



## The Enforcer

*HelenKay Dimon*

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## **The Enforcer** HelenKay Dimon

Security expert Matthias Clarke hunts down people who don't want to be found. His latest prey: the sole survivor of a massacre that killed his brother years ago. Kayla Roy claimed she was a victim of the carnage. Then she disappeared. Matthias thinks Kayla may have actually been the killer—and he wants justice.

Kayla Roy never stays in one place too long and never lets a man get too close. But keeping Matthias at arm's length may be impossible. Dark and enigmatic, Matthias draws Kayla in from the start. She knows nothing about his connection to her dark past, or his thirst for vengeance. She only knows their attraction feels overpowering—and very dangerous.

Matthias's suspicions about the sensual Kayla clash with his instinct to protect her, especially when he realizes her life is in danger. But Kayla's not looking for a savior—especially one who seems hell-bent on tempting her down a lethal path.

## **The Enforcer Details**

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Author : HelenKay Dimon

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## From Reader Review The Enforcer for online ebook

### Ptiteaurel says

Dans ce nouveau tome, nous retrouvons tous les éléments qui m'avaient séduite dans le 1er tome. Helenkay Dimon sait nous proposer des hommes ténébreux et renfermés sur eux mêmes qui vont parvenir à s'ouvrir en découvrant une femme pas comme les autres.

je suis toujours aussi fan de la saga Investigations car ces romans nous offrent de beaux moments de lectures. Helenkay Dimon nous plonge au coeur d'une intrigue palpitante et haletante qu'on a envie de découvrir . Ses personnages seront nous attendrir et nous donner envie de mieux les connaître. Si vous n'avez pas encore découvert cette saga, il est temps d'y remédier.

Chronique complète <http://thelovelyteacheraddictions.blog...>

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### Fei ~ BookLover~ says

**He'd had great sex before and had known a lot of amazing women.**

like i want to know that...

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### Books and Spoons says

Reading The Enforcer was one of those experiences that when I finished it I just lay there, holding my kindle in my arms, and smiled. What a wonderful story this is!

I love HelenKay Dimon's style of writing. The dialog is so brilliant with the clever twists of words, the roundabout answers, the wit, the subtle humor, the banter. It flows so fluently I want to treasure every word of the tale.

Like the humor in the story, the suspense is subtle though the culprit is cunning and dodgy, and the danger surrounding them is real. Yet the presence of Matthias Clarke and his team gave a sense a security that was easy to trust and depend on.

Matthias might come off as a blunt, straightforward type of a guy with no people skills what so ever. But inside there is a man with a big, tender heart, a kind soul, a caring man that was easy to fall for and cheer for his success. His inner circle of people is very limited, he doesn't open up and share his thoughts and feelings, his troublesome past and tough childhood. Yet when Kayla Roy walks into his life, everything changes. It was like watching poetry in motion to see Matthias fall for Kayla. It was passionate, beautiful, delightful, real, raw, and true. The moments they had with each other were dear and cherishable, I was completely falling with them, smiling and sighing with my heart content.

Kayla and Matthias had a lot in common. They were both survivors, they were tough, capable, and dependable. They were not perfect, yet they aimed for the best and regretted the past mistakes. Kayla had been on the run for so long, she was weary of the constant hiding. With Matthias, she felt cared for, secure, protected, treasured.

Not only were there hot passion and adoration towards each other, Matthias and Kayla genuinely liked each

other. They enjoyed each other's company, appreciated each other, and accepted each other with faults, weaknesses, and mistakes and all.

With the charming ensemble of characters who all tribute to the story and helped to move the plot forward, with the constant danger and threat to Kayla's life, the suspicions, the escalating attacks, and the romance, watching those two broken souls to find love and peace within each other, I adored every single moment of this story.

~ Five Spoons!

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## **Anita Hickman says**

A FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH...

