

Genuine Fraud by E. Lockhart

4 stars

Is it a talent to recreate yourself and assume someone's identity?

Julietta West Williams makes up a story about her origin, her unusual education and her life until she no longer knows what shape her own self was, or whether there really was a Jule at all, or only a series of selves she presented for different contexts. She believes the more you sweat in practice, the less you bleed in battle; the way you speak is often more important than anything you have to say and that you do whatever's required to stay alive. She meets Imogen Sokolof, an orphan adopted by a loving couple from New York, who refuses to strive for greatness or to work towards other people's definition of success and so drops out of college and is living off her wealth.

Imogen struggles to wrest herself from men who want to dominate her and women who want her exclusive attention and Jule becomes her closest friend and confidante, jetting around the world together. Does Jule also want her exclusive attention or does she want more?

I found the progression of the book a bit confusing, it is written backwards towards the beginning with lots of information in the middle and I got a bit lost at times. It was only when I was going through it for the purpose of this review that I actually noted the timeline in writing and it then made sense. So, I suggest that if you read this book, note the timeline down each time it is mentioned and note what happens at each time, it may be a bit less confusing then. On the whole I enjoyed the book, but it is one that needs to be read twice for it to all come together.

Saphira

Breakaway Reviewers received a copy of the book to review.