



No Place Like Rome

Julie Moffett

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A Lexi Carmichael Mystery

Italy might seem like a long way to go to hide after a disastrous date. But when sexy überhacker Slash (no, that's not his real name) asks me to go with him to Rome on an investigation, the timing *is* sort of perfect. My messed-up love life becomes the least of my worries, though, after the dead body, the near-kidnapping and the discovery of a top secret encrypted file that even I can't hack.

With time running out, there's only one thing to do: call in the legendary Zimmerman twins and my best fluent-in-Italian friend, Basia, to crack the code. Now if only someone could help me solve the mystery of whether Slash is flirting, or if all the kissing is just one of those "when in Rome" things...

But when we finally uncover the secret someone would kill to keep, it's up to me to solve the case *and* save the lives of my best friends.

Just another week in the life of geek-girl Lexi Carmichael.

Read about Lexi's previous adventures in No One Lives Twice, No One to Trust and No Money Down.

61,000 words

No Place Like Rome Details

Date : Published November 25th 2013 by Carina Press

ISBN :

Author : Julie Moffett

Format : Kindle Edition 208 pages

Genre : Mystery, Romance, Womens Fiction, Chick Lit, Thriller, Mystery Thriller, Romantic Suspense

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From Reader Review No Place Like Rome for online ebook

Jill says

I would recommend this book to anyone who enjoys the National Treasure movies. This is a well written, fast paced book with genuinely likable characters.

Valerie Tuengel says

So much fun...and smart

I love these books so much. The characters are wonderful, Lexi especially. And the plot is smart, fast and exciting.

Cathy Malik says

It was good to learn a bit more about our lead supporting character while still having exotic experiences. This series definitely leads readers craving for more about its characters and their adventures. Julie answers standing character questions but is adept at making readers seek more knowledge while being entertained by their escapades.

May says

Fast pace story full of action. Way better than book two. The MC is less annoying in this one too. And we find out slash's real name by the end of the book.

Georgia says

Exciting

Wonderfully exciting mystery. Hilarious, at times, but you never figure out the mystery until it's revealed. A book you just can't put down.

Pamela says

No Place Like Rome is the third book (fourth if you count the novella) in the Lexi Carmichael Mystery series and it is a fun, well written book. There were a few glaring editing problems which I was surprised to see.

Lexi is hired, via Finn's new security company, to accompany Slash to Rome. Apparently Slash's uncle is accused of stealing from the Vatican Bank and Slash needs her cyber security expertise. But Slash seems to

want more from Lexi and being socially inept she just doesn't understand what's happening between them. Is all of this kissing an Italian thing?

The humor in this book had me giggling away, the romance was steamy, and the mystery intriguing. Reading about Lexi is just pure fun and she is such an amazing heroine. She's smart, funny, kind and humble, but she doesn't understand why everyone thinks she's so special or why three men want her.

You have to read this book. Even though the author does an excellent job of recapping the past stories in the first chapter, you should read the entire series.

Bree T says

Lexi Carmichael has just begun working for a private security firm and their latest client, although known to her, is a surprise. Slash, the hacker who far exceeds Lexi's own capabilities has requested the help of the company she works for her and also her personally. And he wants her to come to Italy with him.

Slash's uncle is being questioned over money disappearing out of the bank he presides over, which handles funds for the Vatican. Slash knows that his uncle didn't do it but he's too close to the situation to be able to investigate himself so he asks Lexi to help him and throws in the trip to Italy as a bonus perk. Lexi finds herself on a private jet, staying in luxury hotels and meeting various friends, associates and members of Slash's family as she attempts to unravel just exactly what is going on.

It takes her a long time to crack the hack and when she does she realises that it's been put there as a smokescreen and what is really happening lies elsewhere. That leads to the discovery of a dead body and a file so encrypted that Lexi can't get near it. It's time to bring in the big guns – the Zimmerman twins and also Lexi's friend Basia who speaks fluent Italian. The more their combined hacking powers discover, the more confusing and complicated it becomes until they find they might be on the verge of discovering a powerful and important secret that has been kept hidden for centuries.

This series has been one of my happiest finds since I started blogging. I think this, the third one is the best so far and really took the series to another level. Lexi is so fun and she really has the best job! In this installment Slash turns up to ask for her help, which means going to Italy, she jumps at the chance. It means spending lots of time with Slash which is both good, because he's clever and interesting but also not so good because he confuses her and Lexi is not exactly what you would call socially gifted or experienced with men, especially ones like Slash.

