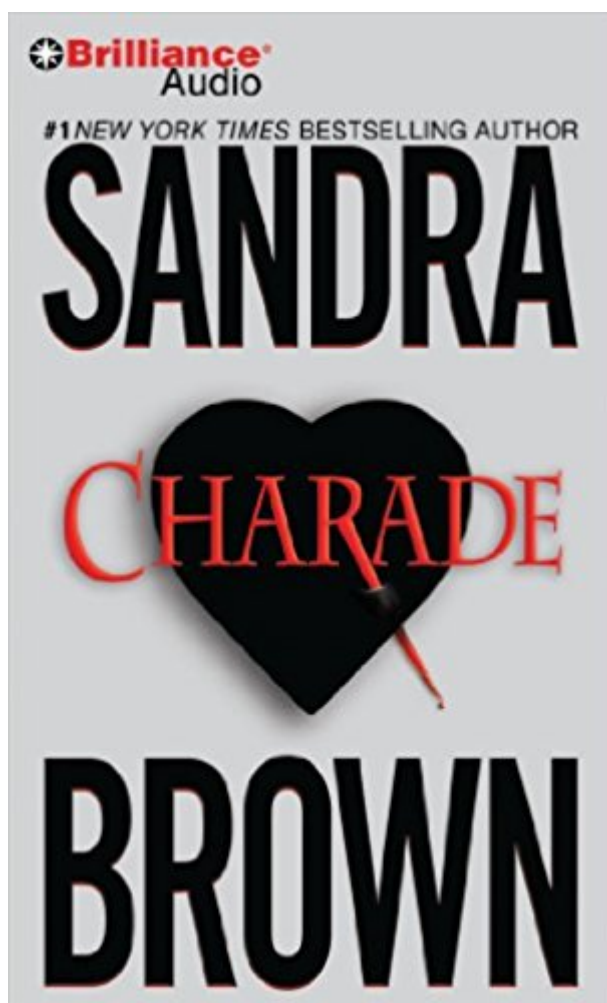


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# Charade



## Synopsis

#1 New York Times bestselling author Sandra Brown electrifies listeners with the stunning story of a woman whose new lease on life morphs into a terrifying nightmare. A medical miracle gives TV personality Cat Delaney more than a new heart. She changes her career, trading Hollywood for San Antonio, where she hosts a TV show for children with special needs. Here she meets Alex Pierce, an ex-cop turned crime writer and the first man since her surgery to see her not only as a survivor but as a woman. But her new world turns sinister when fatal “accidents” begin killing other heart recipients, and a mysterious stalker starts shadowing her every move. Soon Cat realizes Alex may be her most important ally and that her new heart comes at a terrible price: a tangled web of secrets and someone determined to take her life. “Heart-stopping!” —Los Angeles Daily News “[A] page-turner | A compelling heroine | Brown has once again hit her mark.” —People

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Soap opera star Cat Delaney gets a new heart--literally and figuratively speaking--in bestseller Brown's ( French Silk ; Where There's Smoke ) latest contemporary romance. The heart transplant that beautiful, arrogant Cat endures in the first chapter transforms her soul along with her cardiovascular system. If Brown had first established Cat's personality with some depth and credibility, that might have been the basis of an emotionally involving story. But since Cat is little more than a vessel for the concept, before we can blink, she is a good-hearted citizen who

abandons stardom and Hollywood for San Antonio, Tex., where she hosts a local TV program featuring children up for adoption. Cat hardly has a chance to enjoy her change of heart and her new heartthrob, bad-boy crime novelist Alex Pierce, because a stalker is after her. Whatever suspense might have been activated by this scenario is immediately stymied as Brown rushes through events whereby three potential heart donors are knocked down like dominoes: obviously the stalker is a bereaved nut determined to kill all the transplant recipients who might have received his lover's heart. But Brown fails to develop even a modicum of tension, since the rushed pacing then slows to a crawl where nothing much happens except Cat's cliché-ridden romance with Alex. Too late in the novel, we finally get a more full and sympathetic characterization of Cat. Literary Guild and Doubleday Book Club selections; major ad/promo; author tour. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Preloaded Digital Audio Player edition.