Helenkay, I have read The Fixer , and was blown away from the feels the were coming off in waves from that book, Wren was a direct Alpha male and his sidekick , Garrett hope he gets his own book as well This book, tho book right here, I was floored, it was gripping, Raw, and it devoured me whole in 2 days. Matthias and Kayla had any amazing chemistry like no other , I laughed so hard in parts of it, (shaking my head)....and was so sad for them both, I cried..

The best part of all it was the way each character in the book seemed as tho they all belonged together in one capacity or another.. Wren and his wife , now Mathias and Kayla...Hopefully Garrett will get a shot at his own Happiness. But you mentioned 5. mmm .hint hint.

MATTHIAS CLARKE , THE ENFORCER, no emotions, no ties, no family, no one.....

until one day his mother came to him, the one he never knew. The one he wanted desperately to love him. The brother he will come to know , but never meet.

He saw her, met her, was curious about her, but the secrets she is hiding , will they tie in with his half brother. The one he has been trying to find ...Does Kayla hold all the secrets or does he have few of his own to share with her.

It would be great to have more of this series, I absolutely loved the 2 so far, I hope you have more on the way. I would so live to read them. I will definitely recommend any of these books to Everyone...

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## **Christina says**

4 Stars - 3 Flames

Man I'm totally diggin' this series. What's there NOT to like?. Amazingly hot guys who are rich and successful. Oh, I can't forget that they're also natural born protectors. Sigh. Be still my heart.

Kayla has been running for the last seven years. Why? Wouldn't you if you witnessed a horrific murder and you were the only survivor? Yep. I know I would. She's managed to stay one step ahead of a stalker she's had ever since. But when two strange men show up at her job, it seems like her little hideaway isn't so hidden anymore. Does she continuing running, or finally face her past? And how much of her past is she willing to share in order to save her life?

Matthias is one of the Quintet. At least that's the name I'm giving them, lol. He's pure dominant yumminess, with absolutely NO people skills. He doesn't really have to have them when he does what he does. But he's quickly learning how to communicate with Kayla. He needs to. Because he needs to find out if she's just a witness to those murders, or the actual murderer. As the story unfolds, Matthias is convinced Kayla isn't the murderer he once thought. But now the clock is ticking faster than usual in regards to her stalker. They're getting more dangerous and her life, and his, have now been put in danger.

I'm so happy that we get to see Wren again in this story. The relationship between Wren, Garrett and Matthias are just as important to me as the relationship that builds between Kayla and Matthias. I've honestly fallen for all of these characters! There is clearly chemistry between the two. But I was a little disappointed with the actual "moment", if you know what I mean. Good thing I was completely enhammered with the story's drama and the Quintet, so the "non-moment" didn't really matter.

Gosh, I can't wait for the next one!

\*I received this book from the Jeep Diva in exchange for my honest opinion.

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## Meags says

### 4 Stars

The Games People Play series by HelenKay Dimon is one of those rare M/F series that manages to catch my attention from the first page (every single time), hook, line and sinker.

The Enforcer is a strong sequel, featuring another gripping, fun and sexy romantic suspense plot, with a cast of strong and intelligent characters that easily entertain.

Seven years ago Kayla was the sole survivor of a college house massacre. She's been on the run from her past ever since, constantly moving from place to place, changing her name and limiting her ties to other people. She's vigilant of her surroundings, always keeping one foot out the door in case the time comes again when she has to pack up and run.

When a man named Matthias begins to show up on a regular basis at the cafe Kayla works at, she can tell the mysterious and formidable man is there for reasons far more complicated than he wants her to initially believe. Kayla just knows Matthias' sudden and constant presence somehow relates to her, and the two begin a bit of a cat and mouse game until trust is earned and truths are finally revealed.

Matthias now runs the same security firm that Wren (from The Fixer) and himself were once recruited by. He's a man of many skills, but also a man of few words and fewer friends. He also has strong personal reasons for investigating Kayla and an almost decade old mass murder case, but once he meets the woman herself his priorities begin to shift from that of hunter to protector, especially when it becomes glaringly obvious that the past isn't quite as buried as he expected.

