



Finding Kate Huntley

Theresa Ragan

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During a vacation in the Caribbean, fifteen-year old Kate Huntley's father, a prominent U.S. scientist, is murdered before her eyes. For the next ten years Kate grows up alone in Haiti, one of the most dangerous and poorest countries in the Western Hemisphere. Not a day goes by that she doesn't think of her father. Kate pushes herself to become stronger, mentally and physically. Every day is a struggle for survival. And yet she lives for only one reason...revenge.

While looking for a drug lord via satellite in Port-au-Prince, Haiti's capital, Jack Coffey, rookie FBI agent, spots Kate Huntley. Jack is sent by the agency to find Ms. Huntley and bring her back to the States. They have many unanswered questions about her father's death. A professional and responsible man, Jack is confused by Kate's lack of cooperation. He wants to help her return to the States where he believes she'll be safe, but she treats him like the enemy and refuses to go. Everything about her is a contradiction. She looks fragile and innocent, but every time he turns around she's putting another thug in his place. In the beginning Jack wonders if Kate's distrust of his superiors is warranted or just simple paranoia. In the end, Jack realizes nothing is as it seems.

Finding Kate Huntley Details

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From Reader Review Finding Kate Huntley for online ebook

ann cloete says

Ann

Very good read couldn't putbook down recommend to other readers continue with good work longing to read more of books

Bernie says

Excellent book.

Dolly Sandor says

2.75 Stars

This probably going to be one of the weirdest reviews ever!

Here's why, I picked up a NetGalley ARC of Furious by this author writing a thriller as T.R. Ragan. I couldn't get half way through it. Not because it was poorly written or anything, but because it made me feel so much. That's right, it was graphic and the subject matter just got to me. Ms Ragan made me feel each and every emotion of the characters. It was too much for me, but I do highly recommend it for readers with sterner constitutions. It was that well written up to the point I put it down. So, I went to her web page to check out other works and found she had a couple of romantic suspense, which, I love. Now my review.

What I didn't like: That's right, opposite order today for my review of Finding Kate Huntley. Everything I felt in Ms Ragan's Furious, I rolled my eyes through most of the reading of this book. I felt no connection to the characters, wanted more back story and the romance felt superficial. As a matter of fact, the whole book lacked depth for me. Most of the story you have to absolutely suspend belief. If, I could have, I would have, but I couldn't.

I couple of times I felt like I was reading the Keystone Cops version of a romantic suspense. Kate, Jack Coffey (newly minted FBI field agent) and the rest of the characters were two dimensional and at times down right stupid. Yep, stupid. Kate actually came across as the best character but she could have been so much more. I wanted to know how she became the self-reliant street tough that she was. How did she become so proficient in defending herself? You know the usual things you want to know about a main character who has survived unthinkable odds.

Jack and the "bad" guys were too busy tripping over their feet to be taken seriously. I know people want to trust in the agency they work for but when the bad guys know every move you make before you make it, don't you think you shouldn't share all your plans. The bad guys, well, I can't even go there. Some of them are named up front and the "head" of the bad guys, Lou, is supposed to be a huge secret. Nope, figured it out the first time Lou made an appearance in the book.

What I liked: After all I've said, there are good things about Finding Kate Huntley. The opening scene really sucked me in. I wished Ms Ragan had followed with more about what happened to Kate at fifteen but the opening scene is very good.

There is also some humor and snark between Kate and Jack that I really enjoyed. So, the dialogue was pretty well written.

As much as I didn't buy into Finding Kate Huntley, Furious was just the opposite. Both books will have an audience that will enjoy them and while I didn't love Finding Kate Huntley, some will.

?No Recommendation

Loves To Dive says

In September of 1998 Kate Huntley celebrates her 15th birthday aboard her father's boat along with her father, a doctor who is doing ground breaking aids research. Two days after her birthday Kate is awoken to a storm, going on deck she finds her father locked in battle with a strange man. Her father gets shot but manages to throw the man overboard, but the boat is beyond help. Her father manages to get them both off the boat and Kate onto a raft but is unable to save himself. With his last breath he tells her to trust no one. Ten years later we find a tougher, leaner, meaner, self-sufficient Kate working for a charter company in Port-au-Prince Haiti. Kate took her father at his word and has lived under the radar. After coming back from a couple day charter and checking into the office she finds that a "Mel Gibson" good looking man has been asking for her. This puts Kate on alert and she decides she must leave. She catches the man following her and discovers he is FBI and not what she would have expected. Jack Coffey works in the cyber unit, tracking child abductors, he isn't a field agent. He is surprised when after he discovers in the background of a routine satellite picture the image of missing Kate, his boss sends him to Haiti to bring her home. Thus Kate and Jack's lives collide and they find themselves on the run with neither knowing who they can trust, even each other.

