



Under Wraps

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Sophie Lawson 32, human narrator, sees through magic veils, works for the Underworld Detective Agency below San Francisco Police HQ. Her boss Pete is a handsome werewolf - missing. Her roommate Nina is a fashionista vampire with teen nephew Vlad. Her new partner gorgeous detective Parker Hayes is not what he seems. A killer takes eyes, blood, hearts - is Sophie next?

Under Wraps Details

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Author : Hannah Jayne

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From Reader Review Under Wraps for online ebook

Kim says

With every new book you read, especially in the paranormal detective genre, you take it with a grain of salt. Some work out fabulously and some, not so much. This one fell in the not so much category. I'm not saying I HATED it, but I can't say I really liked it either. What most of the reviewers say is true. The front cover really has absolutely nothing to do with the book. It's almost like they took small fragments of the storyline to make up a model for the cover. The fact that the main hero is a total douche, is also very true.

I couldn't stand Parker/Alex. I completely and utterly thought that literally every girl was drooling over him. The characters actually made me cringe. Even the heroine (Sophie) was a total idiot with her sex fantasies and putting up with belittling comments. Sophie literally tripped her way through the whole book. Actually the story reminded me of a bad blonde joke, except Sophie happened to be a redhead. Know what I mean?

Unfortunately the author was also horrid at trying to insert comedy into the storyline. It often fell flat or either was just plain stupid. Needless to say it wasn't funny. I can't even remember smiling once.

The only thing that I liked about this book was Nina & Vlad.

I may pick up the next in the storyline if I have nothing else to read at the moment, but I'm not going to go out of my way to buy it.

Beatrice says

NO

No no no no

1star- x100

I was not even through 1 / 3, it sucked!

I saw the front page and thought "Ohh nice" and read the story and felt that it could probably have quite a lot of potential.

WRONG

All characters are disturbed, the main character had weird mood swings and "hero" is just annoying and all feels so flat and fake ...

no one has any good moves, exaggerated, annoying and bad personalities.

and the story?

It the most sucked... SO MUCH

All paranormal facts are just wrong, sure, the most authors have different facts, but these were just ridiculous. and you know how the author wants to be funny, but it's just painful

Poorly written

Why did they publish this book? WHY?!

Do not read it

perhaps looks good on the outside, but inside it is *poo* ...just don't read it ...

Kenya Wright says

GRANTED I barely got to 4% on my kindle.

-The author thinks she's funny but she is not.

-The main character was annoying.... Great advice to someone writing a book is that the first chapter should tell you what the entire book will be about. for example: murder mystery... the protagonist finds a dead body in first chapter. the first chap in this book said: This is about an annoying awkwardly hormone driven adult woman. You will be listening more to her dumb thoughts then learning about the world or plot.

ICK!

Grace Fonseca says

Don't let the cover fool you. This book was awesome. I loved the characters and the world building. Really like the twists and turns that this book took. I really didn't expect a lot of the turns that this book took.

What I liked about this book was that this book had a mystery in it. I'm a sucker for a good mystery. The mystery starts off like any other mystery would. Detective Parker Hayes comes to the UDA which is short for the Underworld Detective Agency, where our heroine Sophie Lawson works. Her boss is a werewolf, and her roommate is a vampire, so this is a world where there are a lot of supernatural beings exist which i find kind of cool and that the UDA is a lot like a police force.

Detective Parker Hayes comes to them because he wants to solve the crimes and Sophie offers to help. So begins their steamy chemistry. Sophie is instantly attracted to him, so she knows it's not magic affecting her. Sophie knows this because Magic doesn't affect her. The term for Sophie is magically immune to beings that would use all sorts of magic on her. I like how the author slowly builds their relationship.

Then there was the fact that we had a troll, yes there is a troll in the book named Steve. Then we had Nina's vampire Nephew, Louis who is now calling himself Vlad. Yes Vlad. I found Vlad and Steve to be extremely funny and full of surprises. Steve is trying to protect Sophie and I kind of at times found him to be a little stalkerish, but Steve says he is trying to protect her.

This book rocked in a lot of ways. There are more and more murders and then disappearances happening. People around Sophie and Nina begin to disappear like Sophie's boss, Sampson, (who happens to be a werewolf), The Manager of Dirt, the club that Nina goes to is found murdered.

What shocked me...***Spoiler Alert*** was the killer turned out to be the Police Cheif. I found that a surprising shock. The other thing that surprised me was that Parker Hayes, wasn't really Parker Hayes, but an Angel who was named Alex Grace. Angels, we have Angels, well a fallen one anyway.

