



Ms. Demeanor

Danica Winters

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Ms. Demeanor Details

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From Reader Review Ms. Demeanor for online ebook

Lynn Brooks says

Christmas comes to Mystery, Montana! When bad boy Rainier returns home, it seems trouble is brewing before he even gets to say hello to everyone! With the last brother's story, we get a few answers uncovered in the ongoing mysteries of Dunrovin Ranch. This family has been a pleasure to read about and get to know.

Rancher Rainier Fitzgerald just wants to live in peace and enjoy his freedom when he returns to his family ranch, but his pleasure is short lived when he stumbles upon the remains of a dead body on the ranch on his first day back! With an investigation kicking off on top of the rest of the trouble that has been happening while he's been away, he isn't looking forward to losing that bad reputation any time soon.

Laura Blade knows Rainier is the last man she should be attracted to, but she can't seem to resist the rugged rancher. Will Christmas bring her a man in her stocking ... or will the secrets they uncover make it impossible for her to be with him at all?

Angel says

Love this series, it can be read as a standalone but makes more sense if read in order because then you know the stories of the secondary characters. Rainier's story is full of inst love and lots of suspense.

Rainier is fresh home from a prison stay and has the hots for his parole officer. The ranch has more problems and the bad guy is closing in. What will happen, will Rainier get his happy ending or?

I was given an advance copy for an honest review.

Amber Daulton says

In the fourth Mystery Christmas book, parole officer Laura Blade goes to pick up her newest recently released parolee from prison as a favor for her deputy friend, Wyatt. The parolee also happens to be Wyatt's younger brother. When she meets Rainier, she never expected to actually like the man or fall into his family's trouble.

After three years in prison for assault, Rainier Fitzgerald is finally free, but he's worried about returning home. He's always been the black sheep in the family, and he's especially at odds with his policeman brother. Though most of his family welcomes him home, Laura seems to be the only person who understands him. But when Rainier accidentally finds a gun and a dead body on the ranch hours after he's released from prison, his dreams and hopes for the future threaten to unravel all around him.

I love redemption stories about bad boys with a temper who learn from their mistakes. He's by far my favorite of the four brothers. Rainier and Laura instantly clicked and romance bloomed quickly between them despite her job and his ex-con status. This book also wrapped up the overall series arc dealing with William Poe. It was great to see all the couples and the family back together at the end of the book.

Though I liked the story a lot, I don't understand why it was such a horrible thing that Rainier found the body and gun. It's not like he's guilty of murder, but Laura threatened to throw him back in prison just for finding it. That just didn't make sense to me.

Anyway, I really enjoyed this series. Though all the books are standalones, it's best to read them in order to understand the overall story arcs. I definitely recommend them.

5 Stars

Disclaimer – I volunteered to read and review this book. Thank you, Danica Winters for sending me a print copy. I am not paid or compensated in any way, shape, or form for this review. I will not change or alter this review for any reason unless at my discretion.

Marissa says

Kindle Copy for Review

He was a bad boy even spending time in jail.

She was his parole officer.

But first meetings are sometimes are the most important.

Returning home after serving his time in jail, Rainier Fitzgerald soon finds himself in trouble when he finds a gun on his adoptive parent's ranch. The gun leads to a dead body on the ranch while leads to more family trouble.

Along the way, the two of them find themselves falling for each other despite knowing they should stay away. It is Christmas season in Mystery, Montana with the Fitzgerald clan.

Another intriguing read in the series.

John says

Ms. Demeanor 4.5/5 Stars!

This was an excellent wrap up to the Mystery Christmas series! While I wasn't that big of a fan of the romance between Laura and Rainier, I loved how the author wrapped the over all storyline of the series up. Going into this one, you knew the big bad and the whole nine yards. But it still kept you on the edge of your seat.

The Mystery Christmas series was my first ever Danica Winters books, and I'm happy to say that I'll be reading more books from her in the future! I have one or two more that I just got in the mail, and I'm looking forward to reading them in the near future!

Sarah says

This continues to be a great series, and I hope there are more books to come. This was an unlikely romance between Rainier who had just been released from jail and his parole officer. This also had a mystery running

through the book.

Books and Spoons says

This series, Mystery Christmas, has won me over from the book one. The dark and tense atmosphere at the ranch with the drama and trouble surrounding it is a great setting for the riveting series. The complex yet charming characters, the pained past of the adopted brothers, the odd and peculiar attacks and crimes against them - it all makes fascinating entertainment that kept me on the edge.

Ms. Demeanor is a story that can be read as a standalone novel yet having the information and being on the knowledge of the events from the previous stories in the series will give more foundation for the crimes and characters of this story.

The connection between Laura Blade and Rainier Fitzgerald is so natural that it does not surprise me that they bonded immediately, with sparks flying, and ready to swoon from the first accidental touch. Laura was part of the Fitzgerald family as soon as she arrived at the ranch, there was nothing awkward about it or pretentious, they embraced her like she belonged, accepting her as she is.