What a wild ride this book was. Kate has made herself into a tough as nails, take no prisoners woman, she trusts no one and tends to hit first and ask questions later. I liked her personality; I liked the way she didn't just lay down and cry but came up punching every time she got knocked down. She has a certain amount of vulnerability to her but she hides it well. Jack Coffey made me laugh more than once, so out of his element in the field he tended to get into trouble often and bless his heart, Kate was always there to help him out. He struggled with the concept that people he had trusted weren't who he thought they were and was naïve in a way, just made me want to hug him. It didn't hurt that he was good looking and had a nice body either. The supporting cast of characters were all interesting and well fleshed out. The bad guys kept themselves hidden well and I didn't figure out who they all were until they were revealed.

I really enjoyed this book; it had a lot of action, a little bit of sadness, some good laughs and some good romance. The story was well built and I never got bored with it, it kept me questioning right up to the end. I did have a few problems with the way Jack just kept right on trusting people that he knew had betrayed him more than once. I just wanted to slap him and tell him to wake up and smell the roses. There is some violence here, as can be expected of this genre but not too explicit and all working well into the plot. There is some sex, again not too explicit. All in all, this was a fun book to read. I recommend it to anyone who enjoys a good fast paced action/adventure with some good laughs and romance along the way.

Valerie says

At 15 years old Kate was sailing with her father on the outskirts of Haiti when a horrific tragedy happened. For 10 years Kate was left to survive on her own. She learned how to trust no one and to defend herself from the scum she came across every day. Kate's life was constantly on the run and she never had anyone she could rely on till one day all that changed with FBI Special Agent Jack Coffey came into the pictures. Jack was sent to find Kate and bring her back in regards to finding out who had murdered a couple of scientists, including her father, who were working on an AIDS cure. Things don't go as plan for Jack and Kate and they find themselves running for their lives in order to find out the truth of what really is going on.

I was hooked the minute I opened the book and read the first page. I knew this book was going to end up being a wild ride! I was right!! Everything about this book had me hanging on each word till the end! I had no issues understanding how the characters felt, the writing style of the book was great and very few flaws with editing (which never really matters to me anyhow, I don't review a book for its editing issues).

The chemistry between Kate and Jack was off the chain, I like how the author did not just throw them automatically into a relationship. It kind of is a turn off on a story for me if there is not a struggle for a character to open up. I am not about perfect people and perfect couples, I like the suspense of whether or not they will get together in the book. I like characters to have flaws. Ms. Ragan did just that!

I felt also, when compared to other novels that this one did not feel rushed. It had a nice flow and there was a good amount of detail to the action of the story. I definitely had a hard time trying to figure out who was actually the main bad guy.

Can I just throw out there that the sexual tension between Kate and Jack was insane, there were times I was just like get it over with you know you want to, lol. Jack was just pure hotness, you can't go wrong with a yummy FBI agent that has his own way of doing things!!

Overall, this book was a great little read and I would highly recommend you reading. Theresa Ragan has a great way of helping you understand her characters while still giving you the action and suspense you need in a book. I look forward to reading more books by her!

Caroline Clemmons says

When Kate Huntley was fifteen, she saw her father murdered during a Caribbean vacation off the coast of Haiti. He barely managed to save Kate after he fought off his attacker. Who would harm her father? He was a harmless scientist working to find a cure for AIDS. She lives to avenge him, and remains in Haiti's tough backstreets--where life is hard and lives come cheap. She manages to remain under the murderer(s) radar.

Ten years later, while gaining mental and physical strength with her continued determination, she works for a charter business in Port-au-Prince. But she has not yet found her father's killer nor avenged her father's death. Every day she thinks of him and heeds her father's final words, "Trust no one!" She vows she will never be caught helpless again and has turned into a real kickass heroine. Although she is strong and capable,

there's a sense of inner vulnerability to her too that I found endearing. Without her knowledge, her image is caught on a routine satellite photo that alerts the FBI. They want to talk to her about her father's death and why she's remained missing.