Much like the first story within this series, there is plenty of banter between the MCs that leads to explosive sexy encounters. The suspense plot isn't overly complex or original, but it is perfectly paced and intriguing enough to keep the reader fully engaged from start to finish.

The cast of characters continues to grow, with plenty of page time for fan favourites from The Fixer, including Wren and his witty and argumentative right hand man Garrett. I think it's safe to say that Garrett is

the highlight character from this series for me so far, and I'm dying to get my hands on his own character led story (pretty please!!).

Overall an impressive sequel in what is one of my personal favourite series of 2017. I can't wait to see what comes next.

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### **Katherine says**

Really good. Kayla is an amazingly strong person, and the reveal of her big secret really surprised me. Matthias is yummy in that alpha, dominant but with some self-awareness. I gotta say I wouldn't want to live in this small town - between Lauren and Kayla, there are a lot of killers and dead bodies around...

Bought from kobo

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### **Heather says**

Security expert Matthias Clarke hunts down people who don't want to be found. His latest prey: the sole survivor of a massacre that killed his brother years ago. Kayla Roy claimed she was a victim of the carnage. Then she disappeared. Matthias thinks Kayla may have actually been the killer—and he wants justice. Kayla Roy never stays in one place too long and never lets a man get too close. But keeping Matthias at arm's length may be impossible. Dark and enigmatic, Matthias draws Kayla in from the start. She knows nothing about his connection to her dark past, or his thirst for vengeance. She only knows their attraction feels overpowering—and very dangerous.

Matthias's suspicions about the sensual Kayla clash with his instinct to protect her, especially when he realizes her life is in danger. But Kayla's not looking for a savior—especially one who seems hell-bent on tempting her down a lethal path.

I did not like this book as much as the others, but it wasn't bad. I guess every series has a book that just doesn't do it for you. It was overall a good book, but at the end there where two things Kayla did that just didn't sit right. She kept saying they had to do it so they could move forward with their "new start" which was hogwash. Neither of those things impacted her life in a positive way and one could have sent her to jail. "Paul's" reaction didn't really fit either. All that drama and then let's forget it? Anyway, that really ruined the book for me because it just felt wrong and out of character for both of them. Otherwise, the story while not my favorite was enjoyable. I will continue the series.

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### **Kate's Corner says**

3.5 Touch & Go for me on this one Stars.

#### Characters & Chemistry.

Kayla Roy has moved around a lot after the bloodbath that happened at college she has been on the run ever since. She has changed her name a couple of times and has now moved to Annapolis. Working as a bar manager she leads an insular life but has learnt to survive over the past seven years.

Kayla has a quite strength about her where she shows no fear. Where she is stronger and that she is a

survivor. She went with the punches here. In the past and now also in the present. She is wary and mistrusts most people but that is understandable.

Matthias Clarke CEO of Quint Enterprises wants to know what happened to his brother seven years ago. Through Mary Patterson (his birth mother) he has been given some information but it's not enough, so he asks Wren for a favor. Wren grants him that favor but it comes with a string. That string is Garrett. Matthias is as cynical as they come. He thinks that Kayla had something to do with the murders. Whereas he was protective of Kayla it took him a while to adjust. Why men also think that they are islands I shall never know. I really didn't care that much about Matthias.

There was chemistry but to be honest I skipped most of the sex scenes, I'm currently just not really interested.

### Writing, Plot & Pace.

*Streaks of bright crimson slashing across beige paint and linen lampshades.*  
BAM I was hooked.

I love this author's writing. The story and characters are engaging yeah, I know I said that in my previous review as well but my dislike for the main characters took my attention away from the overall plot. I enjoyed getting to know them, but they aren't a couple I would want to revisit. I felt the ending to be unsatisfying for me and what happened with Kayla. Okay so it was something I didn't see coming. There were a lot of twists I didn't see coming. The author once again got the banter down pat and the suspense also kept me on my toes.

