Fallen Out: A Jesse McDermitt Novel (Caribbean Adventure Series Book 1)
When Jesse McDermitt retires from the Marine Corps at age 37, he has no idea what he will do for the rest of his life. He only knows he doesn’t want to spend the coming winter anywhere cold. His greatest skill is killing people from up to a mile away and he knows there aren’t many job opportunities in the civilian world for that. However, he also knows his way around boats and has an old friend living free and easy in the Florida Keys. Being an experienced diver and angler, he immediately heads south toward Key West and the end of the road. With a single comment, a waitress in a waterfront restaurant in north Key Largo shakes loose a long dormant dream and Jesse runs with it. With the help of friends, new and old, he buys just the right boat to live on and soon starts a part time charter business. Danger lurks in the sleepy little town of Marathon, in the middle of the Florida Keys, as well as in the swamps of the Everglades. But danger doesn’t expect to run into a man like Jesse. A man who will not only respond swiftly in facing it, but with a vengeance unexpected.

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Customer Reviews
I downloaded this book as an audio file so I could listen while doing other things. I'm a 70-year-old physically disabled female, living alone with a cat (of course) and many would probably think I wouldn't like this book at all. It's a story about a recently-retired Marine, 38, divorced, and at loose ends. Until he goes to visit a dear friend in Marathon FL and decides to buy a boat and become a fishing/underwater photography guide. This is the prequel to Stinnett's "Fallen" series and apparently tells his readers the back stories of the main characters in those books. I haven't read the series yet but I certainly intend to! This is a good story, well-presented, feels authentic. There is some violence with an obvious hero; there is some sex but it's mostly implied with a wink and pulled curtains. The characters feel like real humans who do good things. And stupid things. And bad things. The narration on the audio file is clear and very well done. The male narrator even manages to imply a female voice without sounding patronizing or just plain dumb. Overall I've given this book 4 stars. I have no complaints about anything in or about the book, but I don't usually give 5 stars unless a book knocks my socks off (and I almost never wear socks).

This book is not one I would normally read. But since the setting was the Florida keys I was interested, especially since I lived in Marathon for years. The book was worth the read since I learned a lot about guns and Marine slang. The storyline, a retired bad ass Marine turned charter captain, seemed to take second place to his ability to cope with no longer being on active duty. I was disappointed that the author was not more descriptive of the scenery, emotions of the characters and all the action scenes. My thoughts as I was reading one of the many action scenes was that the book reminded me of the old TV show, Dragnet, "just the facts mam, just the facts." The Florida keys are rich in history, beautiful turquoise water and full of unbelievably colorful characters. I wish the author had not been so stingy with his words. The story would not have kept my interest had I not actually lived where Jessie McDermott lived during the same time and could visually picture the events and surroundings. I'm hoping that Mr.Stinnet will get better as he continues with the series.

The prequel to the Jesse McDermitt series follows Jesse as he retires from the Marine Corps and settles into civilian life. Becoming a charter boat captain in the Keys, he plugs along until he's forced to go up against a hardened criminal that won't stay away. Don't want to give away too much, but it's the formulaic 'revenge of the bad guy' plot, although I like how this one was done. Good stuff in the making. The minuses: The beginning of the book spends too much time introducing us to seemingly every guy Jesse served with, and the first several chapters were also long on new
characters. Actually, that's a theme throughout the book...too many people are introduced, but most of them never appear again. But once the core cast was established, the story eventually took shape and picked up a little steam. Kind of slow-moving and mundane in places, as there are only two scenarios that have any real action and intensity (the hurricane, and the ending). The climax could have gone on longer, as it was over rather quickly and without a whole lot of suspense. But, despite my somewhat negative review, I actually did enjoy the story and the main character, and more than likely will give this series another shot.

Once again, Wayne Stinnett introduces us to his hero, Retired Gunnery Sergeant of Marines, Jesse McDermitt in yet another action filled series of episodes set in the Florida Keys. However, in this 'Prequel', he takes us back to the late 1990s, where the saga begins, to North Carolina, where Marine Gunnery Sergeant Jesse McDermitt is retiring after twenty years serving his country. It is just before, during, and after this time-honored ceremony that, we, the readers, are introduced to the many friends and associates that he will encounter in his many experiences and episodes in the near future. This book is excellent reading and, as before, takes you, the reader, from reading this excellent introduction, to being a willing participant of these grab your socks experiences, literally standing with him. I highly recommend this book, as one of a group of "Beta Readers", who were honored to read his manuscripts prior to publishing. You will not be disappointed...

The book was not what I expected...it reads more like a diary or journal...storyline gets lost and muddled and should be renamed "what I did with my retirement while I was dreaming" needs more story and less reflective stammering...like I said its just Ok...

Newly retired marine gunny sergeant Jesse McDermitt, moves done to the Keys to make a new start. This is a guy that do it all. From obtaining his commercial captains license in a month or so and digging a channel, big enough for a 20' flats boat to enter, by hand, Jesse's you man's man. Not a bad story, just a bit far fetched. It is supposed to fill in the blanks for later McDermitt novels. I hope the others improve. I doubt I will be in for more.

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