



Karma

R.J. Blain

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Karma Johnson has spent her entire adult life working to become a member of FBI's Child Abduction Rapid Deployment team. She's earned her transfer to CARD, but when she's caught up in the kidnapping of an infant from a festival, she learns what it's like to be the victim. Pretending she's a teen keeps her alive while trying to get herself and the baby to safety.

But the kidnapping only scratches at the surface of a far more nefarious scheme, one that will test Karma's skills, her patience, her sanity, and her beliefs.

Karma Details

Date : Published May 15th 2016 by Pen & Page Publishing

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Author : R.J. Blain

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From Reader Review Karma for online ebook

Helene says

Absolutely amazing until about 70%.
Downhill from there for me. DNF

Denise Fisher says

Read this book. I could not put it down!

RJ Lain has written a wonderful book. This book has so many twists and turns. I really liked the tough female character (I am very bad with names). The book has a wonderful surprise ending that you don't want to miss!

Gwen says

You know this is going to be a great week when you get not only one but two new books from the pen of RJ Blain - WHOOOOPEEE!! and the net result was me running to amazon as fast as I could type and.....me the next day, after a marathon read.

I loved the book, but I must admit that I first thought that this was going to be a totally new direction and series for RJ, but it's not so don't read this book expecting it.

We are still in realm of "Witch and Wolf" in our dealings with Feneric's and Witch's but we are starting with a new couple and their workings within the FBI, and the series has been given the title "Balancing the Scales", so maybe there will be new developments but we will have to wait and see.

Karma has spent her life working her way through the FBI and even though she excels at her job her partners have let her down (understatement here), until Jake... Dramatic pause ... sorry but that's all you are going to get.

The book is great fun with lots of humour and action, Karma's an absolute scream, and her interactions with those around her are really enjoyable, even though you realise she has been driven to it, and as for her mother well I don't know what to say..

Yes there are kidnappings ect but to me they were more a back story, the real focus was Karma and Jake and how they found each other, I can only assume the next books will focus more on crime as they further their story, but that's only a guess.

Highly recommended, it can be read as a stand alone but I think you should read the other of RJ's books because it will enhance the story because it might feel a bit thin without it.

Michelle Stanley says

Reviewed by Michelle Stanley for Readers' Favorite

Karma, Book One, is from the urban fantasy series: Balancing the Scales by R.J. Blaine. Karma Johnson, an

FBI agent, is kidnapped along with a baby while attending a festival. Karma's youthful looks deceive the captors while her kick-ass survival skills help her escape with the infant. When she is transferred to Child Abduction Rapid Deployment (CARD), Karma becomes frustrated with her team's chauvinist attitude, especially when another child is abducted and her leads are ignored.

Karma, known for her success in solving cases, sharp-edged retorts, and stubborn nature, retaliates so her 8th ex-partner is transferred to CARD. Jake is the only one who knows how to control her feisty temperament. The partners' lives are put in danger when they uncover a deeper connection to the kidnappings.

I expected to respond with a smile if parts were amusing, but definitely did not expect to be laughing out loud when reading Karma: Balancing the Scales, Book One. This urban fantasy is loaded with the wittiest, smooth flowing dialogue from fully-developed characters who fascinated me. Karma is such a sassy character and Jake is jovial, possessing enigmatic qualities. The plot is inventive, intense at times, reflective, and extremely entertaining.

It's not easy to foresee what's coming next since R.J. Blaine makes the most intricate twists. I like her steady, well-balanced writing style and suspect Karma's personality has to be similar to hers, especially the dialogue. I am now a fan of R.J. Blaine and intend to read Book Two in Balancing the Scales series.

Noodle TheNaughtyNightOwl says

2/10: Managed half the book, tempted to read more but just couldn't get there.

Gail says

Wonderful

Loved the book, but not sure why the shifting thing was put in. Not that it's not good, it is. Just seems to be added as an afterthought. Loved the characters. Karma has such a good sense of humor and sarcasm. And Jake is the perfect partner for her.

Dr susan says

I have been in a reviewing slump, which is sad because I have read some amazing books, and Karma is one of them. I am a huge fan of Blain's books; they are all on my favorites shelf, and many of them are on my books-to-read-when-I-feel-bad shelf. I have reread most of them as soon as I finish the first time. Karma is set in the Witch & Wolf world, but prior knowledge is not necessary to read this book, since Karma has no knowledge of the supernatural aspects of her world. Karma is a great character, a dedicated FBI agent with an attitude and a plan for her life. But everything changes when she finds herself in the middle of a kidnapping...as a victim. The characters are engaging, the action is thrilling, the touch of romance is nicely done, and I can't wait for book #2.

