



Dirty Laundry

Tori Carrington

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When Sofie Metropolis decided to stop being a waitress and start being a private detective, she had no idea what she was getting into. With only a few cases under her belt, Sofie has inherited a dead woman's mean-spirited Jack Russell; fallen hard for a mysterious, charming Australian bounty hunter; and gained a rep for an itchy trigger finger. She even shot one of her clients!

Sofie's mom suspects Sofie's dad is having an affair, and Sofie's seen enough cheating spouses to know that her father is keeping secrets. And though Jake Porter is more available than ever, Sofie finds herself torn between the Australian she barely knows and a handsome, available Greek who knows that the fastest way to Sofie's heart is through a bakery.

Searching for a missing dry cleaner who left behind a brand-new Mercedes and a not-so-brand-new wife, Sofie is attacked by . . . a plastic-swathed suit? Or was it one of Tony DiPiazza's goons? Tony being the junior-league Mobster who has his own reasons to want to get his finely-manicured hands on the dry cleaner's account books.

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Dirty Laundry Details

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Author : Tori Carrington

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From Reader Review Dirty Laundry for online ebook

Frank says

These are enjoyable little mysteries, heavily spiced with humor, and some great secondary characters.

One of the things I like about Sofie, as compared to some other sleuths, is that she actually makes progress toward solving her cases. Discoveries are made, plans are laid, and it all works toward an ultimate conclusion. In many similar detective/amateur sleuth series, the protagonist sort of bumbles cluelessly from one event to the next, until eventually the mystery solves itself in her presence. Sofie, on the other hand, is a take-charge kind of girl, and while there's a fair amount of bumbling, you can see she has some skills and a good brain as well.

Much like Stephanie Plum. Which is my main complaint about this series. Janet Evanovich should really be getting royalties, as the characters (main and secondary), plot, humor, etc. are nearly identical. You could even make a conversion chart:

Rosie = Lula

Jake = Ranger

Waitress = Button Factory worker

and so on.

All in all, these are fun reads, but if you're looking for a change of pace from Stephanie Plum, this wouldn't be it.

Andrea Guy says

I was sat on the fence with the first Sofie Metropolis book, but with Dirty Laundry I find myself really liking the series.

Sure it is like Evanovich's Plum series. There are a lot of parallel's including Sofie's use of the word "Probably." But for all those similarities, Sofie is different from Stephanie. She lacks a side kick and her family is way more quirky than the Plum household. She's also a girly girl, something which really can't be said for Stephanie.

In this book there's more cheating spouses, or so they think, a missing ferret and a missing dry cleaner.

Oh and then there's the mob! Tony DiPiazza, who wants to have "pasta" with Sofie, if you know what I'm saying. (wink wink, nudge nudge) I have to say one of the funniest moments of the book is when Sofie's apartment is broken into and Muffy is taped to the toilet. Poor little Muffy!

There's a lot of funny stuff with Sofie, and her crush on Jake Porter, which almost made it to the bedroom is worth turning pages for. Hunky Aussie guys are always worth turning pages for.

The first book had trouble finding its footing, but with Dirty Laundry, Tori Carrington definitely has a winner. I look forward to reading more from this series. Hopefully they can keep things fresh and funny for awhile!

Donna says

These are enjoyable little mysteries, heavily spiced with humor, and some great secondary characters.

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Sunny says

Sofie Metropolis, P.I, is back and ready for action in the second novel of this series.

Five months have passed since her last eventful case (if you can call shooting someone in the knee an event), and, unfortunately, she's due for another.

When Apostolis Pappas (A.K.A, Uncle Tolly) disappears, his wife Aglaia wants Sofie to find him, dead or alive, so she can sell his fancy new Mercedes. But Sofie realizes soon enough that she's dealing with more than she can handle... namely, the mob. And a missing ferret, a gassy dog, and her terrible love life.

I only gave the first book in this series two stars, because I felt that it was copying the Stephanie Plum series. This one felt more original, while still having the same type of humor that I enjoyed.

Heidi says

Love the characters and it was funny. Audiobook was amazing.

Kelly says

I didn't have as much fun with this one as the first. I guess the novelty has worn off and my forgiveness for

its obvious copying of Evanovich's Stephanie Plum series. I know that many authors have taken the formula of Evanovich's books and written their own series, and I'm okay with that, but it just seems as if this series is too transparent with its copying of Evanovich. Don't get me wrong, Strohmeier's Bubbles series and White's Bailey Wiggins' series are also like Evanovich (and they all came out after Evanovich's books proved successful).

I think the Greek cultural references in this series are cute/funny, but seriously, here's the formula that seems to make this series and others like it so popular:

1. Woman is bumbling through a career that involves the law somehow (PI, bail bonds, etc)
2. Woman has a crazy ethnic family
3. Woman has a sexy male counterpart/friend/helper who likes/loves/hates her
4. Woman's office/job has a sexy bimbo (who's actually smart)
5. Woman's past record with men isn't great (unfaithful husband/boyfriend)
6. Woman engages in outrageous antics that are over the top but very funny
7. Woman has a side kick
8. Woman's life involves an affinity/connection to food

And maybe I'm cranky because there wasn't enough Jake Porter in this one for my romantic craving at the time. My final verdict? I'll read more in the series because Evanovich only gives me 1 book per year, and I need more than that to sustain my desire for an outrageously silly story that is laugh out loud hilarious.

