

The Accident by S.D. Monaghan

4 stars

One mistake changes everything.

David Miller grew up in the maze of the Cawley estate council housing in Dublin. That is where he learnt from an early age that words are not always enough. They can lose their power, and it is then that you need to throw a punch. He did not want to end up like his friends, either dead or in jail, and he realised that if he wanted to get out, he had to make society unafraid of him. And the only way to do that was to become part of it somehow. He struggled to educate himself with scholarships while working in a warehouse and he struggled to lose his accent - but he made it and now teaches History at Trinity College.

Tara Brown took David's Modern European War History class at college and her work stood out above the other students' work. After saving her from a potentially dangerous situation and a chance encounter in a city park, David transformed Tara from a weekend art enthusiast into an international celebrity, married her and managed her career while still teaching. Then one day, they both made a mistake and suddenly their perfect life changed in an instant.

The book shows how what we do can have a huge impact on what happens in our lives and that people are not always what they seem. Every choice we make has a consequence and we have to live with that consequence for the rest of our lives. There is no undoing what has already happened. I found the book a bit tedious at times and that is why I give it four stars instead of five.

Saphira

Breakaway Reviewers received a copy of the book to review.