Rainier is the charmer of the brothers, his smile lights up the room, he is the sunshine for his adopted mother. But there is more to his story than that, of course. He is an ex-convict, on a parole with Laura as his parole officer. Rainier has a good, kind heart. He is protective and fierce, he has no ill intentions but he does fight for justice and what is right. He has humbleness and honesty that I admired, the reasons for his imprisonment understandable as the full story is disclosed.

Rainier's feelings, the instant attraction towards Laura, had a touch of sweetness and bundle of sincerity. Yes, it all developed fast, but it was believable, it was tangible, and it was adorable. But inappropriate? Umm... A bit of a tabu, even a problem when it came to Rainier breaking the law again...

Laura was a hoot. Her love for everything Christmas had me giggling. She might have chosen a career her powerful father pushed her into, she might be the black sheep of her family, but she was capable, tough, and firm when needed. Her heart is bigger than Montana sky, her kindness, consideration towards others, her generous spirit made it so easy for Rainier to fall for her, it was no wonder it took only one look.

It's not only that the ranch seems to be in financial trouble, the skeleton of an old murder victim is found on the property, and the problems Mr. Poe is causing to the Fitzgeralds are escalating, there is tension in the family because of Rainier's homecoming, and it all ignite into an explosive and intense Christmas Eve week. If you are looking for an enthralling and compelling romantic suspense series with the rough and tough Montana cowboys who fight for justice and protect their own, Mystery Christmas miniseries will provide you just that with the addition of tight family bonds, steaming romance, and intense scenes with horrid crimes. An arresting and alluring conclusion to the fantastic series!

~ Four Spoons with a teaspoon on the side

Kathy Wideman says

This is the forth book in this series and they need to be read in order. Rainier Fitzgerald has been released from prison on parole. He is picked up by his parole officer Laura. Rainier is happy to be out of jail but he is not sure how he will be received at home. He is given all the rules he must follow by Laura on his way home to the ranch. However he isn't home for very long before he finds himself in trouble. Or at least what looks like trouble. He finds a buried body and gun while helping dig up pipes that need to be replaced. The last thing the ranch needs is more trouble. With all the has been happening at the ranch they are in trouble financially. Laura is willing to help him find out what has really happened and who is responsible. The more time Laura and Rainier spend together the closer they become. But how can they have anything romantic together while she is his parole officer? I can't get enough of these characters and I hope this isn't the last

book in this series. This series is such a great read. It has romance, danger, mystery, and more. I highly recommend this book and series. I look forward to reading more books by Danica in the future.

Laura Reading says

Reading this series from the beginning, I grew attached to the Fitzgerald family. Their values are strong and family loyalty is high. When son Rainier is sentenced to time in prison it takes a toll on everyone. As this book opens it is nearing Christmas and Rainier is coming home. What should be a joyous event is overshadowed by tension from many directions. What this family does not need is to discover a body on the property, especially with Rainier's parole officer present.

Laura Blade has her own troubles. Her relationship with her father is strained. When further troubles pile on to the Fitzgerald family, Laura knows her father is the only one who can help, but will he? For reasons she can't understand she is drawn to her client and puts her reputation on the line to help him and his family. She doesn't realize she may be risking her life.

Old secrets play a major role in the story. Can the end justify actions? At times the story is very dark, the decisions made questionable. Will this be the end for Dunrovin?

Can Rainier have a happy future as his brothers have found? You won't know until the very end.

Linda McMullin says

Totally forgot I read the first one in this series. It's not that it's horrible, I just think there are much better series out there if you are into this kind of stuff like Kat Martin's series for example.

Jennifer says

Rainier Fitzgerald has spent the last 3+ years in prison for punching his biological father, and he is finally being released from prison. He is expecting his brother Wyatt to pick him up, however he is surprised when Laura Blade appears instead, and she turns out to be his parole agent. Of course there is an instant attraction between them, but it is almost immediately strained when shortly after she returns him to Dunrovin, he finds a bone and a gun buried in the pasture. When Wyatt shows up to investigate, the tension between the brothers is apparent.

Laura is sympathetic to his plight, though concerned that Rainier is going to do something that will end up with him behind bars again. To add to this trouble, William Poe is back and causing more trouble. He knows that the ranch is in trouble financially, and that back taxes are owed or the property will go up for auction. Needless to say, this looks like it will be a bad Christmas for the Fitzgeralds, and you can't help but root for them to overcome the difficulties...and stick one to him, because you really grow to dislike him over the related books.

I think Rainier and Laura's relationship has become my favorite of the four, just because he has had to overcome so much and dang it, he deserves his HEA! Though, Colter does win the 'best comment' once again:

"Holy crap, I think I just felt my man card rip itself from my wallet."

Though there was one slight change in this book; Wyatt didn't walk in on Rainier and Laura...but Merle (good dad) did!! At least it wasn't quite as embarrassing, but I did get a chuckle out of the situation. This was a difficult book for him though, so the levity was needed.