There were times I struggled with the pace and the plot and others where it flowed well without a problem. I know that there was one time where I had to stop reading as I was too tired to read about their back and forth antics. But once I'd had a good night's sleep it was fine. But as I mentioned there were touch and go moments. What is always iffy for me is that he skirted the truth a lie by omission is still a lie. There is no other woman drama.

One of kind plot here. Through reading book 5 I still didn't anticipate some things. There was never a dull moment and I had a lot of fun with this book.

The real star of the book is Garrett and his book is up next.

### Verdict.

I liked this book but not as much as I wanted to. The characters are strong and are put through the wringer, but I couldn't connect with the characters, with their emotions. It is still a strong book in the series but not my kind of book. Please read the series it really is worth it.

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## **Sunny says**

So easy to read. I love the alphas in this series.

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## Jessy MpdI says

Lien de mon avis ici ? <https://wp.me/p5AuT9-46X>

Après avoir été littéralement séduite par le premier opus, il me tardait de savoir ce que l'auteure allait me réserver dans la suite à venir. Et bien une fois de plus, je ressors de ma lecture agréablement surprise...

Avant toute chose je tiens à préciser que bien que cela soit un second opus, ce livre peut être lu indépendamment du premier. Pourquoi ? Le héros n'étant pas présent précédemment cela ne perturbera en rien votre lecture.

S'il y a bien une chose à savoir chez Helenkay Dimon c'est fait partie de ce groupe d'auteurs qui possède ce don inné pour créer une atmosphère pesante qui accapare les lecteurs dès les premières pages tout en faisant monter leur tension jusqu'à leur paroxysme tout au long de leur lecture. C'est tout simplement divin ! Une intrigue habilement menée riche en sensations et en rebondissement qui se déroule sur un rythme parfaitement maîtrisé, avec un suspens allant crescendo à mesure que l'on avance dans notre lecture. Le petit plus et non pas des moindres ? Des scènes délicieusement torrides pour notre plus grand plaisir.

Quand aux personnages ? Pour ma part tous sans exception sont intéressants et ont leur importance dans l'histoire.

Un duo qui vous réserve bien des surprises. Deux forts caractères qui beaucoup de mal à donner leur confiance, qui cache de sombres secrets et qui vont faire beaucoup beaucoup d'étincelles. Lui est un solitaire taciturne qui ne vit pour son travail. Elle est une survivante et fait tout pour rester dans l'ombre. Mais ce qu'ils n'avaient pas prévu c'est d'être à ce point troublé par l'autre. Malgré le danger qui plane arriveront-ils à percer l'autre à jour ?

Que dire des autres personnages ? On retrouve bien évidemment le ténébreux Wren toujours égal à lui-même. Ainsi que Garrett, ce mec je l'adore ! On rigole beaucoup avec leur échange avec Matthias. Par contre vous risquez de ressentir une certaine répugnance pour d'autres personnages.

En bref... Une série qui me plaît de plus en plus. Helenkay Dimon a su trouver l'équilibre parfait entre le suspens et la romance. Si vous cherchez une lecture avec des redoutables mâles qui agissent dans l'ombre, des héroïnes aux allures fragiles mais qui ne se laissent pas facilement faire, une tension palpable, une bonne dose d'humour, des joutes verbales et de la sensualité, ce livre est fait pour vous.

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## Coral says

Plot: 3/5

Characterisation: 4.5/5

Prose: 4/5

How much I enjoyed it: 3/5

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## Alyssa says

4.5 stars. I liked this one (even) more than I liked *The Fixer*.

\*\*\*Review posted on The Eater of Books! blog\*\*\*

The Enforcer by HelenKay Dimon  
Book Two of the Games People Play series  
Publisher: Avon  
Publication Date: April 25, 2017  
Rating: 4 stars  
Source: eARC from Edelweiss

Summary (from Goodreads):

Security expert Matthias Clarke hunts down people who don't want to be found. His latest prey: the sole survivor of a massacre that killed his brother years ago. Kayla Roy claimed she was a victim of the carnage. Then she disappeared. Matthias thinks Kayla may have actually been the killer—and he wants justice.

