

The Island by A P Bateman

5 stars

My favourite Rob Stone.....for now.

This is the third in the Rob Stone series and, although it can be read as a standalone, it does help to have a little background history.

I read quite a few books and these days prefer to use my Kindle Paperwhite. Regretfully, quite a few times I have found myself disappointed on looking at how much little progress I had made, to the point of actually giving up in some even though they were my favourite genre – crime thrillers. I therefore turned to one of my top ten authors in the hope he wouldn't let me down. What on earth was I thinking! The first time I noticed my progress I was 82% through the book. Was I disappointed? Yes. But it was because I was sorry I was nearing the end.

Rob Stone has taken a break from guarding the President but is drawn into investigating some interesting facts by the friend of his which is when things start to get interesting. There seem to be plenty of people who are out to do him harm and they all seem to be a step ahead of him at all times.

There is a second timeline running alongside the first which involves the island of the title. It's fascinating how the two subplots eventually merge into one. The action is non-stop with numerous twists and turns which surprise the reader on every page. There is hardly any time to draw breath as Stone tries to survive attack after attack.

Despite the violent storyline, A P Bateman's heroes have very human qualities. They care about victims but are totally focussed on survival at all costs and Stone is no exception. The quality of writing is exceptional. The author combines situations from present-day life and interweaves these into the plot to give a sense of realism although the way it is done will mean that the story will never become stale.

I was sorry to have finished it. Superb.

mr zorg

Breakaway Reviewers received a copy of the book to review.