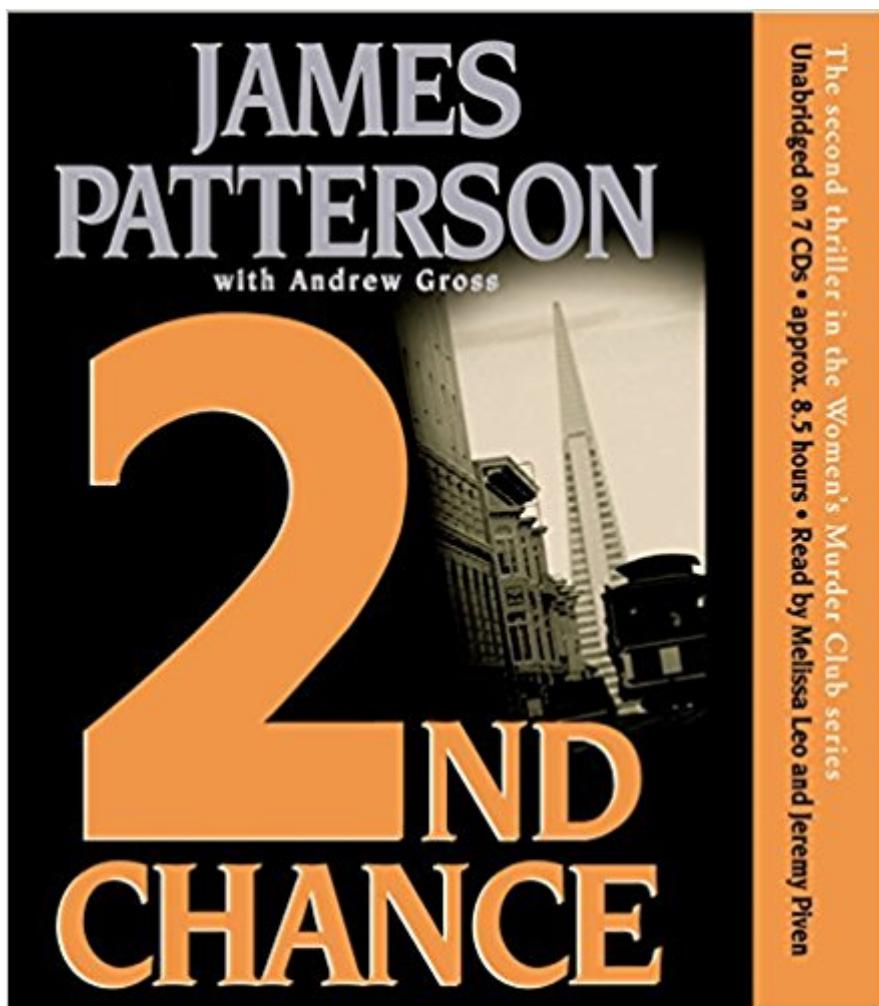


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## 2nd Chance (Women 's Murder Club)



## **Synopsis**

The sensational killings that have rocked San Francisco appear to be unrelated except in their brutality. But detective Lindsay Boxer senses there's some thread connecting them all, so she calls her friends in the Women's Murder Club together to see if they can discover what it is. Working with "Chronicle" reporter Cindy Thomas, Assistant DA Jill Bernhardt, and medical examiner Claire Washburn, Lindsay discovers there is indeed a link. Each of the victims had a close relative in a particular profession a profession that sends a chill through Lindsay's heart. The partners in the Women's Murder Club deduce where the killer is likely to strike next and set a trap that can't be resisted. But if their calculation is wrong, the consequences will be lethal. And there will be no second chance.

## **Book Information**

Series: Women's Murder Club (Book 2)

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## **Customer Reviews**

2nd Chance reconvenes the Women's Murder Club, four friends (a detective, a reporter, an assistant district attorney, and a medical examiner) who used their networking skills, feminine intuition, and professional wiles to solve a baffling series of murders in *1st to Die*. This time, the murders of two African Americans, a little girl and an old woman, bear all the signs of a serial killer for Lindsay Boxer, newly promoted to lieutenant of San Francisco's homicide squad. But there's an odd detail she finds even more disturbing: both victims were related to city cops. A symbol glimpsed at both murder scenes leads to a racist hate group, but the taunting killer strikes again and again, leaving deliberate clues and eluding the police ever more cleverly. In the meantime, each of the

women has a personal stake at risk--and the killer knows who they are. 2nd Chance speeds along at a Formula One pace through many tight curves, but unlike recent entries in the Alex Cross series, it doesn't sacrifice good characters to a twisted plot. Lindsay's the star, but there's a fine esprit de corps among the four women, who are even better developed here than in the first book. What makes them both convincing and interesting as a criminal-justice juggernaut is their willingness to stick their necks out, even if they suffer for it. If you haven't picked up a James Patterson novel in a while, this is a great time to start anew. --Barrie Trinkle --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

