



Behind the Mask

Juliet M. Sampson

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A young girl dreams of finding her Prince Charming and falls head over heels in love, only to discover early on that she has been completely deceived. Caught in a web of deceit; in a resentful, angry, emotionally and physically abusive relationship, she tears away the mask behind which hides a love without compassion. Only a few years earlier she had graduated from university and was blissfully happy and enjoying life. Love she thought would just add to her blessings. Now she finds herself stranded on an island in Thailand with no passport or return ticket to Australia and fearing for her safety and life. If only he would change back to the Prince Charming she had first met. Still dreaming about a love without hurt, she suddenly finds herself sinking in deep waters, struggling to keep afloat her self-esteem. Not knowing how to escape, she is determined to control resentment and focus on shaming the behavior that let her down.

Behind the Mask Details

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Author : Juliet M. Sampson

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From Reader Review Behind the Mask for online ebook

Annie says

This lovely author had posted a signed copy to me and I managed to read this in just over a day!! It was one book I could not put down and it's one of my favourites.. I recommend this read to all women!! This is a story of an intelligent and ambitious woman who is from a good home and just started her career. She fell in love with who she believed to be her Prince Charming as all young people do only to find him to be a manipulative, deceiving and abusive man behind the mask. The story takes you through this brave woman's journey and survival of an abusive relationship and sends a clear message to all readers that it is never too late to find happiness..heads up.. you WILL gape at the end!! ..5 stars!! ..Juliet, once again thankyou so much for sending me a free copy!! It will be cherished forever!!

Sarah McGrath says

I rate this book 3 1/2 out of 5 stars. I have read Juliet's 2nd book Bon Voyage 1st and gave it 4 stars. This is because i enjoyed the plot more than the one in the first book and because I've never traveled before so i was excited reading about other's experiences.

First off i just want to say that i won't do a summary in my review like what other's had as everyone can clearly find out for themselves what the book is about in the blurb. Second of all that Jamie dude is a douche and numerous times throughout reading this book i just wanted to punch him in the face!!

Anyway, i just wanted to congratulate and thank the author for her courage in sharing her story to create awareness of domestic abuse. I acknowledge how difficult it would have been for Juliet to open up old wounds and allow these awful memories to resurface. Especially how there would be some people who would criticize her and her parents for their 'lack of judgement' or in better words 'benefit of the doubt' in this unique situation.

I say 'unique situation' because as some other readers have pointed out in their reviews, it is rare for abused parents not to intervene by encouraging the abused to end the relationship when they first become aware of the domestic violence. My interpretation of this (and i do hope the author doesn't take offence as it's just my perspective) is that the parents overstepped the boundaries of Miss Sampson's relationship with the abuser by becoming too involved in their relationship.It's like the relationship included 4 people instead of 2. As mentioned in the book, Juliet is an only child and so her parents viewed the abuser as their son, causing them to become emotionally attached to him too soon. Therefore i believe the author's parents were just as much a victim as the abused.

Just like the 2nd book i feel the dialogue could be improved and that events didn't have a 'flow' to it as it jumped from one setting to another. However, i did enjoy some of the descriptive language, plot and the blurb on the back was very well written. Of course this is just the start of the author's career in writing and i'm confident with time and experience, Juliet's writing will improve greatly - all the best! :) xo

Sharon says

I have come to Juliet's books long after everyone else has experienced her stories. Behind the Mask was her

debut novel, a story that deals with spousal abuse. The story is based on the authors own personal experience (as stated in the acknowledgments), it is by no means an easy read as no book is when it deals with such a sensitive issue. Although I believe that it is a story that anyone who has gone through what the author been through would find it beneficial, even though it deals with abuse the underlying message from the author is about finding yourself again. I also believe that even though the stories of abuse are not for everyone, the reader can learn and gain a deeper understanding of what people go through who live through these experiences.

Whilst the story is very simplistic in its style with all the tell tale signs of a first book, one thing is very clear, the author is writing from the heart and welcomes the reader to become a part of her life for a while to share her experience so that others may learn from what she herself went through.

I look forward to reading more books from this author.

Joke says

I have to say that this book was very easy written. The vocabulary was easy and the story was easy. This book only teaches you one lesson. But it teaches good.