I love how Steve at the very end, does kind of come to the rescue. I just enjoyed this book. The fight scenes were awesome. Love the mystery plot and how all the sub-plot's of the book come together.

Plus Louis aka Vlad, have some awesome one-liners in this book.

There was nothing wrong with this book. If in fact anything, this book made me want to read the rest of the series right now. Too bad, I have to wait till November to read the next one, Under Ground.

Grade: 5 Hearts

Felicia says

I have to review this on my shelves because THIS COVER IS SO MISLEADING I CANT EVEN STAND IT IM SO MAD!!!!

So, I do NOT like the really frothy romantic comedy-type chick-lit books, and that's why I feel like my rating does not represent this book well, but I feel like the publisher is being PAID TO SELL A BOOK to the CORRECT AUDIENCE and this cover implies:

- Badass chick
- Edgy world
- There might be fire or crap blowing up in the background

RIGHT?!

NONE OF THESE IS TRUE!!

I don't even know how to rate this book because it's just not my cup of tea. I think if you likelighthearted stuff you may be into this. There is certainly a really big audience for this type of book, I feel sad for the author that she will never reach it with this kind of marketing.

Ann aka Iftcan says

Ok, the cover on this book is more than a bit misleading. Fortunately, I KNEW that, having read the reviews over on Amazon.com. Its more UF-lite than anything else. The heroine is a "plain Jane, vanilla norm" who works at the Underworld Detection Agency as the administrative assistant to the head of the SF branch. And, despite the Detection part of the name--think more Social Services than Mickey Spillane.

Sophie Lawson joins the legions of other red-haired heroines of UF chronicles, except that her main talent is--being immune to magic. Other than that, she's totally unable to do any magic, except of course, she can SEE

the true natures of those of the "Underworld" as they call themselves.

A light hearted story that, like its more mundane brethren, the Cozy Mystery, is one that you read for the zany characters rather than any real mystery, terror or surprise. But the zany is great. A teenaged vampire (112 years old) who is into Goth and dresses like Bela Lugosi. A love struck troll (all 3 feet of him) who smells like a swamp. A witch with an unfriendly cat. . .

Ghadeer A says

2,5 stars

Well covers can be deceiving ,there was a redheaded chick and there was a sword but that is all she is no Kate Daniels I can tell you.

The story wasn't that bad but the heroine cries ALOT I mean she is 32 going on 12 it is like she's in a constant case of PMS really .it was annoying .And since the story was told from her POV it was rather confusing to get what she really feels about some people and she did somethings that did not make sense at all.(like the scene in the club with the 2 vamps) ????? She wanted to get close to them to ask them something and then she got scared and "again" cried.WTF is wrong with that woman?!

But I liked her roommate Nina and Steve the troll was funny.also I was really grateful for the lack of love triangle In this book which was a nice change.

I believe this series has potentials so I am going to wait for the next book to see if I am correct.

Fiendishly Bookish says

3.5 Stars.

Hannah Jayne's light-hearted debut Underworld Detection Agency Chronicles Under Wraps centers on breather Sophie Lawson a seer (who has yet to come into her powers) and who works in the rather unusual UDA, 37 floors below the San Francisco Police Department. Beneath the hilly streets of above, the UDA handles the immigration, immersion, law and enforcement, inter-species disputes, and general hub of the Underworld population. Think MIB but for the Underworld or the civil servant office in Beetlejuice.

When the Underworld becomes plagued with a series of ritualistic murders, and Sophie's boss, UDA Chief Pete Sampson goes missing, Sophie is asked to liaise with SFPD detective Parker Hayes (aka Alex Grace) on tracking down the killer or killers. Sparks fly with Parker and Sophie throughout its frothy pages and the mystery behind who and what Parker is a great draw. As is the slowly evolving sub-plot behind Sophie's heritage that Jayne cannily sprinkles breadcrumbs about throughout the book.

Under Wraps is backed by a cast of quirky characters that kept me laughing, (my favorite being Steve the Troll), Vlad...the wannabe Impaler (who belongs to The Vampire Empowerment and Restoration Movement aka VERM), and a plethora of "fanpires" that will make readers smile, and smile often. And characterization might be the high point here compared to the plot(s) which is slow to develop.

So what makes Under Wraps different from other urban fantasies? Jayne's strength is her quirky style, witticisms, and plentiful characterizations which remind me of Jayne Ann Krentz in the early days, and Dakota Cassidy's immensely funny characters. Also, Jayne capitalizes on the innocent with her heroine and her attraction to Parker which is strictly PG-13. Sophie Lawson is not a femme fatale...but is shy, modest, and doesn't have a problem clinging to big, strong Parker when they are fighting off the denizens of San Francisco's Underworld. Parker and Sophie's romance is like melting chocolate...pure, sweet, velvety and a nice change from the over-loaded passionate encounters that readers might be used to.

