



Remix

Lexi Revellian

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Ric Kealey is the charismatic lead singer of uber-successful band, The Voices in my Head - and he died three years ago. Caz Tallis restores rocking horses in her London studio. When Ric turns up, shabby and alive, on Caz's roof terrace, she is reluctantly drawn into investigating the murder that led him to fake his own death. A feel good page turner; contemporary fiction with elements of murder mystery and romance, and a satisfying ending.

Remix Details

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Author : Lexi Revellian

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From Reader Review Remix for online ebook

Angela says

Remix by Lexi Revellianis a book which covers several genres. When I started to read, it felt almost like chick lit, but developed into a mystery with romance thrown in for good measure. The main female character, Caz, is a likeable young woman, who restores and makes rocking horses. In fairly improbable circumstances, she meets Ric Kealey, one time member of a rock band. She becomes embroiled in his attempts to clear his name of a murder that he claims he did not commit. The story moves on quickly and the author introduces us to some interesting characters along the way, all of whom have an important part to play in the unravelling of the mystery surrounding Ric.

Remix is an easy to read, fast paced read. The more I've thought about it, the more I realize how well crafted it is. The author writes in a seemingly effortless style, with characters and plot lines which keep the pages turning.

I would certainly recommend this to anyone who wants a light, well written and entertaining read!

?Sinful says

At 0.99 cents this is a MAJOR bargain. Awesome read-

One of the best mysteries I've read this year.

This is a total five star mystery that had me reminiscing about Sookie Stackhouse's early days. It was paced right with interesting characters and a believable set up. As a romance I had to give it four stars. I wish I had been asked to review it as a mystery. That's the gold in this story.

Cazz Tallis woke up to find a stranger sleeping on her chaise lounge outside. The stranger happened to be Ric Kealey, a supposedly dead rock star wanted for murder. The two form a friendship and work to discover who the real murderer is so that Ric can move on with his life. Oh yeah. And there is a dog. He is named, well, Dog.

Remix is told in the first person from Caz's point of view much like the ever popular Urban Fantasy genre. It isn't always the easiest POV to use, but Ms Revellian makes it work to her advantage by allowing the mystery to unfold as characters open up to Caz and she learns more. The tone of the book is more along the lines of Chick-lit; fun and light spirited with family, love and friendship playing a key role in the tale.

My only challenge with the book was the lack of details. Specifically, I want sex details in my romance. It slays me to read, "and we headed to the bed room" turn the page and that is the end of the chapter. I want specifics. Give me the deets between the sheets. Kisses shouldn't just be blistering. I want to know why they were blistering. Tell me. Make me blush. If I take the time to crawl into the character's skin, I want to be able to enjoy it.

It is a great book and I can see Caz starring in her own series. She's just that likable, and plenty of ground

work has been laid for the future. So girls, if you need something a little different; a mix between Stephanie Plum and Sookie Stackhouse, this is one I jump up and down to recommend. Enjoy!

Kell says

It's not often that I get so firmly grabbed by a book right from the very beginning, but that's exactly what happened when I picked up *Remix*. Of course, it helps that the lightness of style makes it absurdly easy to read and before you know it you're half way through and refusing to put it down!

The characters are all great, especially Caz Tallis, who feels particularly real and I found myself believing in the ex-teacher who restores and makes rocking horses for a living. There's a little bit of stereotyping with Ric, but it works because of the kind of person he is, what he goes through, and how he comes out the other side.

The use of real locations helps ground the whole plot in reality and the lines between their fact and the characters' fiction is so successfully blurred that the reader is carried along with Caz on a fun and exciting adventure. The mystery also keeps you guessing right up to the tipping point, which is, in my experience, unusual for a lighthearted mystery of this kind which, on occasion, verges on the cosy before sharpening its edges.

This is Revellian's third novel, but her first non-fantasy, and I'm pleased to see from her website that there's a sequel coming (*Rewind*), and I will definitely want to get my hands on it!

K.J. Kron says

If you're looking for a fun book and to escape life for awhile, I strongly recommend this one. Cass, a person who makes rocking horses, finds herself in the middle of a murder mystery. She trusts her gut and at times proves herself to be quite strong as she stands up to Phil. The characters for the most part are round and there are a few twists to keep your interest. I loved it and found myself enjoying more than a Janet Evonovich novel - but that's probably because I've read about 13 of the Stephanie Plum books and need something new. If you like Stephanie Plum or murder mysteries, then I'd recommend this one.