Kayla Roy never stays in one place too long and never lets a man get too close. But keeping Matthias at arm's length may be impossible. Dark and enigmatic, Matthias draws Kayla in from the start. She knows nothing about his connection to her dark past, or his thirst for vengeance. She only knows their attraction feels overpowering—and very dangerous.

Matthias' suspicions about the sensual Kayla clash with his instinct to protect her, especially when he realizes her life is in danger. But Kayla's not looking for a savior—especially one who seems hell-bent on tempting her down a lethal path.

What I Liked:

Last year, I read *The Fixer* and I liked it. It was a new HelenKay Dimon favorite of mine, but I enjoyed it a lot, especially for its originality and uniqueness. I don't read a ton of romantic suspense, but I've enjoyed the ones I've read, especially those by Dimon. *The Enforcer* was no exception! If anything, I enjoyed this book even more than I enjoyed *The Fixer*.

*The Enforcer* is the story of the enforcer, Matthias. He owns a security company and he is an expert at what he does. Right now, he is interested in finding Kayla Roy, sole survivor and former suspect of a brutal massacre (in which his brother died). But when he finds her, he quickly realizes that she didn't do it, that she wasn't and isn't capable of such a crime. Kayla has been running and hiding for years since the horrible massacre in her house at college seven years ago. Someone has been stalking her, leaving threats and watching her, no matter where she goes. When Matthias shows up, she isn't sure who he is, but some part of her knows he isn't here to hurt her. Matthias realizes that she isn't the murderer, and when Kayla's apartment is broken into and trashed, he also realizes that he isn't going to walk away. He will protect her at any cost, even if she doesn't want his help. Matthias isn't backing down, and Kayla isn't going to run and hide anymore.

This book was so entertaining, even for a romantic suspense novel! Well, that's not to say that suspense novels can't be entertaining. But often times, they are tense and a little odd and creepy. This book had tense moments, and a good build-up to the big reveal of the culprit, but it was also fun to read. That's one of the many things I love about romance novels - the tone of the book can still be fun and somewhat light, no matter the content of the book.

I love Matthias and his anti-human self. He isn't really antisocial, but he tries to avoid people. He would much rather be working through some security problem or puzzle or case in his office, than dealing with people. Matthias is similar to Wren (from *The Fixer*), because he is careful with his words, doesn't say anything he doesn't mean, is direct and honest, and sometimes doesn't have good people skills. Matthias is

commanding and bossy and very used to getting his way. He also dresses really nicely and has nice manners. I adore him.

Kayla is the perfect match for Matthias. She is headstrong, independent, bossy, and doesn't take anyone's crap (definitely not Matthias's). She's very smart too, and she has good instincts. Sometimes Kayla is a little too bossy and a bit mean to Matthias (like, one or two times), but she does well to correct her mistakes and/or feel bad about them. I like that she is cautious with him and doesn't trust him immediately, but at the same time, she lets him in.

Kayla is the type of girl who doesn't like to ask for help, and Matthias is the type of guy who will help you whether you like it or not. They are perfect together! They have a lot of back-and-forth banter and comebacks (mostly Kayla, since Matthias is too sophisticated for comebacks - so it seemed). There is a lot of tension and chemistry between them from the start. It was funny to see Matthias do a 180 in terms of his opinion of her (he was hunting her because he thought she was responsible for the murders), but it was also funny to see Kayla do a 180 in terms of her opinion of him (she knew something was off about him and she thought he was a bad guy, but realized that he was on her side).

Suffice it to say, I liked their dynamic. Matthias is demanding, commanding, bossy, and used to people listening to him and being afraid of him. Kayla is independent and bossy herself, and she doesn't like Matthias's high-handedness at first. But she's also not stupid enough to think that she can take of herself after her stalker trashes her apartment. I like that she accepts his help. I also like that he gets put in his place every now and then by her.

