



Karma

Donna Augustine

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People say karma's a...well, you know. Personally, I don't think I'm that bad. It's not like I wanted this job. I wasn't even in my right mind when I accepted the position.

Now, I'm surrounded by crazy coworkers like Lady Luck, who's a bit of a tramp, and Murphy's Law, who's a bumbling oaf. But the worst is Fate. He's got a problem with transfers like myself, and I have to see him constantly. It's unavoidable. We're hunting the same man—my murderer.

Karma Details

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Author : Donna Augustine

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From Reader Review Karma for online ebook

Mlpmom (Book Reviewer) says

I liked this a lot more than I thought it would. It was different, fun, and original. I definitely want to pick up book two.

Choko says

*** 3 ***

A buddy read with the MacHalos, because we are searching for a good series new to us...

So, the Universe is like a entity which needs to be in balance and in order to keep it that way, "beings", some not human and some Humans who used to be alive (it's complicated), are hired to embody universal concepts who help nudge things in the needed direction. This is how when an accident killed Cam, her just separated from her body spirit was recruited to work for the "Company" as the new Karma. She thinks she will be able to communicate with her loved ones left behind, but the Universe is not having it. So, Kam goes to the office where she meets Luck, Death, Murphy's law, The Jinkses, Faith and the middle manager who gets notes from the Boss. No one is very nice to her, because it appears that Humans are rare in the company and they usually choose to go back into the birthing rotation after the required 30 day trial period.

Karma plans on doing exactly that - do her 30 days and move on, but first she has to do "active duty", which means she needs to act as Karma, but no one seems to plan on training her how to do her job! This is where the gorgeous asshole Alpha Male Faith enters the picture. He is the dude who is going to show her the ropes, but he is to hot to bother and seems to be there just as a distraction... If I was given this little on the job training, I would have sucked at my job... But I might have enjoyed the annoying eye-candy of a beefcake and since he was so worthless as a teacher, I might have taught him a couple of more vigorous exercises ?.

So, obviously there is attraction, there are situations that go wrong, and there are mysterious others who are after Karma for unknown reason. The premise of the book is original and has a ton of potential, the writing has definite chick-lit feel to it, but the plot is a bit incidental and the characters are quite one dimensional... I want to root for the author to get better at planning her story and give us more debt to the characters, since this is her first book. I am going to continue with the series and hope for growth. It has potential...

Now I wish you all Happy Reading and many more wonderful books to come!

Beige says

It's more like 2.5 stars, but I had fun so it's worth rounding up.

I agree with the other MacHalos - a nice light read. It's a cool idea with characters who take on aspects of superstitions and beliefs. They help tweak the lives of humans who are out of balance with the universe's mysterious plan.

The romance dominated the story line more than I prefer, especially given how many other cool aspects/characters the author could have chosen to focus on. Also the MC acts quite immature a lot of the time and while the author attempts to justify this due to the amount of change the MC is going through, it's just gets old fast.

I'm hopeful that the series improves with each book.

Airwreckah says

Fun and unique!

Silvia Andrito says

A review of the full series. Actually give it 4.5 as a whole.

I loved this series and could not put it down. I read all four books in less than two days (it helps that I am sick and currently home, silver linings).

Karma dies and is recruited by an organization that keeps the universe balanced. She is a transfer (was human before she was recruited) so she doesn't really fit in at the office. But eventually starts making friends with her coworkers. She is trying to find the person who murdered her which opens a whole other can of worms. So the premise is pretty original and interesting.

Karma herself was pretty well developed, likable, and relatable. Fate (the hero) gets developed over the series, little by little. So don't expect to get to know him very well in this first book. Both of them are very special cookies, so they tend to clash over lots of things. The rest of the characters don't really get developed much and are more of a background that helps the story move along.

Their relationship starts as lust/hate, moves up to love/hate, then to pretend hate but really actually love, over the series. The insta lust is there but the actual development of the relationship takes all three books and even then doesn't click into place until the last one (honestly is like pulling teeth with these two). Which means even though they like each other they don't want to and fight it all the way.

Book one: great introduction to series and characters that had me hooked.

Book two: my least favorite of the three. The bad guys get under Karma's skin (figuratively speaking) and is not pretty. Still interesting. Still worth the read. But hard to read.

Book three: wrap up of the series. All the little loose ends get tied up. But it does take up to the end of the book to get it done. Meaning that a lot gets revealed in the last few chapters. Careful not to blink or you might miss something important. A useless sort of love triangle is introduced, but not developed much

beyond causing some jealousy. A happy ending waits for you.

Sh3lly (grumpybookgrrrl.com) says

I had loads of fun reading this. Camilla gets dead and is offered a new body and job - as Karma! Yep, Fate, Luck, Murphy (of Murphy's Law), The Cat Lady (don't ask), these things are actual entities and make sure the universe runs smoothly. Only, of course, it never does!