Jack Coffey is a rookie FBI agent sent to find missing Kate and bring her home to the States. At the same time, he is being framed. He realizes he's been naive and feels foolish, but decides to fight back. Now he trusts no one--something he and Kate have in common. He is a charming man, and a real hunk. Kate discovers him following her after being told a man has asked for her. She confronts him, and their race begins. He doesn't understand why she won't trust him; she doesn't understand why he trusts people who have betrayed him.

The fast-paced plot sweeps the reader along with barely time for a deep breath. I loved the action-filled suspense that kept me guessing to the climax. I also loved the relationship between Kate and Jack as it built from sex and developed into a true romance. FINDING KATE HUNTLEY is a book that will please readers on many levels. I recommend it highly to anyone who reads romance, mystery, suspense, and adventure

Lynn Aoude says

When on vacation with her father in the Caribbean, 15-year old Kate witnesses her father murder. His last words to her were "*trust no one*". 10 years later, an FBI agent, Jack Coffey, is sent to Haiti to bring her back to the US. Alas, Jack was set up as the culprit in the murder of Dr. Forstin. Dr Forstin was Kate's father's friend and was close to find the cure for AIDS before his untimely death. Trying to cover the set up, the people responsible go about trying to kill Jack, and Kate by association. As the H/h try to unravel the tangles of the mess they find themselves in, they fall in love, albeit reluctantly on Kate's side.

I loved this book. It was action-packed, with a bit of mystery. I really liked the fact that it was not all obscure as to who the bad guys were. The reader didn't know for sure about Jack's boss, but the suspicion was there big time. Ragan saved the cloak and dagger to *Lou*, the mastermind. And I have to say it was a revelation.

Moving on to the characters. The bad guys were all motivated by pride and/or greed. Kate was a strong woman (my favorite type of heroine). She held her own and thought fast on her feet. I really liked her even though she was hell-bent on revenge. Two things annoyed me about her though:

(view spoiler)

Jack is the knight in shining armor type. From the moment he sets foot in Haiti, he's determined to help Kate. His naivete and his blind trust - when he was being shot at - bothered me at first. But I was pleased with the way his character grew. By the end of the book, I was totally in love with him.

As a last note, I found it kind of useless for Ragan to ruin A.J.'s life by offing his fiancée. It didn't add to the story, except for the added misery, which I found unnecessary. There were a lot of things to keep the reader interested and entertained, that heartbreak was uncalled for. I have to say that this move was predictable. From the first time the couple was mentioned, I knew they wouldn't have a happy ending. The voice in my head screamed "*one of them is going to die soon*".

Happy reading!

Ni_kii says

Written for the Indie Book Collectives book blog tour

We begin this tale on a boat in the middle of the sea, at the dead of night. A young girl witnesses her Father's death at the hands of a man with a serpent tattoo on his neck. It seems that the man on the verge of finding the cure for AIDs has amassed some resourceful enemies. Just before he dies, her Father tells her that she can't trust anyone and to run. 10 years later, Kate Huntley is living on the Island of Haiti. Taking her Father's advice to heart, she has spent the years training herself to protect herself and keeping people at a distance. She has always been prepared for her Father's killer to find her, but she wasn't prepared for the FBI agent Jack Caffrey to find her first. Jack is an agent with an obsession for missing person cases. After his sister's kidnapping, he scoured the files of missing girls, hoping he would gain some insight into her whereabouts. Upon the visits to these files, he came across Kate's photo and with his eidetic memory, he never forgets a face. When he comes across her face amongst the shots of a funeral in Haiti, he starts to investigate her, unwittingly informing her Father's killers that she is still alive. After the murder of Kate's Father's best friend, and fellow scientist, Jack decides the time is right to pay her a visit. Unfortunately, he brings with him some unwelcome visitors, and pretty soon Kate and Jack are on the run from some very dangerous and influential people. When Jack is mysteriously placed on the FBI's most wanted list for murder, hiding out becomes very difficult for the fugitives. Who wants to prevent a cure for AIDs so badly, they are willing to kill anyone who gets in their way? Moreover, what on Earth could be the motive? With all Jack's contacts at the FBI compromised, is there anyway of getting out of this hot mess alive?