J M says

She's a bit psychotic and she can't swim.... you'll want to read this.

Good story, lots of backstory revealed and leaves you wanting more. I'm enjoying RJ Blain story writing style and while her Royal States is my favorite series, I'm looking forward to reading more in this one,

Kelly says

Plot twist-not in a good way

I was really enjoying this book until about 75% in, then suddenly Blain's Feneric world makes an appearance. It distorted the plot and the characters. I don't know if there was no idea of how to solve the mystery or if the intent for the book changed, but there is no warning, foreshadowing, or other lead-up in the first three-quarters of the book. It really feels like there was never a viable outline and this mashup was the result. I've read other works by the same author and enjoyed the over-the-top storytelling, but this one just doesn't ring true. Too many holes and inconsistencies.

Josephine says

Not a big fan of the pseudo-cliffhanger ending; I prefer having everything tied up at the end of a book since it's just not a satisfying read when it feels like you didn't get the full story.

Kerliza Foon says

RJ Blain's Karma will have you on the edge of your seat in this witty suspense novel. Karma is a twenty-nine-year-old woman who is often mistaken for a teenager. Ever since she was small, she had wanted to work in CARD, Child Abduction Rapid Deployment, and help rescue children for the FBI. Her dreams are finally coming true when she is dragged into a hostage situation, holding an infant. Her survival depends on her ability to fool her captors that she is a teenager and prove useful. Hopefully the FBI will figure who she is and come to her aid sooner rather than later. And just maybe, they'll bring along a sure fire way to get her back if former partner Jake Thomas has anything to say about it.

Whoa, boy, did this book put a smile on my face and keep it there until the end of the book. RJ Blain has written a fantastically witty suspense novel that kept me excited and hungry for more. I cannot wait for the next book in the series. Karma reminds me a bit of J.D. Robb's Eve Dallas with her strong, independent personality. Karma kicks ass and is not afraid to speak her mind. While suffering many setbacks in her career before advancing, Karma lets nothing stand in her way. While this is not a fast paced novel, RJ Blain creatively weaves the story to show that every detail has meaning and, while it may not be clear or glaringly obvious, it all comes together and it keeps you interested.

Sue G says

Fun and page turning

RJ Blain had me turning the pages until the very end. Her portrayal of Karma was witty, fun and an odd mix of "Did she really do that? YES!". Made me wait so long until she revealed that yes, it is an urban fantasy. RJ Blain is truly a sadist, but I enjoyed every minute of it.

Pilar Seacord says

Action starts from the beginning when Karma, an FBI agent is kidnapped along with an infant. The perpetrators thought Karma was a teenager. Taken to a hideout with no way of knowing where she is going she stays alert. While the other kidnapers are sleeping Karma asks one for coffee, when he turns his back she gives him a couple of kickboxing moves, takes his phone, somethings for the baby as well as the baby and leaves into the forrest. The phone is locked but she is able to use the emergency number. After a while a wolf appears. Just looks at her. Right after that her former partner appears and gets her and the baby. She mentions the wolf and he says it was a huge dog sent to sniff her out. Somehow she doesn't believe him. There is a lot of fun banter between these two characters and lots of adventures. Jake her former partner introduces her to his parents who are high up in another organization. Lots more fun with them involved. A fun adventurous story.

Cecilia says

It was really good for about half of the book, then it got bizarre. It let too many loose ends.

Esther says

I'm terribly disappointed in this book. The first part of it was great - I generally don't buy books on Amazon before reading them first on KU or the library, but the opening was so well-done that I figured, how bad can it be?

Well, I'm regretful, because I DNF at around 90%. When the climax of the book can't hold you, it's bad.

The plot is really haphazard. In that initial strong opening, we are introduced to Karma, level-headed and cool FBI person. Neat! But as the book goes on, she gets less and less level-headed and more and more off-the-wall, until after a point I just wasn't following what was going on anymore because her narrations and decisions were so hard to keep up with. It was like the book had devolved into a piece of abstract art; there are random kidnapping cases shots are fired parents random banter with side characters a bunch of plot points that aren't really wrapped up what just happened?!

Which leads me into the next point. I can't believe I'm saying this, but there is actually too much witty repartee in this book. I love witty repartee. I buy books with cliché stories just because they have witty repartee. But here, it's just too much. Karma loudly snarks off to everybody, and everybody loudly snarks

back, and you eventually wonder if they're really all just hamming it up for you, the audience. Not a lot of people in the second half of the book actually act like professional adults.

I found another of Blain's books in a library, so I'll try that one as well. Maybe Karma is just a book that isn't to my taste. I don't think I would have bought a second after this one, though.