In the first book, Slash kind of annoyed me but he grew on me in the second book and thanks to this book I am now officially Team Slash. Lexi has several man kind of vying for her affection (there's also Finn and Elvis Zimmerman is sweet on her too) but she remains mostly oblivious or isn't quite sure how to discern how they feel. Alone with Slash in Italy she kind of comes to understand that he's really attracted to her but she doesn't know how serious he is, what he wants and how long for and she's not sure if she just can jump into bed with him. Moffett keeps their interactions mostly light with the occasional turning up of the heat. Slash's declaration towards the end of the book when he was injured goes mostly unnoticed but there's still plenty of action here. A long running gag throughout this book is Slash meeting different people from his past, all of whom call him by a different first name which leads Lexi to believe that she has finally discovered what his name is, only to be shot down. She attempts throughout the whole book to find out what his name is, calling him by different names until she finally manages to convince him to tell her his real

name in an interaction that's sort of cute. Okay, very cute. The more I read of this book, the more I love the idea of Slash and Lexi.

Slash's uncle is the Director General (second in command) of the Vatican Bank and so has access to everything. When 18 million euros vanishes, he is the likely suspect although he insists his computer system has been compromised. Slash's position with the American government and the fact that this is his uncle brings up a conflict of interest/uncomfortable situation so he prefers to leave the actual investigating to Lexi whilst he just observes. Everything points to an inside job but none of them are expecting what they find out. I really enjoyed the mystery of this one – Lexi is always at her best when she's working because she's secure in herself and her abilities in a way that she isn't around other people except Basia and the Zimmerman twins. Their arrival also added something to the story too – their combined skills are awesome and so fun to read about. And eventually the mystery got deeper and took me somewhere I really didn't expect, which was a nice surprise. I think with each book the mystery that it revolves around gets a little bigger and a little better which is always a really good thing in a series.

It's going to be such a long wait until the next book!

Kathleen Kilmer says

Lexie Carmichael Book 3. This was one of my favorite in the series, a good story and more character development with Slash

Yvonne Taylor says

I love Lexi Carmichael.... She is so smart and so awkward at the same time.
Lexi is on her way to Rome. Slash has hired her to go with him to help work on a case involving his uncle.
Needing extra help the Zimmerman twins and Basia head to Rome.
Can they find out who is behind the hack, before someone ends up dead?
These characters are some of my favorites. I love getting lost in these books!!

Charles Brackney says

Enjoyable read.

Very entertaining. Great cast of believable characters who know how to do right. Light hearted, and enjoyable reading. Entertaining! Can't wait to read more about escapades of Carmichael & Slash.

Karen says

I have really enjoyed this series - it's provided a glimpse into the world of the computer hacker.

Diane Rapp says

Action, romance, an engaging set of characters

This series is addictive. I let my husband read one and now he's already downloaded most of the series. He loves the quirky character even though he doesn't understand the geek speak. It's got action, romance, and an engaging set of characters. I must keep reading to catch up with my better half!

Tina says

Lexi's newest cybercrime case takes her to Rome ... with Slash as her firm's client. As they track down the hacker who implicated Slash's uncle in embezzlement from the Vatican Bank, they realize there's more at stake than just money ... and murder.

Italo Itallophiles says

If you are fan of Kathy Reichs's Bones series, you may enjoy this younger version, of sorts. Lexi Carmichael of the Lexi Carmichael Mystery Series, is not a mature Asperger medical examiner like Bones, she's a twenty-five-year-old Asperger computer security expert.

The author inserts much humor into her books, and a lot of it comes from Lexi's social misunderstandings, which can lead to physical altercations. When the series begins, Lexi works for the U.S. government's National Security Agency. As the series progresses, she leaves the NSA for the private sector.

I've read only one book in the series, No Place Like Rome, the book that brings Lexi to Italy, along with a hot-stuff Italian-American special agent nicknamed Slash: "Mystery and enigma all rolled into one". Luckily Slash, a recurring series character, is loaded with bucks, so the trip is first-class all the way.

Italy's touchy-feely culture mystifies Lexi. This is shown to the extreme when she meets Slash's Italian grandmother. Italy's often overly demonstrative emotions are actually a good thing for an Asperger. Lots more clues are present for them to pick up on what is going on behind the facial masks they see.

Lexi is not the swiftest in deciphering people, so she is unaware of just how much the men in her life adore her. Yes, I said MEN. They find her social awkwardness endearing. The colloquial, slangy first person monologue/narration drops hints for us to pick up about this, but most of them are over the head of clueless protagonist Lexi.

Lexi is more than an Asperger computer geek, she is also mildly neurotic. To help smooth her way in life, she relies heavily on her best female friend, Basia.

The book presents the problem/mystery well, and includes us in much of the computer security work, leading up to an exciting finish. There are a few typos, some repetitiveness, and a bit of playing fast and loose with history, all things that may be fixed in later editions.

The series is a quick, light read, with plenty of laughs, and with an appeal that may be greatest for young/new adult readers. There are six books to-date, with more in the works.

Please visit my full and illustrated review at Italophile Book Reviews.
<http://italophilebookreviews.blogspot...>

Meg says

A small amount of grammatical or usage 'boo-boos' but otherwise a great addition to the Lexi Carmichael series. Very good read for both computer geeks and non-geeks alike. Different and refreshing cozy series in that it involves a cyber security whiz/legitimate hacker and her friends tracking down other (illegal) hackers.
