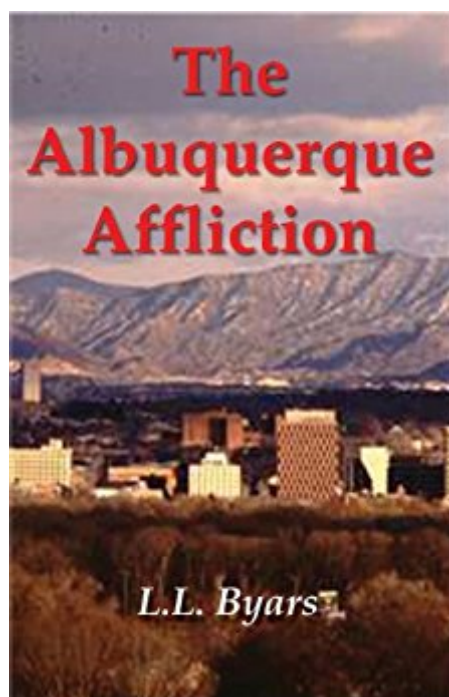


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# The Albuquerque Affliction (Rick Morales Mysteries Book 1)



## Synopsis

Rick Morales was born in the right place at the wrong time. His rigid moral code and yen for simplicity are better suited for the old west of one hundred and fifty years ago than the high-tech, politically correct world he inhabits. He has built a successful business by providing security services to the Government agencies and contractors along the Rio Grande corridor, but he still feels more comfortable on horseback in the New Mexico wilderness. His inner conflict is played out in the contrasting venues of the vast, uninhabited southwestern landscape and the bustling cities of Albuquerque and Santa Fe. The murder of Carmelina, his beautiful wife, leaves Rick searching for answers and asking God for help.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I would have enjoyed this story a lot more had there been fewer typos. Far too many spelling errors tend to distract me from the story and the author had a curious habit of switching from present to past tense (sometimes in the same paragraph)... however, the story and characters were compelling and I was able to connect with the characters and intend to get the next books in the series.

I liked the main character, the setting -- Albuquerque and Santa Fe -- and this private detective had a good story to tell. But the editing & proofing is abysmal, getting worse and worse as the story goes on. There is very little Spanish in the book, but what there is is misspelled; Byars uses what I can only call "creative capitalization"; there are too many typos and misspellings. The book would benefit enormously from proper proofreading.. The bad editing distracts and detracts from the story itself. I wanted to talk to the author about this, but there is zero information about him; the book is self-published by a small Christian publisher who offers no information either. Too bad. The story itself, and the NM setting, are reviewed competently by earlier reviewers. I should mention that I live in Placitas, NE of Albuquerque in the Sandia Mountains, where an NM state politician in the story happens to have a southern colonial mansion, and I'd find the possibility of such an atrocity completely unbelievable, although recently, there is a French monstrosity being constructed at the entrance to the historic village of Placitas, which is an affront to this historic Spanish Land Grant village's people and history. In the wealthy subdivisions, there are strong home owner associations which would prevent this type of in-your-face individuality, as well as Byars' Colonial. As far as I can tell, this is the first of a series. I put the 3 more recent Byars' novels in my Wish List. I, too, was quite engaged by the protagonist, Rick Morales, as well as the good story and my favorite setting, and I'd like to read more, but I'm not willing to spend the money without knowing whether or not Byars found himself a good proofreader. How about some biographical and contact information, Mr. Byars.

I found this book to be fairly exciting, with a good plot and interesting characters. Unfortunately, it was loaded with spelling mistakes/typos/bad punctuation. I find that quite distracting, but plan to read the next book in the series, hoping those issues have been addressed.

I want to experience Albuquerque (but don't want to type that name much)! I love to read about the west--Arizona, New Mexico, Wyoming, Colorado--and this novel ranks right there with C.J. Box and J.A. Jance. The hero of Albuquerque Affliction, Rick Morales, has intrigued me. He is a good man, who, dealt an unfair hand, is trying to come to terms with the death of his beloved wife. Therein lies the mystery. Who could be responsible? And why? Although the clues were laid out, I was still surprised by the ending. The author definitely sets a mood of suspense and mystery, and as he does that, he introduces the reader to the heart of the city itself. The prose style is witty, and the descriptions of the culture and history are remarkable. I want to see what happens in the Morales follow-up. Coming soon, I hope! Morales is the kind of man we'd like to see more of. In the real

world, an honest man would be most welcome.

An enjoyable read all the way around. The Albuquerque Affliction unfolded in a taut plot woven with twists and turns that draws the reader in and discourages putting it down until the mystery becomes clear. The characters and relationships are well portrayed capturing the reader in the roller coaster of pathos, wondering at times whom to root for and whom to trust. I'm already looking forward to Rick Morales' next intrigue. One other thing: I've never been to New Mexico, but the vivid descriptions in The Albuquerque Affliction made me want to book a ticket.

Byers' book is a good story, his writing is also good. However, the formatting in the book is distracting, needs to get fixed. I like his character of Rick Morales.

I like mystery books and this one was entertaining. It helped that I used to live in that area and I could relate to a lot of the setting that was included.

I guess that I was expecting a somewhat different plot. I didn't finish reading all of it. I may go back and read some more later on.

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