Wow, this book is like a James Bond movie. It starts with action but then it explodes into a dizzying tale of two people desperate to survive some very bad people. This is a suspense novel with a Romantic subplot, the main plot is the crime element and it is well thought out. It took me a few chapters to get used to the pace of the book (I read more Romance, this does not start with guns!) but after I settled into it, I was hooked. Kate is a woman that I can admire. She had survived for years on her own, which means she had become quite hard and tough. Yes, people had taken the lost little girl into their homes after she was pulled out of the sea, but she never let them get close. When she meets Jack, she immediately tries to channel any feelings that she has towards him into sex. It's probably a good idea but unfortunately, Jack is having none of this! I liked her dry sense of humour and ability to get herself out of tough situations; I just thought she put herself in harm's way a little too much! Jack is fun, but not tortured enough for my liking. He goes to find Kate because he believes it's his job, and he stays because she gives him hope that his sister could still be alive. I enjoyed his restraint with her; he has feelings for her from quite early on and refuses to be a quick fling. The relationship

building between the two is the same of the rest of the story, fast to build and a steady pace is kept at all points. There are smex scenes. They are sensual, rather than smutty and this fit well with the theme of the book.

The “who-dunnit” part of the plot takes up the bulk of the word-count. The majority of the bad guys aren’t cloaked, we see them and their motives throughout the course of the book, but the major question is always who is the mysterious “Lou” who seems to be giving out all the orders. The motive behind all the killings is made clear to the readers from an early point. Although the motives are simple, the plotting is anything but, and I had to concentrate to keep up with it. With the Bourne Identity style action sequences, more details are released about the whole plot behind the murder....I enjoyed the way everything was revealed gradually. The author did seem to stay away from the old writer’s adage that you should torture your lead characters, instead settling on torturing the side characters. There is a myriad of well-written characters brought in to advance either the plot or the side plot. From Jack’s best friend AJ, to the neighbour’s children at their hideout, everyone had a role to play in the story. I liked the way that words were not wasted with this book, however this did mean that I had to pay extra attention, and often had to retrack to figure out what I’d accidentally skimmed over.

A sexy, fast-paced, all action thriller that just didn’t let up! A good, solid read :D

A. Bookzilla. says

This had such an interesting story line. I'd give it 3.5 stars but Goodreads won't let me.

I loved the Kate/Jack duo, they had such weird dynamic, complete opposites, it was wonderful. Kate is really kickass, and it was funny watching Jack try and take care of her when she took care of him instead. But Jack held his own just fine with his calm demeanor and smarts.

I loved the mystery. There's a lot of thrill and they're constantly on the run. People die! And I have to say I did not figure it out myself, so I was as surprised about who was pulling all the strings as they were in the end. I don't know how I missed it.

My mom was eating it up because she's all about pharmaceutic conspiracy theories, I kept updating her on what's happening, she loved it :D.

Theresa Ragan's style of writing does keep you engaged the whole time, but I found her development of their relationship a bit sloppy, though the chemistry is undeniable. As a romance reader I guess I'm just used to more detail. And she does the whole I-loved-you-when-I-first-saw-you thing, which I'm never a fan of.

This was a freebie in the Kindle store when I got it, so it was definitely worth reading. I recommend it.

Annastasia Sikel says

Did not care for any of the characters but the plot was interesting.

Darlene Lindner says

Easy Reading

Theresa Regan has done it again. This book has romance and intrigue combined which made it super enjoyable. A must read!

Eva Cg says

It's an okay book. Writing is good. The story was a bit out there though - quite a lot of active, concentrated suspension of disbelief was necessary. I sort of lost interest quite soon, I'm afraid - it just sounded like a recycled story that could be a basis for any number of forgettable action movies. I read it all for the sake of thoroughness. It's readable, but didn't do much beyond that for me. As always, tastes differ.

Nancy Johnson says

This book not only kept my interest, but I had a hard time putting it down. There was not a time where I was bored, wanting to skip pages or read the ending first. I LOVE this book.

Natalie says

I don't even know what to say about this book. It's pretty ridiculous. It's basically one long action sequence. Kate and Jack are constantly in danger and having to kick some butts or run for their lives. I was rolling my eyes through most of it. It was so action-packed that I was more amused than annoyed.

Jack heads to find Kate, who has been missing since her father's murder 10 years ago. After being nearly killed (several thousand times) Kate and Jack head back to the States where it turns out Jack has been framed for murder. Well that sucks, but Kate and Jack make the best of it by continually risking their lives and getting shot at lots of times.

Don't get me wrong, I like Theresa Ragan (Her Lizzy series is awesome) but this book is too over the top.

Beth says

The author worked so hard to make the story exciting that it became very dragged out. The heroine was unlikeably tough, the hero was inept, there were too many shallow villains, and the mix of crude language and actions followed by cute kids did not make sense. I had to skip to the end.