Jaidis Shaw says

Remix by Lexi Revellian is a pleasant read filled with mystery and romance. We meet the lead female in the story, Caz, who is somewhat surprised when she finds a rock star sleeping on her property. Normally this wouldn't be something to write about, but we soon realize that the rock star happens to be wanted for murder and fakes his own death to avoid going to prison. Caz soon finds herself in the midst of several twists as she helps Ric the rock star try to discover the truth and prove his innocence. The romance in *Remix* is very clean and suitable for younger audiences as there aren't many explicit details in the book. I love the writing style of Ms. Revellian and look forward to reading more of her work.

Book Binge says

This is a novel that is an "import" from the UK and which has been on their best-seller list for some time. It is really a composite novel--a murder mystery as well as a romance novel. It is filled with colorful characters that give this novel a wonderful liveliness and which keep the reader interested from start to finish.

Rock band, especially the highly popular ones, have made a significant impact on contemporary culture. Their lives and activities take up whole sections of even legitimate publications and nearly everything, no matter how seemingly insignificant, make headlines. So it was with the band The Voices in My Head whose founder and lead singer and main music composer is accused of murdering his best friend, Ric Kealey's childhood friend who now played bass in the band. Found dead with a knife in his chest, and with Ric's fingerprints all over the knife, the police were convinced of Ric's guilt. Facing the end of his career, the end of the band, and years in prison, Ric Kealey "died" with the help of his brother-in-law and band manager, Phil. Now, three years later, Rick is back, found sleeping on Caz Tallis' terrace sofa, along with his mangey dog. He tells Caz his name is Joe and he bums a ride to the home of his manager, demanding his fortune which has curiously disappeared from the Swiss account where it was supposedly accruing interest.

Caz ultimately finds out Joe's true identity and through an interesting set of circumstances, Ric becomes her boarder. Reluctantly, Caz agrees to help Ric investigate his friend's murder. Claiming to be a reporter, Caz interviews the remaining band members, Phil the manager, and the murdered man's girlfriend. What a mess, but then, murder is always messy. Caz and Ric become emotionally and sexually involved and the relationship with Phil deteriorates. There are lots of twists and turns here, surprises as the personalities and nuances of past involvements come to light. Several of Caz's friends get involved and become quite important to the progress of the story. All in all, it is a convoluted tale that sort of makes sense all along the way and which is just a darn good mystery story. That it also becomes a romance is fine as well.

I really enjoyed this novel a great deal because it was a story into which I could sink my teeth, which kept my interest, which constantly tempted me to read the last few pages, and which also kept me wondering how Caz and Ric would ultimately come out. I do think that for American readers there are a goodly number of British terms--references to specific items that are just named differently than in the American language--that might make some difference for U. S. readers. That being said, I don't think anyone will find that detracting significantly from the story. Just an observation . . .

I am delighted to have an opportunity to become acquainted with this author's work. I believe she has two other novels that I am looking forward to reading. I think anyone who likes the mix of mystery and romance will find this novel a very satisfying reading experience.

I give this novel a rating of 4.25 out of 5.

This review was originally posted on Book Binge by Judith.

Julie says

Remix is a nice contemporary/suspense/romance that although has a touch of the improbable is still an enjoying read. For those that like romance with steamy scenes, this book is not for you. There is attraction, but the intimate details are implied. For those that like a good "who-dun-it", this book may appeal to you as

the main male character, Ric, is accused of murder. The whole purpose is to find out who really killed Bryan Orr, a member of the rock band Ric use to be the lead singer for.

What I Liked: The writer can tell a story. It was easy to picture myself in the environment and I would love to live in Caz's apartment (flat.) I'm not exactly sure how, but I found myself wanting to know how things would play out between Caz and Ric and who really killed Bryan Orr. Before I knew it, I it was like stepping into someone else's eyes. The thrill of meeting a gorgeous stranger and helping to solve a murder is intriguing, although highly improbable. I liked "Dog", he was a nice touch to have around. I liked Ric's character and thought he had a dry humor, especially when talking to Dog. I love the cover! Everything in it has some sort of connection to things in the book.