All in all, I'd have to say the 3rd and 4th books are tied for my favorites. Colter has the humor and Rainier has the angst, but I highly recommend all the books for romantic suspense fans! (And cross your fingers that there may be more in the future!)

ARC provided for review.

Peggy Clayton says

I went heads over tails for this book. If you read any of my reviews from Danica's previous books I love the way she writes. Her characters, storyline, time the book is set and many more things. I know that when I pick up one of her books it is a winner and I will be happy. Danica hit a grand slam with this book!

Kym Grime says

I found Ms. Demeanor, Danica Winters' fourth book in the Harlequin Intrigue Mystery Christmas series, the most fun to read so far in the series, capturing my interest from the first page and never losing it. It launches right into hot bad boy Ranier, one of the Fitzgerald brothers, and the tantalizing, sassy and sophisticated Laura Blade whose cool attitude may not be enough to douse the spark that ignites between them immediately. She has sworn off relationships, and has a professional duty to help keep him out of trouble, so she resolves to keep things purely professional, which proves challenging to say the least.

Laura's inner monologue, when offered home baked goods from Eloise, of worrying about the extra pounds she was sure to pack on her hips around the holidays, might as well have been my own, and seeing her work up the courage to approach her unapproachable, controlling father, when she knew he was the only chance the Fitzgerald's had at saving the Dunrovin Ranch, as well as Ranier's vulnerability when sharing about his rough upbringing, really brought the characters to life and created an emotional connection for the reader.

The Fitzgerald's fourth adopted son, Ranier, is released from prison right before Christmas and meets his parole officer, who hopes to keep him out of trouble. Of course, Ranier finds trouble before the day is done landing him back in front of the deputies, and with the possibility of a parole violation that would land him right back in jail. As Christmas approaches, the Fitzgeralds' continue to be terrorized by the bullying of William Poe, the threat of losing their ranch continues to plague them, and a mysterious dead body is uncovered that could put Ranier back in jail. There was great suspense built up and sustained throughout the book, and it was filled with lots of romantic tension, making it another great read by Ms. Winters.

Susan says

Good conclusion to the series. In this book, we finally get to meet Ranier, the brother who has been "away." As it happens, he has been in prison for assaulting his biological father. The story opens as he is released, expecting that one of his brothers will pick him up. Instead, he is met by Laura, his parole officer, who is picking him up as a favor to his brother Wyatt. There are sparks between the two from the beginning, but a

relationship between an ex-con and his parole officer?

Laura seems pretty uptight at the beginning. She hammers at him about all the rules he has to follow without appearing to care much about his feelings about going home. Meanwhile, Rainier is unsure about what his reception will be when he arrives back at Dunrovin. I ached for him because he had missed his family so badly. I was so happy to see his mom's and Colter's joy at his return, and his father's matter-of-fact, put Rainier to work attitude. But Rainier hadn't been home an hour when trouble found him, as he unearthed a gun and a human bone while helping his dad. What I didn't understand was how Laura immediately found that to be cause to send him back to prison. It wasn't like he had pulled a gun and shot someone. I was glad to see her back off since I thought she had overreacted. However, the incident did bring Rainier's lawman brother to the ranch and showcased the tension between the two men. I lost a little respect for Wyatt here because of his negative attitude.

While all this was going on, there was also a surprise visit from neighbor and nemesis William Poe. He shows up just to deliver a "misdelivered" tax bill from the county, showing that the Fitzgeralds owe thousands in back taxes on their ranch, with only a few days to come up with the money. The family is devastated at the thought of losing their home and livelihood. Laura is a bit suspicious and offers to ask her father, a high-priced attorney, to look into the matter. Laura has a stressful relationship with her father, who doesn't approve of her work, but she believes that he will do the right thing.

Meanwhile, the sparks and connection between Rainier and Laura continue to grow. Neither of them could deny what was between them. For people who seemed to be so different on the outside, there was quite a bit that they had in common. Both of them are protective, looking out/standing up for people who need help. Each finds the other incredibly attractive and want to believe the best of each other. I loved seeing them work together to discover the truth behind the taxes and the dead body. The more time they spent together, the closer they got. I especially enjoyed the way that the whole family made Laura feel welcome, even teasing her about her Christmas addiction. I liked how they came together at the end, realizing that their love and being true to themselves was more important than anything else.

The suspense of the story was very good, wrapping up the story arc that had carried through the series. From the beginning, we know that William Poe has it in for the Fitzgeralds, though we don't know why until the end of this book. There is definitely the sense that he has used underhanded methods to cause problems for the family, an idea borne out by the investigation conducted by Laura's father. The identity of the body on the ranch property comes as a huge shock, as does why it is there. The final confrontation with Poe is intense and answers a lot of questions that have come up during the books. The resolution was a relief to everyone.
