

Fatal by Jacqui Rose

3 stars

A fast-paced story

This is my first introduction to this writer although she has written many books and I feel that my enjoyment of this story suffered because of this.

It revolves around Alice Rose, the 16-year-old daughter of Cabhan Morton. He had no idea that his daughter existed until recently as she was a result of a brief relationship and has been brought up in a convent. However, he loves her dearly, and the plot revolves around his and various other of his associates trying to protect her from being killed by the Russo family.

This is where the lack of knowledge of the background between the Russos and Cabhan, Alfie Jennings, and Franny Doyle, Alfie's girlfriend was a problem for me. I understood that they had all, at some time, worked for the Russos and due to Cabhan being involved in a car accident which killed Nico Russo's daughter, Nico wants revenge by killing Cabhan's daughter. This is despite Cabhan not being at fault for the accident but still giving money to Russo as compensation.

Various attempts are made to capture and kill Alice, and I found most of the action improbable as this shy, retiring girl manages to keep escaping from near impossible situations. I also found it unlikely that her father and his associates would use such appalling language around her.

However, I do feel that I needed to read the earlier books to understand the background of the main protagonists and why they are so beholden to the Russo family. I did not think any of the characters were realistic and did not really enjoy the constant bad language.

Obviously, this author is very popular, but this book did not inspire me to read her previous books or indeed the next one in the series which has apparently been written already.

Dexter

Breakaway Reviewers received a copy of the book to review