What I Didn't Like: The suspense went on too long toward the end. You think you are at the climax and then one event after another happens to make the climax go on too long for me. I found myself skimming over what should be intense action scenes to get to the conclusion. The probability of how the main characters meet and how they immediately form some sort of alliance with Caz letting Ric basically live with her out of nowhere, is odd to me, but this is fiction. The ending is tied up well, but I'm left feeling a bit incomplete on the relationship part. I wanted to know more from Ric's point of view or some sort of discussion with Caz and Ric of where things will go or how things are with them, not just what will be will be from Caz.

Overall: I liked this book. Fans of suspense with relationships that don't go into detailed sex scenes, this is a book you may want to try.

Cleo Bannister says

Yes I bought this book for my kindle because it had good reviews and was a bargain and was surprised at how good it is.

I really liked the alternative crime where a restorer of rocking horses finds a strange man sleeping on the sofa of her roof garden.

This book has everything, an old mystery, romance and the ongoing details of restoring rocking horses adds a lovely extra dimension to the story. This book isn't particularly long but it is perfectly formed. Even though the likelihood of the story ever being reflected in real life it is written so well that it didn't jar (as some books do)

There are references to bygone crime stories and Dick Francis books which were the first type of "adult" books I read, I'm a sucker for nostalgia.

Good enough for me to be on the lookout for Lexi Revellian's next book which will be on my wishlist even if it is priced at it's worth.

Meg says

This has been on my TBR for years and it was about time I got to it. What a surprise it turned out to be!

This was an easy and quick borderline cozy set in London. Loved the mc's occupation, which is restoring old/antique rocking horses. Her flat, which she had renovated, sounds very cool. Fun characters who aren't perfect, but then who is? Slimy 'bad guys', real rotters.

There were a handful of words or expressions I didn't recognize, but I love that kind of stuff as it's a fun learning experience. And so easy to look them up on the Kindle.

I'm going to have to check if there was a sequel.

Rane says

Ahh, such a refreshing read! It was breezy and a true page turner with the reader guessing whodunit, and for the asking price of .99 it was money well spent and more!

Caz Tallis runs her own shop restoring old rocking horses, her life is pretty normal, working and hanging out with her BF, until one morning she stumbles onto a man and his shaggy dog sleeping on her lounge outside. Thinking he's just a poor soul passing through she doesn't give him much thought, until he reappears again on her doorstep, and she figures out he's not just anyone, but a rock star Ric Kesley whom was suppose to be dead for three years. Chaz is pulled into a unsolved murder case with Ric trying to find out whom the real killer or could it be the Ric whom Chaz is starting to fall for.

I'm not a mystery reader, Oh, I adore the classics- Sherlock, Agatha Christie and the occasional Murder, She Wrote eps. Perhaps, this is why I enjoyed this book so much. Everyone was pretty normal. No crazy ass chainsaw killers, nothing over the top. Much of the feel of the book was like anyone could be Chaz, pushed into trying to solve a case. Chaz is just a normal woman, whom uses the smarts she was given into trying to work out who may be the real killer is. She's not superwoman and in the end doesn't save the day with some daring move, and I felt that's what really made this book shine. Told in Chaz POV, you get only into her head and see people from her POV, from Ric to his old bandmates and manager who at times range from nice, to down right crazed. You see the effects it has on Chaz whose thrust into the glittering world of rock bands and their troubled lives. I really loved also how the author added the art-wise side of restoring rocking chairs, this was a great touch as C'az moves between her work and the case...

There is a bit of romance between Chaz and Ric, whom grow from strangers to partners and then lovers. Ric at times uses his charm way too much to get his way, and Chaz and we the reader learns to trust him. There are times where I like to punch Ric for keeping his cards too close to his chest then letting Chaz in on more. I felt at first he didn't trust her, and used her to get the information for him later he truly cared and wanted to protect her. I never really connected to Ric perhaps because he was a little too charming, and never let his feelings show only one time, and in the end your left wondering would it last between him and Chaz?

This of course lead to me go with my gut instincts on trust. Chaz was a tad too trusting in some aspects, would I had done the same thing? Maybe. Or perhaps because the clues weren't all there, Chaz went with her gut and sometimes ended up right and ended up wrong. This was true in real life with leads that may lead you to a dead end or the right path.

