wanted marriage and she didn't feel she loved him enough, but he still wants to marry her. A week later she had a wonderful night with Gio, a handsome hunk of wonderful that works for her mother, Senator Catherine Moncure, the deep passion she felt for him frightened her and she fled to Haiti for a few months to do volunteer work and think.

She has much going on. While she was away Brent was killed in an accident in Switzerland. However a talk with his mother leads to thinking it wasn't an accident. He was investigating something wrong with the new flu vaccine they are launching and may have been killed. She becomes involved in an investigation of what he was doing, not knowing who to trust, except her grandmother.

Her relationship with Gio is strained, but still there. The passion flares again and they just can't seem to stay apart despite her mother's rules on employee's dating her children. Her brother is always trying to upstage her as well. Her investigations lead her right into danger and intrigue.

Through her grandmothers wishes Gio joins her covertly in her investigation and they face so much together while they get to know each other and understand why she runs away from love.

That's the set-up, WOW! This is a fast paced very intense thriller, along with a really involved love story with some love scenes hot enough to curl your toes. This story really has it all my friends. Do yourself a favor and don't miss a second of it! Enjoy, I did!

Copy was Gifted

Amanda Menninga says

The main character Mia is a very determined young woman set to possibly take over a multi million dollar pharmaceutical company. Her brother is also in line with her. She returns from a humanitarian trip to Haiti (which she also uses as an escape hatch) she finds out her former fiance has died, there is possibly something wrong with the flu vaccination just released, a possible flu epidemic, foul play and decides to tackle it all. This is where the sexy Gio helps her.

I really liked this book. The author Tracy did a fabulous job with the characters. They were realistic and easy to relate to. There was enough background information to make it interesting but not to much to overwhelm you. I couldn't put the book down wanting to know the outcome. I was shocked to say the least. If you are looking for a good mystery with romance this is a great book to try out.

I was provided a free copy of this book for my honest review.

Denise Van plew says

This was the first time for me reading anything by this author which is why I really looked forward to seeing what tasty tidbits were inside waiting to be discovered. Since I so like to mix it up in my reading was ready for some adventure and mystery so was ready for this one. Since this novel centered around a murder it was sure to be something I could sink my teeth into. Murder to be solved-check, heroine who is a someone who

could get the job done-check,coupled with a hunk of a hero who could knock anyone's socks off to aid said heroine,check. Right away this author snatches you by the neck and says come with me there is a mystery coupled with a murder waiting to be revealed. Mia is the granddaughter of one of the biggest companies that is producing and providing vaccine for many in a much needed flu epidemic. Being pulled away from where she ran away too even if she was doing good while there, her grandmother needs her more. Determined to uncover the truth of a ex's murder could also lead her to danger so help she receives from the one she ran away from Gio. But he is slightly off limits in the relationship department being he works for her mother who says no no to that sort of thing. So glad when the heart knows what the heart wants with no not being in the vocabulary. So by know I am grabbed by the neck needing to see what is really going on turning each page discovering the clues right along with Mia. What a dysfunctional family too to say the least,thank goodness for her grandmother though. Great intrigue if a author can keep me guessing as this one has the deeper I am into this novel. Twists and turns to this is also quite fascinating keeping me on my toes. She certainly has not much to worry about with Gio by her side to aide her in more ways then one. With lots of people in danger nothing less than the truth must come out. Enjoyed watching this relationship grow even amongst the danger they are in. Also love the blindsides the author throws at you near the end that a excellent mystery romance needs to have if it to be above the norm. This author left me feeling satisfied so much so just did not feel like putting those socks back on. Received a arc for a honest review.

Debbie says

The first part of this book really drew me in, political intrigue mixed with a big pharma cover up and a bit of romance to heighten the story. I was all over it and totally invested but then things slowly just fell apart. The second half the story lacked the details and depth necessary to pull off the story and keep me invested. While individually I really liked the main characters, I never bought into their romance. The trip to Lucerne read like a travel guide more than a setting description and the motivations for the characters actions were weak at best.

Sandy Duncan says

Love, romance, mystery, suspense, thrills

Love, romance, mystery, suspense, thrills

I loved this story. it's the first Tracy March book I've read and I couldn't put it down. it had me right from the start all the way to the end. full of romance, intrigue, suspense, and thrills. my kind of book. Mia and Gio were perfect! I highly recommend it.

Cris says

Review originally posted at Ramblings from this Chick

I'd previously read and thoroughly enjoyed Tracy March's super-sweet contemporaries but had yet to try her romantic thrillers with a scientific bend, which seems blasphemous since I have an advanced degree in science, live in a big biotechnology hub, and have friends who work in the pharmaceutical industry! So I

decided to remedy that with her upcoming single-title release, **A SHOT OF RED**. Reunited one-night-stand lovers, a budding flu epidemic, potentially dodgy corporate behaviour, a crazy-ass dysfunctional family that makes anyone else's look like the Cleavers, and a vicarious trip to the Swiss Alps? I'm sold. In **A SHOT OF RED**, Ms. March skillfully blends political and scientific intrigue to deliver a white-knuckle thrill ride of a read that feels like a summer blockbuster film, complete with larger-than-life action and the right touch of romance. [Confession: I love action films—the more over-the-top the better!]