It was my second book about abuse and this could have been more cruel and touching if it was written with more details. but however, I enjoyed reading this.

Megan Higginson says

Juliet has shared her heart as well as her painful experience of being in abusive relationship, lifting the lid on this often shameful and hidden topic. Written in a simple to read, diary like way, Juliet takes us into the often misunderstood world of abusive love. I recommend this for anyone who is going through, has gone, or even thinks that they may be in, that sort of relationship. It is a quick read also.

Scarlett says

Behind the Mask tells the story of a young girl, Juliet, and how she meets Jamie, who she believes is the love of her life, but he is not what he pretends, and she ends in an abusive relationship.

I didn't expect the book to be as good as it was, I thought Juliet was going to be a naïve and silly girl, but I was completely wrong! Juliet was smart, she knew what she wanted, was independent and I could totally see myself in her; so, what happened? She fell in love.

Jamie, at the start of their relationship is the perfect, dedicated boyfriend, so charming he even deceived Juliet's parents. He starts taking control over Juliet's world she doesn't even notice until it is almost too late.

Juliet did an amazing job telling this story. While reading this book I couldn't help but wonder what I'd have done under the same circumstances, and even if I didn't know if I would not have made the same choices, I understood the reasoning behind them. I think everyone could learn a thing or two from reading this book.

Lynxie says

First of all, I'd like to say that while I didn't understand a lot of what went on in the mind of Juliet, I can understand and empathise with the mental and physical anguish that she went through. This book is an account of experiences that Juliet went through in her own life.

I can understand all too well how low self-esteem can affect a person, so my issues aren't with that. Also, I haven't (thankfully) had any experiences like Juliet either, but I had to wonder at the sheer naivety of Juliet in this book.

There were multiple times throughout this book that caused me concern and even anger. Sadly, most of them weren't at the abuser, but the abused and the family. It might be that I can't understand how being that helpless felt, but I don't believe I'd **EVER** let myself get into a situation like that. I'm not saying that Juliet asked to be abused, no hardly, but I am concerned that despite having a loving and supportive family she still didn't seek assistance until things had gone so far past ok. I also had concerns about her parents. Why didn't they step in to help? I sure as hell know my parents would if I were to find myself in that situation.

My issues with the main character and her family aside, there were some serious issues with the writing in this book.

1. Firstly, formatting on the kindle was horrendous. Chapter titles were ok, but the 'subtitles' were mashed in with the text and added to a general sense of unprofessionalism that I got from this book.
2. There were a number of instances that made no sense whatsoever. Things occurred without any sort of lead up or preparation, making me feel like you'd whipped me from Point A to Point G with nothing in between. It became rather disorientating.
3. Chapter 8 in the book is located at the end of the book *after* the epilogue.
4. The sudden ability, or revelation that Juliet could 'analyse' Jamie at around 76% through the book raised concern for me. If she's a psychologist why couldn't she analyse him before it got to that point. If she wasn't a psychologist at the time, adding the now garnered insight in at that point caused a serious disconnect with the character I came to know. It also caused issues with my understanding of the character and their development and mental state.
5. The written craft in this book is not polished. It felt like I was reading something a young child wrote. Lots of run-on sentences, lots of scene jumping, lots of head hopping. This might be because Juliet is actually a teacher of children in their 'Early Years', but it doesn't excuse the fact that reading this was a chore.

Sorry Juliet, I do honestly hate that you had to experience something like this in your life, and I commend you for wanting to share this with people and raise awareness for abuse and abuse victims, but this really was a struggle to read.

Read3r'z Re-Vu says

A page turning 5 star read

I met the lovely Juliet M. Sampson via social media and she posted an advanced copy of this book to me. I

managed to read this in just over a day!! It was one book I could not put down and it is now one of my favourites.. I recommend this read to all women!!

This is a story of an intelligent and ambitious woman who is from a good home and just started her career. She fell in love with who she believed to be her Prince Charming as all young people do only to find him to be a manipulative, deceiving and abusive man behind the mask... The story takes you through this brave woman's journey and survival of an abusive relationship and sends a clear message to all readers that it is not OK to stay in an abusive relationship and never too late to make the decision to leave and find happiness..