The mystery did keep me guessing, until perhaps the halfway mark when I started to figure out who really dunit. Perhaps all those years of Sherlock paid off!

While this story is from the U.K some readers may have trouble with some brit slang and language. This never slowed me down as I watch tons of BBC and read a lot from the UK. But fair warning to those...

And enjoyable and breeze afternoon read, that left me happy (that I guessed right whom the killer was!!) and

pleasant. I'll be on the lookout from more from this author!

tfc Parks says

The story was great, the pacing fantastic, the oh-so friendly voice- enticing, the characters- superb. I'm glad I started the book as early in the day as I did, otherwise, it would have me up reading all night.

My only hesitation going in was the prospect of reading about the main character's rocking horse restoration career. Within the first scene where Caz talks about her passion for her chosen path, I was fascinated, and felt her enthusiasm and pride for art.

I haven't read a mystery since my Agatha Christi days (maybe a couple of Grisham novels) but after reading Remix, I've decided I may have to return to old habits for a while. I'd forgotten how exciting it is to follow along and try to deduce 'who done it.' Lexi Revellian pulled me in right away and didn't let me go until I read the last line, and I'm still not sure I'm free. (I may have to go back and find my favorite parts after a much needed eye break.)

Lexi Revellian started me on a mission after reading her blog a little over a month ago. Since then I have worked like a slave to complete that mission. Today, as a reward, I finally purchased the catalyst for said mission and spent the day reading it. Not many rewards are so satisfying. Well done!

Sunne says

I've read a book with a female MC!!!! And it was good!!!

Okay, astonishment expressed - when I started reading it I didn't know that it was f/m, it took me about some time to realize that Caz is a woman. (Yes, I downloaded it for free, probably for my hubby, a while ago and just thought...uh, well, let's read this one).

So color me stunned when the first mentioning of "woman" was made.

On the other hand, the fact that I didn't realize it while reading made me like the book even more, Caz is not the typical heroine. She sounds like the real deal, a real woman....like you and me...well, not exactly because not everybody is restoring rocking horses but she still sounds real.

Add Ric, the former rockstar, charged with murder, believed to be dead and his charming mutt.

And now we have to solve the mystery. Who is the real murder? I had my suspicions, which turned out to be partially wrong and right but the way we get there is funny, convoluted and actually believable. There are even moments when I thought "Wow, finally someone who thinks at least a bit ahead." That still not everything worked the way Ric and Caz planned it makes it even better. And the end in it's normality worked very well.

It is a light mystery, it's an easy read and it's entertaining.

Vulpecula Borealis says

I wasn't expecting much from this book after having bought the 49 pence ebook for my kindle. Only a few page clicks in I began to realise that prices can be deceptive. The price of this book is actually a very smart marketing ploy by the author to get her work read, so people will realise she is a more than decent author and will look out for more of her books. I've already googled the author's blog, her page on good reads, and read about her other works. I guess the marketing ploy is working :-) This is a testament to the quality of the writing, as I have read some awful cheap kindle books which would actually make me avoid the author, rather than buy their other books as intended - not so smart marketing in their case. This book however is worth far more than its kindle price tag - I would recommend the print version as its more sensible price.

This is a well written book, narrated in the first person from the point of view of Caz Tallis, who of all things restores rocking horses for a living. The narrative voice is both interesting and humorous, which keeps you turning those pages. The characters are pretty well formed - even the dog (imaginatively named Dog, which tells you a lot about its owner) has his own personality.

The book is pretty well researched. References are made to how rocking horses are restored, which is not the main focus of the story. These references are made interesting and relevant - even though I previously had no real interest in the subject. Part of the book is set in Berkshire, where I used to live. References to the setting showed a more than passing (and slightly humorous) knowledge of the area, hardly surprising since the author lives close by. I can well believe that if a Harley was left, keys in ignition, unattended in rural Berkshire near Cookham, the police are likely to get their hands on it before it gets stolen - but quite the reverse if it was left in Slough. An awful stereotype yes - but believable and humorous also. Slough does get a bad press doesn't it?