Cat Delaney has it all: beauty, a glamorous career, and a man who cares for her. Unfortunately, Cat also has a bad heart and needs a transplant. After receiving her new heart Cat decides to give up her career and her boyfriend to move to Texas and start a program to help find adoptive parents for foster kids. Her life is complicated by her jealous secretary and a new man in her life. In addition, she is being stalked by someone who is killing all the people who received a heart transplant on the same day she did. This is a tale with many twists, turns, and blind alleys. The plot is slow to develop, perhaps due to the introduction of so many characters at the story's onset. Though the ending is compelling, some may find boredom where they expected to find mystery and adventure. Constance Towers is an adequate reader but adds little to the tale's drama. As Brown is one of the hottest romantic suspense writers around, most libraries will want this production based on demand; otherwise, this is not a necessary purchase. Danna C. Bell-Russel, Dist. of Columbia P.L. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Preloaded Digital Audio Player edition.

\*One of my personal favorites as bestselling author Sandra Brown is at her personal best once again!..... Soap opera star Cat Delaney is about to have her life changed forever. Her very good friend Dr. Dean Spicer called her in the middle of the night to tell her to come to the hospital immediately for a heart is on its way. She can hardly believe it because she's waited so long and her day is finally here. While convalescing, Cat realized that she came so close to dying and she never accomplished the one dream she always wanted to do and now she can! With the help of a good friend and a producer, Cat leaves California to move to San Antonio Texas by starting a new

life for herself. She's been given a chance to start a very different show by helping disabled children and finding them new homes. Being a foster child herself, she can relate to these children, however little did she know that her life was about to take a ninety degree turn. She starts receiving an enormous amount of letters by family members who lost loved ones in tragic accidents and more importantly from eerie heart recipients. How is this connected to her, she wonders and why? When Cat accidentally meets Alex Pierce, an ex-cop and a well known author, he's willing to help her but why? And it doesn't help that she is suddenly attracted to this man and knowing full well that he feels the same way about her. She also knew that Alex was hiding a secret in his own life, but what? Could it be in some way connected to her? While Alex and Cat try to avoid their emotions for each other, it doesn't take long before they find themselves having a passionate love affair and soon after they start their own investigation and what they discover was unbelievable. With the clues mounting up from stalking, murder and Cat's life in constant danger, the suspect list begins to get higher and higher. As their quest continues, they will soon learn all about the horror and what it stands for but most importantly, the shock when they discover who did it and why!!.....excellent thriller by Sandra Brown at her finest!.....Thank You

The first four chapters are each a different story, making it difficult to follow. It's not until chapter 5 that things start to weave together. At this point, it becomes apparent that each of the main characters in each story was the recipient of a heart transplant at the same time/on the same day. The main character of the overall story is trying to kill off all recipients in order to match up whoever got his son's transplanted heart with the son's soul. There is a story about each of the transplantees all of which are eventually tied together. It's a weird story but I continued to read to the end in order to find out who actually received the son's heart and who the killer is.

The only thing that disappointed me was that I was able to guess the identity of the murderer halfway through. That was a first with one of Sandra Brown's books. I did, however, enjoy her pace and the story line. This was the last book of this author's I had left to read. From the start of her career, I've been a fan. Kudos for another great read.

This book took a little longer to get into than most Sandra Brown novels. It was confusing and the skipping around left me disinterested. I almost gave up but I'm glad I didn't. It ended up being very good and went from a slow start to me being unable to put it down! I should have known Sandra wouldn't disappoint.

While I thought I guessed the ending I never saw the correct ending. I will admit read parts with wet eyes.

Hale Sandra Brown ! Just when I thought I'd read my favourite I'm pleasantly surprised to by the next! Charade was just a good if not better than my last read!

Very tense. A great read. Could not put it down.

Ms. Brown is one of my favorites. However, when I began to read it, I was so disappointed! Usually she catches me from page one, or at least by the first chapter, not so with this one. It just seemed to jump from one subject to another and I just put it down & forgot about it for awhile. Well, on a rainy day with nothing else to read at time, I turned on my kindle and began reading it again. I realized what the author was doing was weaving threads and by the time she starts tying them together, you are hooked and guessing which one is the villain and I was totally wrong every time!! This book turned out to be one of the best I have ever read. I recommend it to anybody who wants a mystery with a few clues and a little romance thrown in Sandra Brown style!!!

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