Karma/Camilla takes the job, but then regrets it, and everyone treats her like crap because she's **just** a *transfer*. Plus, she insists she's only staying for her trial 30 days and then moving on...being born again and forgetting all this ridiculousness.'

Shenanigans abound, mysterious characters show up and Karma (and the reader) has no idea who they are. Karma has to try and find out the details of her death because it might NOT have been an accident after all.

This has a very chick-lit vibe to it, but it totally worked for me. It was light and fluffy. You look at the cover and you might think this is a BDSM dark romance or something. Nope. It's a silly paranormal fantasy, light on the world-building, light on details. Just a simple story that I thought was fun!

It kind of reminds me of the early Queen Betsy books by MaryJanice Davidson. (But no vampires.) Definitely reading the next one. And it's only \$0.99 on US Amazon!

Buddy read with the Dust Off Your MacHalo group in August 2017.

Kira says

There are beings who keep the balance in the universe. When Camilla died she was recruited to join them which was rare. Each person has a specific job. Hers is karma.

The idea behind this was pretty cool. For a story where the focus of it is someone who lost everything, it could have been taken more seriously. She was only dead for a week or two and it seemed like she had adjusted fairly well to a life where she was around her old life but couldn't interact with it. It took no time at all for her to get swept up in a new romance. It made her seem heartless that she was able to let go of her life so easily.

It irritated me that Karma was so special. All kinds of people wanted to use her including the universe it seems like hence the memos. Of course she could do stuff that none of the other whatever they are can do.

Fate was an asshole and not the charming sort I like. It was hard to understand why Karma was so into him. His attempts to point out the truth to her were cruel. It was obvious he was using her. Despite him being a dick I'm pretty sure it'll turn out that they're soul mates.

Some things with the world building didn't add up. (view spoiler)

I didn't like this as much as the other two series I've read by Donna Augustine. One factor that is the same in all of her books seems to be heroines who argue with their LI a lot. Karma being 27 seemed too old for this level of drama. This was a quick easy read so I'll probably finish out the series just to see where it goes.

Did this remind anyone else of the tv show Dead Like Me? They had similar concepts and were both dealt with in a cheesy way.

Sharon says

Tired of all the vamps and weres? Well, even if you aren't, give Karma (yes, that Karma) a read. Camilla ends up working for the universe and trying to keep balance in the world...unfortunately she doesn't want the job, and on top of that none of her co-workers will talk to her. Fate is one sexy beast of a man, but he hates her, which is good because she hates him too, just wishes he wasn't so dang gone handsome.

Love the bullheaded attitude of Karma and the sexually tension filled relationship with Fate. This is a great start to a new urban fantasy with humor (Did you know Death likes to golf?) and suspense. I can't wait to find out more about this unique world.

XX Sarah XX (former Nefarious Breeder of Murderous Crustaceans) says

Actual rating: 2.5 stars.

► Why this book should have been Bloody Shrimping Awesome (BSA™):

The idea behind it is somewhat scrumptious: imagine slightly dying only to be offered a job as **Karma herself/itself/whatever**. And working with lovely people such as **Lady Luck**, **Murphy of the Infamous Law**, Danny the Tooth Fairy who **likes to play golf with Death** the Office Counsellor (he got his degree online, just so you know), **Kitty the Cat Lady** (no comment), Bert the Leprachaun (monitors clovers and stuff) and Fate the **resident douchebag**. Because Karma might be a bitch but **Fate is most definitely an ass**. YUM.

Yep, that's right, this is so glorious even Jean-Claude the Almighty got all groovy and stuff when he first started reading the book. After which things got pretty ugly pretty fast. But that's a story for another time. When not so many innocent ears/eyes/whatever are not listening/reading/whatever.

► Why this book was NOT BSA™:

This book is disgustingly **light**. This book is revoltingly **decaf**. This book smells nauseatingly like ~~teen spirit~~ some **Abominable Paranormal Chick Lit Type Thingie** (APCLTT™). Lots of useless romantic crap and ~~no~~ little story. Which is **quite obscene**, if you ask me.

See? Even Rose agrees with me on that one. And, frankly, who wouldn't? (view spoiler) I mean, this story does feature **insta-crush/attraction/whatever**. Between two ~~boring, one-dimensional~~ leads who quite appropriately **don't like each other one bit**. And are drawn to each other **against their better judgement**. And spend all their bloody shrimping time **bickering about inconsequential stuff** (view spoiler). How beautifully **refreshing**. How delightfully **creative**. How delectably **original**. How wonderfully **enjoyable**. I loved every minute of it, **obviously** (view spoiler).