Jayne's second offering to the series is out in November with Under Ground...which takes off from the cliffhanger that she thrusts readers at the end of Under Wraps...a rather titillating loose end...the revelation of Sophie's heritage, and perhaps an explanation about how Pete Sampson was involved in it...which brings us back to the major clue that Jayne drops when Pete psychically connects with Sophie...

Under Wraps will appeal highly to fans of Michele Bardsley, Michelle Rowen, Dakota Cassidy and Molly Harper.

A Fiendishly Bookish Review (and one grumpy cat)

Marilou Goodwin says

First sentence: This is why I didn't do magic.

Moves on to show the dragon in her office is breathing angry fire on a "Gestalt witch and UDA Accounts Payable shark" or possibly Nina the vampire, settled in an overly-dramatic sitcom-style fight. Then: "I looked over the counter and did a sweep of the UDA waiting room. It was crowded, shin to shoulder, with the usual eleven o'clock crowd of minotaurs, gargoyles, Kholog demons, and trolls...."

Where I stopped reading?

Next page, page 5. There's a quick one-line setup paragraph, "That last one is important, since my boss is a werewolf." before....

"I know what you're going to say: that werewolves don't exist."

Seriously?

Werewolves are where I'm going to draw the line, after the dragon, vampire, minotaur, gargoyles, Kholog demons, and trolls?

I tried going on to the next page, but then she again decides what I think with "What? You thought demons were an unorganized bunch?" and what I really think is that she's calling me an idiot. And when I think about the back of the book where it introduces her as "a human immune to magic" I think that the beginning sentence should have been more that she -couldn't- do magic and I'm really done.

Darcy says

I had high hopes for this book, the synopsis sounded good, but for me at least, the execution wasn't there. Sophie seemed to me to be a boy crazy bubble head. I couldn't stand the way random thoughts would pop into her head, about men, being on a case and thinking it was going to be like CSI. After 60 pages of this I had to give it up. This one just wasn't for me.

Thenia says

[Parker, aka Alex, is an angel (hide spoiler)]

Kati says

That was AWFUL! I can't remember the last time I read such a terrible book. I made it through 150 pages and then I had to drop it because it was so bad! I can't believe this got published in the first place and some people actually like it. The jumpy plot aside, the heroine was such a manhungry wimp that I wanted to slap her. She made me embarrassed of being a woman, that has never happened before!

She is all about fluffy baths and fluffy bathrobes and fluffy bread while watching reruns of Gossip Girl and nattering about shoes and designer clothes and "Yummy, yummy" men with her vampire best friend - a 160+ year old best friend, who can only think about sales in her favorite boutiques! And when said BF forgets to chain a werewolf, the only thing she is asked to do - and she can't be bothered to go back and actually do it because she has to go to a CLUB! - and it leads to an incident during which the main heroine is pummeled black and blue, her reaction is basically "Whoops! My bad? Let's dress up!"

But back to the main airhead AKA the main heroine. She insists on being called an "executive assistant", NOT a secretary. She insists on helping the police and imagines herself as "CSI Sophie" or as one of Charlie's Angels in a leather bustier - yet she gets sick when they just talk about the body. When the cop tells her to stay at the precinct because she's a civilian, she calls him a sexist and insists on going everywhere with him - but when there's a murder, she whines that she doesn't want to go to the crime scene because the BODY IS STILL THERE! WTF?!

She keeps having sexual fantasies about her boss and the cop - fantasies a la Ally McBeal in which she climbs over the table and starts licking the guy. Whenever they sit close, she keeps leaning into the guy, imagining how horny she is, SNIFFING him! She made me feel sleazy in a sexual harrassment way. Yuck!

The straw that broke the camel's back was when the cop tried to teach her how to shoot and she pulled the trigger and started yelling and jumping up and down with a FRICKIN' LOADED GUN IN HER HANDS!

No. Just no. AVOID! AVOID! AVOID!

Melindeeloo says

If you are judging Under Wraps by its cover, resplendent in leather and holding a sword, magic immune leading lady Sophie - who works for the Underword Detection Agency - looks like shes ready to kick backside and take names. This is not the case, instead, the Underworld Detection Agency is really much more like Social Services for the supernatural (Fill that out in triplicate. Next.) And Sophie who is far more likely to be found in twin sets, pencil skirts and sensible shoes is executive assistant to the director of the agency. Considering her job description, it is really odd that Sophie ends up helping a hunky police detective Parker Hayes with a murder investigation that appears to have a supernatural perpetrator.