Heads up.. you WILL gape at the end!! Such a page turner with an unpredictable twist.. I give this 5 stars!!

Juliet, once again thank you so much for sending me a free copy!! It will be cherished forever!!

- Annie

Karen Tyrrell says

An honest true-life crime story of love gone wrong, emotional and physical abuse ... and betrayal. A young girl's dream of true love shatters. Why didn't she see the warning signs? Learn what lies behind the Mask of the victim and the perp. And discover how the victim finally empowers herself.

Juliet Sampson says

Behind the Mask was never written as a literary classic. So if you are a reader that enjoys that type of book, DO NOT read this one! Also please DO NOT judge the book as if it is a literary classic.

Behind the Mask was simply written to develop a greater awareness of abuse in its many forms, physical and emotional.

The book was intended to reach all cultures and therefore another reason for its clear, direct and honest approach.

It covers themes of love, betrayal, abuse and freedom.

I realise NOT all readers will be able to empathize with the story and will be judgemental. On the other hand I am pleased to have received a lot of positive feedback from the many people who have found the book a great support, beneficial, inspiring and an interesting read.

Thanks for taking the time to read Behind the Mask and giving it a chance.

Coleen says

Disclaimer: A copy of this book was sent to me by the author for review. I was not paid to review her book nor did I pay for anything.

First off, I just want to say thank you to Ms. Juliet M. Sampson that she gave me this opportunity to send me her book and review it for her. And I am deeply sorry for the delay of this review.

I hope you guys enjoy the review!

This book is a real story. Some names must have been changed but all the things written in the book were real.

If you've read the back part of the book, you may have read something about a princess looking for her "prince charming" and getting stuck in Thailand. In my point of view, I thought the back part of the book was a metaphor. It wasn't really about a princess and prince. It was about a girl who found her prince charming, or her "dream guy" and fell head over heels for him. After 3 years, they got married. She then noticed that Jamie, the "prince" was changing. As time went by, he became very abusive towards the girl (Or, Juliet) and thought she needed help. Now, I don't want to spoil anything, so if you want to know more about the book, You should read it!

What I thought of the book:

This was the first time I've read a book with a real story. I gave this book a 3.5/5 but Goodreads didn't have a 3.5 so I just clicked the 3 stars. Anyway, Why did I give it 3.5/5? I thought this book was very inspiring. It had really great quotes that I enjoyed reading and I'm pretty sure when you read the book, you can relate a little. Especially when you have family problems. The only thing I thought was wrong about the book was it had so much things going on in 1 page. I thought the story was going TOO fast and I think she should've been more detailed about the things happening. Especially the scene when they were in Thailand. I thought that part was too fast because The blurb at the back said it was about a girl stuck in Thailand. But the book wasn't even about that at all. It was more about the physical things going on in her life. I just wish the book had more pages.

But needless to say, I think this book was enjoyable and inspirational to other people especially to me. I hope you pick this book up, because it is an amazing book!

Drew Constance says

3.5 Stars [A wonderful book, a touchy topic - Please pick it up]

<http://bittenbybooklust.blogspot.com...>

jgyweniverel says

You Go Girl!

Crystal Oros says

Wow! Even though most of the book reminded me of the first cruel intentions film, it had me on the edge of my seat waiting to read how everything unfolded for each of the characters that I had become quite attached to.

Carolyn says

Behind the Mask by Juliet M Sampson is a story and account of a young, innocent, naïve girl in love seeking her Prince Charming only to find his true personality is hidden Behind the Mask.

Your Prince Charming may not be the man you really see or believe him to be. Hidden behind the mask could be a totally different person.

The book is served as a warning to look out for the signs of abusive love whether it be verbal or physical as you may fall prey to an obstructive, selfish, abusive person unless you take notice of the early warning signs and act quickly to get out of the situation.

It's Juliet's account of being controlled by a person who is obsessed with his own power and not admiring her for the person she already is.

There is always some hope that the man she believed in the beginning to be her Prince Charming would improve but unfortunately Leopards Never Change Their Spots.

So, just beware of the signs of abusive love until you find the man who truly loves you for just 'being you' as you don't want to get caught up in a situation which may harm you.

Juliet M Sampson was very brave to write this book and can now continue to enjoy life to it's fullest now she is taking control of her own life.