Oh, and by the way, ~~our resident special snowflake~~ Karma is 29 but acts like a **whiny, fickle, immature teenager**. Attagirl. Definitely the kind of chick I want to ~~chop into tiny little pieces~~ snatch away and **lock up in my harem** before anyone else realizes how **yummy-delicious** she is and decides to **claim her**. Forethought is me and stuff. **Ha**.

» And the moral of this **Such Poor Use of Such a Scrumptious Concept Should Be Forbidden by Law and Severely Punished and Stuff Super Crappy Non Review** (SPUoSsSCSBFbLaSPaSSCNR™) is:

Also:

You are quite welcome.

Sheri says

Karma is searching for her murderer. How many people can say they were given that opportunity? A lawyer in life, after her death she is given the opportunity to work helping others...or rather bringing down Karma on others. Things don't always turn out quite as she planned, though, and as she learns her new position she must also deal with the hardships of it.

Karma is a great character. She is spirited and tenacious, never backing down from what she believes, all the while grieving for her lost life. During the course of this story we meet a great cast of characters, including (but not limited to) Murphy, Luck, Cupid, Death and of course Fate. Karma and Fate...What can go wrong? There is a lot of tension between the two of them, in a most delicious way.

The pace of the story was great and the plot original and fun. I will be looking for more from this series and this new to me author.

I received a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

Kate says

Fun read for book club. The writing was clumsy at times, but I really love the characters and twist on idea of Karma and Fate.

Lisa says

I'm starting to make a habit of finishing books I know I won't like from the first couple of pages. The trend is worrying because it's wasting time I could have spent doing other, more interesting things and it's making reviews like this one much more common.

The idea behind the story, an anthropomorphised Karma working alongside similar ideas of Fate, Luck, Death, blah blah blah, is not a new one, but could have been something much more intriguing than what is presented here. Instead, what we get is a very shallow, aimless paranormal romance outing that skates on the edge of being boring to the point of unreadability.

Basically, there was very little here to keep me interested. A boring main character who is nothing like she says she is. Apparently, she's a defence lawyer who isn't easy to push over and is intelligent, but shows no sign of either trait throughout the book. In fact, the harder someone else pushed her, the easier she folded, and it required a big strong man to do all the 'investigating' because she was too busy having coffee and narrating about how smart and not a pushover she is.

On the matter of the 'love interest', you know, I'd like to see a story where the man and woman first meet and hate each other... and continue to hate each other. To actually never feel attracted to the other person at all. Yes, hate the silent, cold, split personality guy! Don't use a flimsy excuse to jump into bed with the dude you detest. AND on the topic of the whole sleeping with him, first, there was the implication of rape that she didn't worry about, and then when it came time for the contractual conjugation, it was completely cringe worthy. From the whole 'Cupid made me do it', to the 'I'll pick who I sleep with', 'No you won't because I'm the man', 'Oh, okay' scenario to the actual event itself.

Every character is one dimensional and dull and lifeless. The plot is shallow and vague. It's not even mildly funny. Every intentionally amusing phrase is tired from being wrung through every other paranormal romance out there. There was no subtlety at all, every Important Fact TOLD to the main character (and thus the reader) by someone else. All the final revelations about the main character's previous lives was just dumped at the end like a big pile of 'Oops, I'm at the end of the story, how do I let the reader know all the subtle yet important things I haven't blurted out yet?' panic.

I know a lot of people have found, and will continue to find, this story fun and engaging and that's great. Each to their own. If we were all the same, it would be a boring world indeed. However, I must come to the conclusion that books like this will never be my cup of tea. In future, when I start to roll my eyes and sigh during the first chapter of a book, I shall endeavour to put it down and walk away.

Aisling Zena says

Gotta love it when books you wanna read are free! Free on Amazon.co.uk at the time of posting.

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/product/B...>

Lisa says

I really enjoyed this one. Karma and Fate are great together. I also loved all the other characters: Lady Luck, Murphey's Law, Death - who earned an online psychology degree, the Jinxes, Cupid, the Tooth Fairy, Harold - middle management, and the list continues. This book is funny, witty, and original.

The gist of the plot is that Karma (human name Camilla) was murdered. At her murder scene, she is approached and recruited by Harold. She signs on to a one-month trial to work as Karma for the "universe". Her primary goal is to find her killer. And of course along the way she meets a host of cosmic characters.

This series is urban fantasy but has enough sexual tension to sate my romance appetite. Karma and Fate have a hate/I-hate-to-like-you thing going. It's fun to read. And you see the potential in spades.

This book is written well. I had tried to read one of Augustine's earlier series and didn't really enjoy it. But I can tell she's definitely coming into her own now. I really enjoyed the pacing and style here.

I can't wait for book 2!

Coco.V says

FREE on Amazon today (11/12/2017)!
