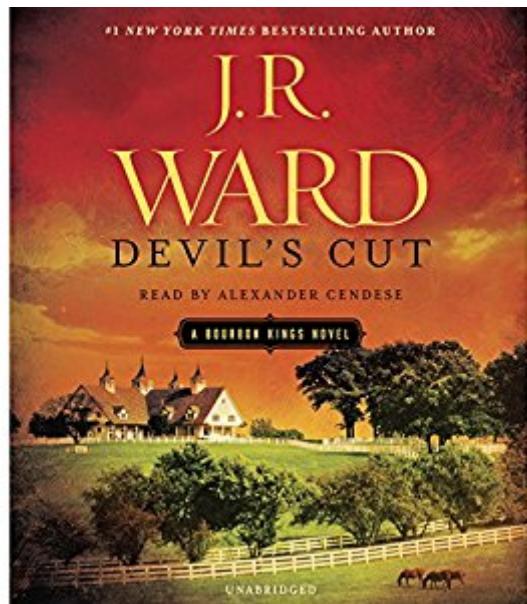


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# Devil's Cut: A Bourbon Kings Novel



## Synopsis

In New York Times best-selling author J. R. Ward's thrilling finale to her Bourbon Kings series, the Bradford family dynasty teeters on the edge of collapse after the murder of their patriarch - and a shocking arrest. At first the death of William Baldwine, the head of the Bradford family, was ruled a suicide. But then his eldest son and sworn enemy, Edward, came forward and confessed to what was, in fact, a murder. Now in police custody, Edward mourns not the disintegration of his family or his loss of freedom...but the woman he left behind. His love, Sutton Smythe, is the only person he has ever truly cared about, but as she is the CEO of the Bradford Bourbon Company's biggest competitor, any relationship between them is impossible. And then there's the reality of the jail time that Edward is facing. Lane Baldwine was supposed to remain in his role of playboy, forever in his big brother Edward's shadow. Instead he has become the new head of the family and the company. Convinced that Edward is covering for someone else, Lane and his true love, Lizzie King, go on the trail of a killer - only to discover a secret that is as devastating as it is game changing. As Lane rushes to discover the truth and Sutton finds herself irresistibly drawn to Edward in spite of his circumstances, the lives of everyone at Easterly will never be the same again. For some this is good; for others it could be a tragedy beyond imagining. Only one thing is for certain: Love survives all things. Even murder.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

FINAL DECISION: Loved, loved, loved this conclusion to the Bourbon Kings trilogy. A very soap-ish

over the top story, this one finished in grand style. I'm pleased with the scope of the story and am only sorry that the whole series was so short.

**THE STORY:** As we resume our story...The patriarch of the family has been murdered and the eldest son, Edward, has been arrested and confessed to his murder. Edward sits in jail mourning the loss of the woman he loves Sutton. The middle son, Lane has taken over the family bourbon business which is deeply in debt due to his father's embezzlement. While Lane has reunited with the love of his life, Lizzie, their happiness is threatened by the lies and deceit in the family. Finally, the sister, Gin has married a man her father picked out for her who is already abusing her. Gin is determined to take everything she can from her marriage especially to finally be a mother to her teenage daughter (who is the daughter of her longtime lover, friend and enemy Samuel unbeknownst to both daughter and Samuel). And thus the story begins its conclusion...

**OPINION:** I've been a fan of the Bourbon King series since the first book. I loved the big, overly dramatic tales of the rich that reminded me fondly of the 1980s nighttime soap operas and Danielle Steele novels that were unofficially the mandatory reading for girls in my high school. Together the three books in this trilogy make a wonderful, decadent mini-series reminiscent of the best of that genre.

As the mystery surrounding the murder of the family patriarch deepens, dark secrets of the family continue to be revealed. There are far more twists and turns left to be explored in this book -- and thankfully, the resolution path is not obvious or expected. These characters are complex and not always nice or good. Although there is much sudsy drama, the characters remain the central part of the book. This book travels into the darkest and most dangerous territory of the story as all the characters face serious danger -- both physical and emotional. I liked the characters in this book from the beginning -- not because they are nice people (many are not, but because there is the possibility for redemption for many of them). This book reveals who might end up with a happy ending and who won't. There isn't much I can give for the plot because that would give away the fun of the twists in the plot. I can say that if you started this series, this book will provide the closure one would have hoped for. It is a fun, over the top book, but enjoyable especially as a summer beach read.

**WORTH MENTIONING:** This book resolves neatly (sometimes it felt too neatly) all the storylines in the trilogy.

**CONNECTED BOOKS:** DEVIL'S CUT is the third and final book in the Bourbon Kings series. The book really does complete the continuing story and should be read as part of the trilogy.

**STAR RATING:** I give this book 5 stars.

Having read the first two books in this trilogy, I needed to read this to see how the saga was wrapped up. The author crammed in nearly every plot known to romance writers - the only one missing, as far as I can tell, is amnesia. It's a potboiler with everything but the kitchen sink (although

there is a fine kitchen knife involved). As sometimes happens with sprawling sagas, there are so many characters that not all are well-rounded or given a sufficient backstory. A lot of the sub-plots are hastily wrapped up, sometimes in unbelievable ways. This trilogy is best suited for people who don't want too much depth but rather constant action and distraction. The author writes in a variety of genres. For adventure and some comedy, I'd recommend her Black Dagger Brotherhood series (urban paranormal and totally over the top).

Even though this series of books are as different from the BDB Series as they can get, I am very grateful to be able to read anything that JR Ward has written. She has a way of bringing a story to life and makes you feel like you could be there, it makes you want to go to these places and find the peace and love, and sometimes turmoil that is in each and every story. I loved this and can't wait to see what is next.

Good job! Loved this three book series. Would love to see it in a movie form! Was intrigued by the story line and the ending was a good surprise. A little too much recap though at the beginning of book 2 and 3. Your loyal fans don't need that, we are up to date and awaiting the next book. But all in all, totally enjoyed it!

JR Ward does it again! She did a great job developing the characters and you will remember them without consulting prior books in the series. She does a wonderful job finishing this series with a surprise ending. I really appreciated the ending since I didn't see it coming. Definitely read this series! It is wonderful!

I have to say Devil's Cut is my favorite of the Bourbon King Series! Once I started I was spellbound!! Full of twists and turns! Lots of family drama but you don't want to miss it! I laughed, cried, loved, hated.....so caught up in the characters and story! Couldn't ask for anything more!

I really enjoyed this whole series. For this book I was happy with how everything was tied up at the end, but man what a ride to get there. Of the three books this one was probably the least pretentious (for the characters). I love how flawed they could be and in the end they were able to own their flaws and find their way. Really great read!

As a fan of the BDB series, I was pleasantly surprised by this series as it was not supernatural as

the Wardens other books are. As is her standard, it is an amazing series, and I'm sad it's over. Maybe we will get lucky and get another book with updates on how the family is doing after such upheaval and change. It should definitely be on your TBR list if it isn't already!

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