I think the clincher for me was the way Caz Tallis told the story - the first person narrative voice. The idea of finding a supposedly dead rock star on your roof terrace, and getting roped into clearing his name from a murder charge seemed a little cheesy and unlikely (after all you'd call the police wouldn't you?) The way Caz Tallis narrates the story you can understand why she acts in the way that she does (in more than one place her actions are questionable and seemingly unwise). Caz is quite a feisty and impulsive character and certainly makes the book worth reading, and far less cheesy than it sounds. She adds interest and humor. I liked her, and the book, a lot. Well done the author for writing such a good narrative voice.

Stephen Gallup says

It's a treat to read an entertaining book and know the author must have had as much fun writing it as you're having as the consumer. That was my impression with *Remix*.

Caz, the narrator in this offbeat whodunnit, wanders out onto the balcony of her London flat early one morning to find a strange man sleeping there. Naturally, she's indignant and orders him to leave, which he's prepared to do--but before going he dials up his not-insignificant charm. Before she fully grasps what has happened, she has let him freshen up in her lavatory and grab a bite at her breakfast table. But then he does

go.

And shortly thereafter she realizes who this guy was: a world-famous rock star, who everyone believes to have died while awaiting trial for the murder of another guy in his band.

And before long he turns up again.

And things just become more and more involved.

I will concede a minor and brief misgiving with the basic setup. Not only is the guy a genuine heartthrob, but Caz herself is living a more-than-reasonably idyllic life. She has a very unique home atop a workshop in which she restores antique rocking horses. The unusual appeal of these two main characters, along with the rather bubbly way Caz talks directly to the reader, caused a voice in the back of my head to whisper *chick lit*. But I decided to ignore the voice, especially since Lexi Revellian is a wonderful story teller. (I already knew that, having read *Replica* last year.) And, while not a critical part of the story, Caz's wealth of arcane knowledge about rocking horses was something I liked and approved of. That sort of thing gives a character depth.

The climax is an absolute joy. I had to interrupt my 13-year-old daughter, who was trying to get through massive amounts of homework, to read a page aloud (the part where they've broken into Phil's house and take time out from the burglary to argue with each other in the dark). (She loved that as well.)

At several points I thought I could predict the way things were going to unfold. And I was always wrong. (I also approve of stories that defeat expectations.) But fearing a conclusion somewhat like that in *Replica*, I worried about the characters right up till the last page. This is great stuff!

Gaele says

Read my review at Amazon: <http://www.amazon.com/review/R1WEQZIG...> (print option)

Added 8 January 2015 - AudioBook Review

AudioBook Review:

Stars: Overall 4 Narration 4 Stars 4

I own a copy of this title that I purchased close to release: how could I not with a rock-star returning from the dead to infiltrate the life of a woman who restores rocking horses for a living? It was clever when I read it, and still holds up to the initial promise: full of the insecurities we all have but hide, an omnipresent friend that is hinting toward more than just friendship and a touch of mystery.

Caz is mostly a loner, she restores classic rocking horses in her new house / studio that is just how she likes it. Her budget is tight, and her own creations haven't taken off, but she is content in her friendship with James, even though there are flashes of him wanting more.

Finding a 'vagrant' named Joe on her outdoor patio, 3 floors up, she is necessarily spooked: but the man, Joe, seems familiar and not at all threatening. And he has a motley dog with him, utterly enchanted with his company.

From here, the true identity of Joe is revealed: the lead singer of a now-defunct rock band who disappeared and died after the murder of a colleague. Joe is really Ric, and he maintains his innocence to Caz, so convincing that she believes him and agrees to help unravel the mystery.

The story is fast-paced, with characters that are easy to understand and relate to. The integration of rocking horses and the restoration, and a simple but cleverly twisted mystery that introduces us to Ric's remaining band-mates and former manager / brother in law moves forward quickly without overly relying on tricks or flourishes to keep readers engaged.

Narration for this story is provided by Anne Day-Jones, and she manages to add twists in accent, delivery and pitch to delineate each character: from slightly northern-tinges to Hackney, posh private school and some hints of other regions, she manages to keep all of the characters straight and distinct without over-reaching. Touches of emotional overlay note frustration, anger, insecurities and even lust to bring a more solid image of the story to light.

I thoroughly enjoyed this story, an easy, fun, romp through London and the outlying counties with a touch of romance and a happy little mutt that seems to never be far away.

I received an AudioBook copy of the title from the publisher via AudioBook Jukebox for purpose of honest review. I was not compensated for this review: all conclusions are my own responsibility.