Dimon's books are usually pretty hot, but like *The Fixer*, this one was not nearly as hot as her usual. But still, the chemistry between Matthias and Kayla was on fire, and there were a few steamy scenes that were well-written. The romance was well-written too, and there wasn't too much drama.

The "suspense" part of this romantic suspense novel was pretty interesting! I had a feeling about the culprit when that particular character was first introduced, BUT I never guessed the entire climax. Like, I guessed part of it correctly (in terms of the culprit), but not all of it. I don't want to give anything away so I'm being purposefully vague. I like how the big reveal wasn't entirely what the author set us up to believe! It's more than that. Good for Dimon! This book had a lot of action, plot twists, and a puzzling mystery (several, really). I was hooked! I could not put this book down until I was finished.

Overall, I enjoyed this book a lot - probably more than I enjoyed *The Fixer*, which I liked (though the female protagonist got on my nerves sometimes). I really hope there will be another book in this series (Garret + Lauren?), because I am here for it!

What I Did Not Like:

I mentioned earlier about how I wanted the steamy scenes to be more, well, steamy. I've read other Dimon books outside this series and those books were smoking hot! This book (and *The Fixer*) weren't super hot. I think I have too high expectations. Someone new to Dimon might think these books are plenty hot, so don't mind me!

Would I Recommend It:

If you like romantic suspense, give this series a chance! But in general, I highly recommend Dimon's books. Her stories are always so creative and her characters are (for the most part) really likable. Strong, fierce females and swoony, sexy alphas. My favorite of hers is Mine!

Rating:

4 stars. Another Dimon winner! I had a feeling I would enjoy this book and I definitely did. I'm excited to see what Dimon comes up with next! Hopefully a book three in this series.

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### Amy R says

The Enforcer by HelenKay Dimon was just as mysterious and intriguing as The Fixer in the Games People Play series and can be read as a stand alone. From the very first page you will be hooked. The Enforcer is full of intrigue and mystery and you can't help but keep reading all the way until the every end. Matthias and Kayla are fantastic characters. Broken. Defensive. Strong. And quite perfect together! They challenge one another but also lean on each other.

Matthias is tasked with finding Kayla to hope solve a massacre that happened years ago. He is misled by the person requesting this, but learns it the hard way. Kayla is careful of Matthias from the beginning. She has been on the run for a long time and knows when danger is near. Somehow, through Matthias' creepy (according to another character Garrett) ways, he gets a foot in the door with Kayla. Slowly but surely their relationship begins and the mystery starts to unfold. It's quite a read!

I like a good suspense story and The Enforcer has plenty of that. I found my heart racing several times. Dimon does a great job with all the descriptions and emotions of each character in the story. I suspected a few people as the murder but was quite surprised at the end.

I don't think I can write a review and not talk about Garrett. We met him in The Fixer and get a lot more of him in The Enforcer. Garrett tags along against Matthias' will and just adds so much to the scenes he is in. He is hilarious, smart, sarcastic and just pure joy to read about.

If you are looking for a well written, romantic suspense with strong characters, heart pumping action, passion and an engaging plot, give The Enforcer a try!

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### Caz says

**The Enforcer** is the second book in HelenKay Dimon's *Games People Play* series of romantic suspense novels, which feature heroes who supply skills and services that are perhaps not available from typical law-enforcement organisations; finding people who don't want to be found, obtaining and using sensitive information and providing security and protection to those who are unable – or don't want – to go through normal channels. As such, they often operate in that shady area outside the law, doing what needs to be done even though they might need to cross lines in order to do it.

In **The Fixer**, book one in the series, we met the enigmatic Wren, head of a company specialising in intelligence and information gathering, and who, years earlier, was one of a group of young men who looked to be headed in completely the wrong direction until they were 'rescued' by a man named Quint who insisted they accomplish something with their lives. In the course of his business, Wren often has occasion to call upon the services provided by Quint Enterprises, the security firm run by the gruff, taciturn Matthias Clarke. The men are friends – as far as men like them can ever be friends – and more importantly, Wren is one of the very few people that Matthias trusts absolutely.