It's been a long time since we've seen a bestselling author of Patterson's clout credit an assistant author on the cover, and good for Patterson for that. The credit is deserved. This is Patterson's richest, most engaging novel since When the Wind Blows and, as the second in his Women's Murder Club series (after 1st to Die), yet more evidence that this prolific writer can roam beyond Alex Cross with style and success. Like all Pattersons, the narration mixes first and third person the first here is voiced, as before, by San Francisco homicide detective Lindsay Boxer, while the third-person sections cover the doings of the other three members of Boxer's informal club, a reporter, a pathologist and a prosecutor, as well as the villain's shenanigans. The basic story line is vintage Patterson, i.e., a serial killer (here, one known as Chimera) goes on a calculated rampage until stopped by the good guys or in this case, gals. As the victims a young girl shot dead, an elderly black woman hanged, two cops pile up, it becomes clear to Boxer and others that they're up against a racist who hates black cops; is the killer a cop himself? The story ripples with twists and some remarkably strong scenes, particularly Boxer's in-prison interview with a crazed con. But what makes this Patterson stand out above all is the textured storytelling arising from its focus on Boxer's personal issues. In the first novel, Patterson personalized Boxer by dealing with her rare blood disease; here, it's the emotionally powerful introduction of Boxer's long-lost father into her life that galvanizes the plot, particularly as Patterson ties the man into Chimera's rampage. Prime Patterson; first-rate entertainment. (On sale Mar. 4)Forecast: Patterson's name, major ad/promo and a 10-city author tour add up to #1; simultaneous Time Warner Audio and large-print edition. Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

i can't wait 2 read it but the cover doesn't look the same which made me pout hehe but i think its the UK version of it or something coz at the back of the book has british pound pice on it so thats my

guess and its a bit smaller so i was kinda disappointed but oh well what 2 do ^\_^ and its in a good condition the edges aren't bad.

This second book in the Women's Murder Club series was okay -- entertaining enough and a quick read -- but I had really enjoyed the first in the series, 1st to Die, and was looking forward to this sequel. I was disappointed, though, finding this installment less thrilling and less engaging. The murders and solution were less interesting; whereas 1st to Die had lots of twists and revelations, this has one twist that's not really very surprising, and there is no mystery to speak of -- a straightforward motive that precludes any tension building as the case proceeds. Also, perhaps because the author assumes you've read the first book, he doesn't bother to devote much space to character development, which is unfortunate since it is the friendship and abilities of detective Lindsay Boxer and her friends, the D.A., the reporter and the coroner, that make the series interesting. The appearance of Lindsay's absentee father is a nice touch, though, and adds to our understanding of her character. Less forgivable is that characters make silly mistakes. For example, Lindsay decides to follow a dangerous suspect into an unknown, dark location knowing that her cell phone battery is dead and that no one knows where she is. Ouch. How is that consistent with the main character being intelligent? Another, less critical but still annoying, mistake -- characters refer to "Zena the Warrior Woman". Do they mean "Xena, Warrior Princess" perhaps? Did anybody proof this? Print is large, chapters are short, and there's lots of white space -- it's nominally 400 pages, but is probably only about 250. All-in-all, this is a moderately enjoyable pseudo-thriller that may leave you feeling a bit short-changed. Just my opinion, but I recommend buying it used or checking it out from the library.

I'm reading this series again years later. I still get the chills from certain scenes, love the girls camaraderie and especially the mystery.

I love books with strong female characters who are willing to risk life and limb to solve a seemingly insoluble crime or societal problem. The plot has lots of twists and turns to keep the reader intrigued and guessing as to who or whom the serial killer is.

2nd Chance is an exciting read. Any one who is familiar with the San Francisco/Oakland bay area will see the places in 2nd Chance. The reader may have some idea as to who the killer is and maybe not. I know I had a couple of characters in mind and I was wrong. That is good writing. After

the death of Lindsay Boxer's boy friend and lover in 1st to Die, Lindsay has gone over and beyond in her desire to solve any homicide that is committed in San Francisco. In 2nd Chance, Lindsay travels to Napa wine country and then on to Cleveland, Ohio where similar murders have been committed. Lindsay believes these are the same killer. She gets together with her friends, Jill, the deputy DA of San Francisco County, Claire, San Francisco ME, and her good friend from the San Francisco Chronicle, Cindy. Cindy does some research in the Chronicle's files to find some clues as to whom maybe the "Chimera." Lindsay father left when Lindsay was very young and he too was a SFPD officer, when he suddenly reappears into her life. But why now? Why would her father show up now? Does he have some connection with the killer? Why was a child murdered leaving church choir practice? There are many questions to be answered. You can find the answers by reading this fine novel. Recommended for the mature reader. Language and sexual content. DP, Castro Valley, CA

I do my best to be objective when I read Mr. Patterson and Mr. Gross's book's as I do with all of my reading materials Sometimes the story lines are subtle and then it sneaks up on you, sometimes it's in your face 2nd Chance was in my face with just enough interesting build up to continue my second guessing . This book did a great job of combining those points resulting in the correct blending for me.

Ok, after the 2nd book in the series, I'm still not convinced I like the main character.....she's still a little too ditzy and driven at the same time. How can she be a great detective if all she does is convince herself that she's got the correct bad guy every time and then every time she's wrong? If this were a comedy, that might work.....I'm beginning to see that she'll never be the clever female lead character that I crave. Maybe he should write a series about the coroner.....Claire.

I love James Patterson books. I have followed his Women's Murder series from 1 - 9 and getting ready to order the rest. They keep you in suspense.

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