Okay, so this was not at all what I expected but Under Wraps doesn't take itself seriously. The tone of the story is light, takes a really long time to get rolling but Sophie's' troll stalker, and Sophie's' unique use of firearms do provide a few humorous moments. The only bit of edginess to be found in Under Wraps is that the murders are suitably yucky (Sophie finds them vomit-worthy.)

Sophie is pleasant enough as the first person heroine, and there are some interesting characters around her - her fashionista vamp roomie and the roomie's 'teen' nephew 'Vlad' are sort of fun. But nobody besides Sophie feels especially fleshed out. And even though Parker is always 'on the make' with Sophie and Sophie has lusty thoughts, the sensuality level is way more mild than wild - way way more.

So, bottom-line? Under Wraps ended up being ok and it is possible that I'd have enjoyed this more if I'd come into the book expecting something a bit closer to what it actually was. The cover art and marketing blurb mean that this book is ending up in the hands of the wrong audience. What was really needed was a cartoony cover like How to Flirt with a Naked Werewolf or The Werewolf Upstairs because the audience for this book is someone looking for a clean light paranormal read with a touch of humor.

Under Wraps is the first in the Underworld Detection Agency Chronicles with the next book Underground out in November 2011 - although Sophie apparently gets some surprising info about her heritage at the end of the book, I honestly can't say that I have any idea of what's next for Sophie and the Underworld Detection Agency.

Rochelle says

This book was dreadful. The author and the editor should be ashamed to their core for putting this out there.

1. In case you've ignored all the other reviews, the cover is completely and totally wrong.
2. The 'hero' is a complete and utter asshole. Not bad boy asshole, but very racist and crude, drunk, Republican brother in law at Thanksgiving asshole. And the author seems to think that the readers should overlook this and root for him to get laid by the heroine because he is so hot. Seriously.
3. The heroine doesn't say anything because she 'blurts' out all her words. Every single word from her is blurted.

4. The heroine walks around looking like a tomato every single minute she is awake because she blushes when she blurts and when she doesn't blurt.

5. After she blurts and blushes, she plays with her hair. How all that hair stays on after hours of twirling her hair around her finger, I will never know.

6. The heroine has a stalker, as in super creepy stalker, but we aren't to think its such a BAD thing, you know? Just sweet.

7. Any paranormal person/being is a demon. Really? Really?

8. Vampires are blah, blah, blah and very polite. BUT...the heroine's vampire roommate is even less polite than Roseanne Barr.

9. The desecration, the annihilation, the massacre of the English language. a)"His nose was thin and freckled and a few stray whiskers - a **petty** attempt at a beard - ..." PETTY!!!??? b) "And I'll turn that human girl who was always **trolling** around you back home..." TROLLING!!!?? c)"Steve's scent is **distinct**." No. No. No. You mean distinctive!!!! d)"That's another thing - when you live forever, you become very **skeptical** of who you want to take along..." O My Fing God. Skeptical of!??!! e)"This new generation of vampire - they think they are so **entitled**."

That was it. That was the moment when this became the 7th book I've not finished in my entire life.

Slight redeeming factors

1. The stalker is actually rather funny.

2. The rebellious vampire thing is sorta funny.

Jilly says

The cover of this book might make you think of Kate Daniels or Mercy Thompson. This is nothing like those books. It is like comparing Star Wars to Spaceballs. Absolute silliness. Which is fun, once you get used to it. It made me laugh a lot.

Our "hero" is named Sophie. She works at the Underworld Detective Agency, which is located below ground under the San Francisco PD, as a secretary to a werewolf. Actually, she's an administrative assistant so don't be buying her a cake on Secretary's Day or she will be offended.

There is something supernatural killing people so Sophie gets the job of working alongside a human police detective to try and solve the case. She is a hot mess. Like, think the opposite of every badass girl in every book you've read - that's Sophie. She is no special snowflake, unless it is a special quality to suck at everything.

The detective she is working with is a hot guy and she immediately starts fantasizing about him. He had no idea that the supernatural exists and is pretty freaked out to learn that vampires, trolls, werewolves, and

fairies exist. He's also not too thrilled to have secretary assigned as his partner for a murder case.

Sophie: *"The sooner we crack this case, the sooner you can be done with the Underworld and go back to believing that the things that go bump in the night are just harmless human rapists, sadists, and murderers."*

"That's all I ask," he said.

Every character in this book is funny and there are one-liners and silly things happening on every page. If you don't take it seriously, this book is pretty enjoyable.