Matthias had a troubled childhood, growing up in a series of foster homes which ranged from okay to terrible. He's a loner, and his work is his life; he does his job, eats when he's hungry, has sex when he has

the urge – and he’s content with that. But some months earlier, and completely out of the blue, he was contacted by the birth mother who abandoned him, Mary Patterson, who also told him that he’d had a younger half-brother, Nick, who had been murdered seven years earlier and the case has never been solved. While Matthias is fully aware of Mary’s attempt to manipulate him by trying to send him on a guilt-trip, he nonetheless feels some sort of responsibility to the brother he never knew, and agrees to see what he can find out.

Seven years earlier, Kayla Roy was the sole survivor of a brutal multiple murder. She became a prime suspect in the killings in the early stages of the investigation, but in the absence of any real evidence, she was never charged. Still, she disappeared not long afterwards and has spent the last seven years on the run, never putting down roots or staying too long in any one place. Now, however, she is the closest thing to settled she’s been in all that time, in the small, seafront town of Annapolis, where she waits tables at the local café.

When a man she later describes as “*the walking definition of tall, dark and smoldering*” enters her café and calmly orders lunch, Kayla’s instinct is to run. But even though she’s suspicious of his motives, there’s something oddly charming and reassuring about the guy, and she can’t deny that she finds him very attractive.

To start with, Matthias suspects that Kayla may have been responsible for the murders and is determined to secure some sort of justice for his brother. But as the days pass and they get to know each other a little more, he revises his opinion, realising that although there is something haunting her, it’s not the guilt of a killer.

Ms. Dimon crafts an intriguing plot that unfolds at a pace that satisfies the reader’s need for forward motion while allowing time for the romance between Matthias and Kayla to develop and also for some insight into the relationships between Matthias, Wren and Garrett, Wren’s right-hand man, who has been detailed to provide help and back-up on this job. The banter between them is fabulous; Wren and Matthias are obviously men who are naturally tight-lipped and very literal, whereas Garrett is chatty and funny, taking the opportunities afforded him to poke affectionate fun at them both. It’s obvious though, that they’d do anything for each other, and the good-natured grousing and teasing between Garrett and Matthias especially, is a highlight of the book.

I liked the way that both Matthias and Kayla have to learn how to be part of a couple. Kayla doesn’t do relationships given her need for privacy and her reluctance to put down roots, so she is naturally wary of the strength of the attraction she feels towards Matthias. Like Wren in the previous book, Matthias is rather lacking in people skills; he’s blunt to the point of abrasiveness, a master of evasion when it comes to questions he doesn’t want to answer and doesn’t do small talk. People consider him a straight shooter, and he’s proud of that; he’s good at his job and so far that’s been the most important thing in his adult life. But with Kayla he finds he actually wants to be part of something else, although he has no idea to go about it and not being in complete control of the situation is something he finds difficult to deal with.

And he is keeping a long-buried secret of his own, one that Kayla’s situation brings to the surface in a way that eventually makes it impossible to ignore any longer. With both Matthias and Kayla somehow sensing the other is keeping secrets, their relationship is a continual push-pull as they take a step closer emotionally only for something to happen that causes them to step back.

This is the first time I’ve read a book by HelenKay Dimon, and I definitely enjoyed **The Enforcer** enough to want to read more of her work. The balance between thriller and romance is just about right, and while there were moments I wanted to tell Kayla, Matthias or both of them to “just talk about it already!” those moments were few and far between and their reticence does generally make sense in terms of their characters as established. The romance is sexy and rather sweet, and the verbal back-and-forth between Matthias and Kayla is laden with wry humour and affection, with plenty of sparks flying between them.

Although this is the second book in a series, it works perfectly well as a standalone and I will definitely be looking out for future instalments.

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