



Nameless

Jessie Keane

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They took her children away, and she will fight to the end to get them back . . .

In 1941, mixed race Ruby Darke is born into a family that seem to hate her, but why? While her two brothers dive into a life of gangland violence, Ruby has to work in their family store. As she blossoms into a beautiful young woman she crosses paths with aristocrat Cornelius Bray, a chance meeting that will change her life forever. When she finds herself pregnant, and then has twins, she is forced to give her children away. At that point she vows never to trust another man again. As the years pass, Ruby never forgets her babies, and as the family store turns into a retail empire, Ruby wants her children back. But secrets were whispered and bargains made, and if Ruby wants to stay alive she needs to forget the past, or the past will come back and kill her.

Nameless Details

Date : Published August 30th 2012 by Pan (first published January 1st 2012)

ISBN :

Author : Jessie Keane

Format : Kindle Edition 572 pages

Genre : Mystery, Crime, Fiction, Thriller

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From Reader Review Nameless for online ebook

Bev Taylor says

she never forgot and she'll never forget

ruby darke is born into a family that seems to hate her, but why? could the colour of her skin have anything to do with it? she is the youngest who's mother died in childbirth. her 2 brothers both work in the gangster trade with the eldest often hitting her or looking on as her father does worse

she works all hours in the family store but during the war manages to escape and work at the windmill theatre. here she beets cornelius, a rich young man who sweeps her off her feet - and also makes her pregnant

although married he makes a proposition. his wife cannot have children and ruby may carry her child to full term and then hand it over - for which he will pay handsomely

this starts a chain of reactions that echo down the years and as she makes a successful business out of the stores she cannot forget the children - yes there were twins - that she gave away

but as she makes more and more enquiries it is obvious that someone else will stop her at any costs

a fast well told novel with great characterization. ok, there r many instances that r way too co-incidental (especially the meeting of kit and daisy) but u just have to go with the flow!

just surprised that rachel was not in a shelter

bev

Best Crime Books & More says

Why? Every time I buy a Jessie Keane I promise myself I will take my time. But no, who am I kidding? I do what I always do, get thoroughly engrossed and then race through the book only to feel disappointed that I have again finished a JK book and now have the long wait until the next one! When I realised that Jessie Keane was introducing a new character I was pretty excited. Having said that, I wasn't sure whether they would live up to the fantastic characters that feature in the Annie Carter series

In this book we meet Ruby Darke who is a mixed race girl being brought up in War torn London by her abusive father and two elder brothers. While her two elder brothers get involved in the criminal underworld, Daisy works in the family shop and tries her best to keep everybody happy. When she is encouraged to lead a secret life she goes along not knowing that she will be swept off her feet by the dashing aristocrat Cornelius Bray. When she finds herself pregnant and gives birth to twins she is forced into giving them away. What happens next is that the book tells us Ruby's life story. We see her become a success in business but forgo love because of her desperate desire to never be hurt again.

I was truly engrossed from the very first few pages. Ruby Darke is a young girl with real spirit and you really get a feel for how she is treated in the 40's for being mixed race. Her family are nothing short of awful but it made me feel like I had to keep willing her on in my mind because she was such a likeable girl. Every few chapters there would be a slight time change and the years start to progress and we see how each passing

year changes things for her.

We see some absolutely blinding characters emerge and they all form part of the story in different ways. Michael Ward is a pretty central character and I really liked him from the get go, along with many other characters that just add to the authenticity of the story. Jessie Keane has an uncanny knack of taking you back to that time and really making me feel like I could grasp a little more what the streets of London were like around the war. As the years progress I got more and more caught up in the story and as more shock twists were thrown in I wondered what on earth else could happen. One particular part of the ending shocked me (not impressed) but the other part had me shrieking towards the ending as I wanted to see what happens next.

All I can say is that Jessie Keane is a force to be reckoned with in the crime genre now. Not only has she produced a great series (Annie Carter) she has also written some absolutely blinding stand alones. With this latest addition, Jessie Keane is quickly proving herself to be un-stoppable. Nameless has only made me want to read more (I sincerely hope this is going to have a follow up!) and as usual Jessie Keane does not disappoint. BLINDING!!!

Lan Chan says

It's been a long time since I've read a crime novel and I'm glad it was this one. Loved everything about it from the prose to the flawed but relatable characters. Can't wait to read more from Jessie Keane.

Book Addict Shaun says

Is it possible for this woman to write a bad book? Maybe it's because I've only just finished it and have spent the past few days with these characters, and my opinion might change in the future but I actually think this book is better than the Annie Carter books. I could easily have read this in a day but I didn't have the time unfortunately, but it is a book that you will not want to put down until you have reached the final page.

The book tells the story of Ruby Darke who you can't help but like. I don't think she was as good a character as Annie Carter but she was a very likeable character who just couldn't overcome the problems she faced with her family at home. It's hard to talk about this book without giving spoilers away but even though certain parts of the story were obvious (and I think that was intentional because it was *too* obvious not to be), the story flowed really well but it was kind of annoying that certain characters didn't work certain things out earlier but then the book wouldn't have had much of a story if they did. But you'll work that gobbledegook out when you read it! It was kind of similar to *Playing Dead* where it was obvious (view spoiler). It was just mad how real this story could be.