Gwen says

Entering Sofie Metropolis's world is entering one of a tight-knit Greek-American family with a daughter (Sofie) determined to stand on her own. Getting involved with the Mob, inadvertent or not, reveals the support and help Sofie has in her mysterious Australian friend/fellow-PI who serves as protector, her family, and herself as she pulls herself back together after learning her fiancée was cheating on her (with her maid of honor) on the day of her wedding.

Quick and light.

Mandolin says

In this unabashed mimic of Janet Evanovich's Stephanie Plum series, PI Sofie Metropolis returns once again to the New York crime scene, this time dead set on finding Uncle Tolly, a laundry owner who suddenly disappeared after buying an expensive Mercedes. As Sofie investigates, all clues lead to his involvement in the Greek mafia. Was he laundering more than just clothes? Sofie's probe into the underworld of Astoria proves to be dangerous to her own health, for she finds herself being tailed by men that look too much like hitmen for comfort and being tested out for new shoes - of the cement variety! As if that weren't enough, her uncle Spiros is still out of the country and Sofie is shouldering more than her share of the agency's work, including trying to serve papers to an evasive man, prove the guilt of a man involved in a workman's compensation swindle and find a few more missing pets and cheating spouses. Her personal life isn't much simpler, for the heat wave that has hit New York is obviously causing everyone around her to act strangely: her father is probably being unfaithful, her dog is releasing deadly fumes and her current love (or is that lust) interest, Jake Porter, continues to save the day but otherwise remain frustratingly elusive. Will Sofie ever straighten up the mess that she calls her life?

Although some reviewers obviously disagree, I am beginning to really like this series. I tried reading the Stephanie Plum books but found them just a bit too vulgar for my taste. This series, though by no means lacking in innuendos and highly charged scenes, scales down the intensity quite a bit which I found to be much more to my liking. The characters are quirky and likable and the plot is fast-paced and enjoyable. I love Sofie's internal commentary, which ranges from witty (like her quips about a life that is characterized by "stale Jordan almonds and dog farts") to insightful (like her observation that she needed to stop living for work and start living to enjoy life!) Like her, I agree that it's not the heat that makes people act strangely...we're just all strange to start out with! I look forward to reading more of her adventures.

Dasha says

An okay read, with some humor. Greek recipes.

Laura says

Love this series.

Mark Birchall says

I'm up to date with ms plum and these are the next best I've found so far

Jerry King says

2006

Fullfaun says

light-hearted detective series with greek recipes at the end.

bookczuk says

Not a bad little mystery-- kind of like Janet Evanovich meets My Big Fat Greek Wedding-- or I guess that would be Stephanie Plum or Barney rather than Janet, herself. Still not quite sure of the wholebit as to why Sofie's investigation might have required cement boots (seemed a bit extreme and a bit messy, but hey, who am I to criticize?)

Anyhow, if I stumble upon more in this series, I'll probably give them a read. I'll offer this to bumma now and if she's not interested, will wild release or take to meetup.

From the Publisher

When Sofie Metropolis decided to stop being a waitress and start being a private detective, she had no idea what she was getting into. With only a few cases under her belt, Sofie has inherited a dead woman's mean-spirited Jack Russell; fallen hard for a mysterious, charming Australian bounty hunter; and gained a rep for an itchy trigger finger. She even shot one of her clients!

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Christyn says

Dirty Laundry was light and easy reading, you may even pick up a few Greek words or customs. The mystery was okay, and watching Sofie on her investigations was interesting - she bumbles along in the beginning, but towards the end finds a system of baiting that works out well for her. Like I said in my previous review of *Sofie Metropolis* the first book in the series, the comparisons between this and another popular series are going to be there, but it was still entertaining.

Sofie, there are times I like her and times I don't. She's stubborn and I've got to give her credit where credit is due - the girl does not give up and she has some serious balls and bravado. I will also say she has a gun, and will use it with some degree of success. As for her investigative skills - I wasn't very impressed but I will admit she tries, and did finally show some progress towards the end. Don't get me wrong she does do some stupid things, which she knows are stupid yet continues to do *anyway*. That annoys me to no end because she knows it's not a good idea, and there is so much potential for something to go wrong and yet she goes along with it despite not having the experience to really take care of herself if things go bad or even telling anyone or taking any precautionary measures (except taking her gun, which is the single plus).

As for Jake, well I know about as much about him from this book as I did in the first. The man of mystery is a bit overdone and I think it's a bit too much - I *still* don't get why she's attracted to him, except that he's hot, and he helps her out. The introduction of another possible male interest - Dino wasn't fully explored in this book. I have no opinion either way because I don't know either of them well enough and Sofie seems mostly attracted by physical appearance (and perhaps benefits of having one male over the other). That sounds rather harsh of me, but that's kind of how it came off at times - maybe I just wasn't feeling the romance in this book or Porter's overdone man of mystery thing is just annoying me, or perhaps it's Sofie's usual tendency to melt into a puddle in close quarters with him (though I will say she did give him back a little attitude in this which was...progress).

Sofie's investigations consist of a man suspected of cheating workers comp, several suspected cheaters, missing creatures (Uncle Tolly and Frank the Ferret), trying to serve another man court papers, and let's not forget her mother's suspicion that dad is having an affair. It's a bit much to take in, and the story is

interspersed with greek culture and food, gossip and drama, and some issues that were never touched on again. I still have some questions. (view spoiler)

Overall, it was light, silly and amusing, a reasonably entertaining way to pass the time. 3 stars.