A SHOT OF RED opens with heroine Mia Moncure, PR Director of the family pharmaceutical company, being summoned back Stateside after an eight-month humanitarian mission to earthquake-ravaged Haiti to spearhead the early launch of the company's government-backed flu vaccine in the wake of her ex-boyfriend and coworker's mysterious falling-off-a-mountain-in-Switzerland death. Because, apparently, people fly halfway across the world to attend the funeral of a friend no one knew about and then fall to their deaths spreading the ashes on a mountaintop in the Alps. Sure, I'll buy that. Things really get interesting for Mia when she's paired with Gio Lorenzo on the launch campaign—the way-off-limits communications director for her Senator mother and hot pre-Haiti one-night stand—and she begins to suspect her ex's death was more corporate cover-up than accident. Messages from beyond the grave! Mysterious safe-deposit boxes in a Swiss bank! Mounting flu deaths despite the vaccine! Attempts on Mia's life! A government conspiracy! All in the span of less than a week, which makes for high-octane, nonstop action that stretches believability but works beautifully to make **A SHOT OF RED** a fun, approachable page-turner with a stronger focus on romance than a lot of romantic thrillers.

In addition to the breezy, approachable writing, Ms. March does a great job creating an enjoyable and well-developed cast of characters, both primary and secondary. Mia's mother—the dictatorial Senator Moncure—is a delightfully manipulative bitch readers will love to hate and will enjoy immensely, along with Mia's equally conniving twin brother. My enjoyment of romance often hinges heavily on my feelings regarding the heroine (more so than the hero!), and Mia really worked for me. I liked how she stuck to her guns and refused to be her mother's political cover-your-ass pawn, her genuine concern for the people receiving (and potentially dying from) the vaccine rather than the corporate bottom line, and her commitment to getting to the bottom of a mystery that could destroy her family's legacy. The way she ran off to Haiti after ending a comfortable but uninspired relationship with her ex and having a life-altering night with Gio to escape dealing with her jumbled emotions, fear of the potent (and unexpected) emotions Gio awakens in her, and the corporate maneuvering going on at Moncure Therapeutics made her relatable and realistic. I would've made the same choices in her position. And what to say about Gio? It's no secret I like my heroes a little beta—even in romantic suspense, where it's generally all about badass blokes—and Gio fills that mould perfectly. He's not shy about admitting that he's felt something for Mia since the moment he laid eyes on her, that their one night together was much more to him than that, and that he was hurt and confused when Mia hopped a plane to Haiti immediately after and was incommunicado for eight months whilst at the same time faking an illness and risking his job to fly to Switzerland to 'protect' Mia after she's attacked whilst investigating Gio is a refreshing change from the typical uber-alpha RS hero—in touch with his emotions AND willing to risk his life for the woman he loves!—and I really liked him. He and Mia make a great couple, and I'm glad a significant chunk of the novel was devoted to (re)establishing their relationship.

Overall, **A SHOT OF RED** was a great introduction to the other side of Tracy March (whose incredibly fun and sweet contemporaries are a few of that ilk I can tolerate). It's fast-paced and jam-packed with action and romance and deftly explores the intersection of science and politics that is a hotbed for intrigue. Despite being a full-length novel, it felt like it flew by (in a good way) and the plot never dragged. I look forward to reading more of Ms. March's thrillers!

Nicole Smith says

Wow this book had it all from passion, suspense, murder. It was so hard to put this one down. I stayed up a few nights because I just had to see what was going to happen next. Some twists I didn't see coming in this one. One highlight for me was the the epilogue it was so perfect and it closed the book on the perfect note. I highly recommend this one.

Cricket says

I was given an ARC copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

Tracy March has really written a great book with this one. Her characters are well developed, the scenes are detailed and richly written.

I enjoyed the twists and turns this one took. Action packed and it was a believable crime. She keeps you guessing with this one, who will die next?

Brent, Mia's ex-boyfriend has died in an accident or so that's what everyone thinks, but Brent was looking into something which is why he was in Switzerland. He left a cryptic message for Mia with his mother, once Mia returns to the United States she receives a call from Bents mother asking her to come to her home. After viewing the message Mia and Brent's mother are left with questions that only can be answered if Mia travels to Switzerland.

But Mia is supposed to be doing a tour to promote the families latest vaccination for the Flu, how will she get out of the tour and out of the country without anyone knowing?

Will Mia and Gio uncover the mystery in time to stop thousands more from dieing?

Who killed Brent? Why was he in Switzerland? Who is now trying to kill Mia? Is she getting too close to solving the mystery?

Mia and Gio the two main characters in this book have such a hot chemistry and bit of history. They work well together and compliment each other. Mia is spontaneous and unpredictable and has trouble expressing her emotions. Gio is calm, level headed and head over heels for Mia. When Lila Mia's grandmother asks Gio to go to Switzerland to help Mia and to keep Mia safe he can not refuse.

You can tell that Tracy March has done her homework in this book, the places, the murder weapon all very well thought out and researched.

The ending was a total surprise and I will not spoil it for you, just be ready to have your mouth hang open.