Jessie says she got the idea for this book from reading about (view spoiler) but what she has ended up with is a cast of characters which could easily have their stories continued in future books, I certainly would love to read about Ruby, Daisy and Kit again and see where they go in the future. In fact I would say that certain parts of this book were possibly a bit rushed and could have actually been dragged out/carried on in future books. But Jessie is a fantastic author and I would say that this book is one of her best, but it's hard to say that as they are all fantastic. I just hope that she can continue to write these five star books and never loses her way unlike other authors of this genre.

An absolutely fantastic book that you would be mad not to read.

Elaine says

Better than I was expecting. Bit less gangland violence than her other stuff. Will defo read book 2

Faye says

Fantastic read

I really loved this story. It was interesting and gripping. Great writing and fab characters. Can't wait to read Lawless next

Dora Okeyo says

I love this book because Ruby's got a heart of gold and a will of steel.

Growing up unloved and unwanted by her Father, Ted Darke, she constantly faces abuse-physical, psychological, emotional and social, growing up and there's no help from her brothers, Charlie and Joe. She gets pregnant, has twins: a white girl and a black boy, and the girl is taken up by Cornelius Gray and the boy is cast away by her brother, Charlie.

But, Ruby never forgot and she swore she will never be weak again or let a man fool her again.

There's this shift in Ruby that you cannot miss, somewhere between being forced to give up her babies and coming into her own.

I love the pace, the writing and characters and one I'm watching is her son, Kit Miller and as the series progresses, I'd love to read more on his growth.

Winter Sophia Rose says

Heartfelt & Engrossing Masterpiece! I Loved It!

Reesy says

Definitely wouldn't win any literary prizes and it's one to avoid if you only do "high brow" novels. Other than that though a great page turner that I thoroughly enjoyed....(would have given 4.5 stars had that been an option!)

Jue says

As usual, another blinding novel from Jessie, she never disappoints.

Ruby Darke a mixed race girl who was brought up in war time London and abused by her father and brothers who are involved in the criminal world.

The book tells of Rubys life story of how successful she becomes due to the hurt she has endured in her life and giving everything into her business to block out that hurt and making sure she never will be again.

The characters within this book are fab, so real and believable.

I have read all of Jessie Keane's books and each time I have finished one they make me want to read more and more, gutted at the moment as there is not another one out yet. Come on Jessie get the next one going pleaseeeeeeee.

Angela says

I always enjoy Jessie Keane's books and this was no exception. It focuses on twins, born to a mixed race mother and separated at birth, and the difficulties endured by all those affected by the "scandal". Loved it!!!!

Joseph - Relax And Read Reviews says

This time round, I wanted to read something different, not a who-dunnit, a police procedural or some blood-soaked horror book, so I picked up this book, 'Nameless' by Jessie Keane. 'Nameless'. I must confess that as I was browsing on line for a new book, it was the title that first caught my attention. Nameless? What does this title imply? What is it referring to? Although I had never read any of her books, I knew that Jessie Keane's books are always top ranking. When I read the short description, I had no doubts that this was going to be my next great read and it sure did. I loved it from beginning to end. The short chapters made it even a more enjoyable experience for me.

Nameless is the story of Ruby Darke, a mixed race woman, her skin the colour of 'pale milky coffee', born in the 1920's to a family consisting of her dad and two older brothers, all 'milk white' in colour. Her mother died giving birth to her. Ruby couldn't understand and was never told by her family why her skin colour is different or why her father and eldest brother Charlie seem to hate her so much. In fact she was frequently bullied and brutally beat by them. While her two brothers were involved in underworld criminal activities, she helped her father in the running of their small corner shop.

During the war, a very beautiful and attractive Ruby caught the attention of Cornelius Bray, a handsome young man, an uppercruster with dubious underworld ties. They soon began an affair, him being married, and Ruby fell deeply in love with him. However, shortly afterwards their blissful relationship turned sour when she became pregnant. This was a big problem as in those days an unmarried woman with children was regarded with contempt. Her family's name was at stake and they certainly wouldn't tolerate such a scandal. Cornelius also had his reputation to safeguard. She then gave birth to twins, a white girl and a dark boy. Both were taken away from her at birth. In her state and situation, poor Ruby could do nothing to retain her

children.

Many years go by and we find that Ruby is now a wealthy business woman and the owner of a very successful chain of department stores. Though she seems to be living an ideal, sumptuous life, deep down she feels gutted. She never forgot her babies and she could never forgive those that took them away from her. With the help of a powerful man, she embarks on a personal mission to trace her twins and bring them back to her even if this may mean risking her own life or losing them again forever. Will she succeed? Find out by reading 'Nameless' by Jessie Keane. The characters in the novel will remain with you even after you have finished reading.

Nellie says

gripping....beautiful tale.

E B Phillips says

Eva phillips

Brilliant book couldn't put the book down, ready for the next books what a brilliant author Highly recommend it folks

~ Cariad ~ says

Absolutely brilliant!

Straight onto the second one...!
