



Descendants of the Rose

Juliette Harper

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Selby Jensen's business card reads "Private Investigator," but to say the least, that downplays her real occupation. Let's hear it in her own words: "You want to know what I do for a living? I rip souls out. Cut heads off. Put silver bullets where silver bullets need putting. You think there aren't any monsters? . . .

I have some disturbing news for you. You might want to sit down. Monsters walk among us. I'm looking for one in particular. In the meantime? I'm keeping the rest of them from eating people like you."

In this debut novel of her new paranormal mystery series, Juliette Harper, author of The Lockwood Legacy books and The Study Club Mysteries creates a cast of characters, most of whom have one thing in common; they don't have a pulse. The dead are doing just fine by Selby, who is determined never to lose someone she loves again, but then a force of love more powerful than her grief changes that plan.

Join Selby Jensen as she and her team track down a shadowy figure tied to a murder at a girls' school. What none of them realize, however, is that in solving this case, they will enter a longer battle against a larger evil.

Descendants of the Rose Details

Date :

ISBN :

Author : Juliette Harper

Format :

Genre : Fantasy, Paranormal, Mystery, Urban Fantasy, Fiction

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From Reader Review Descendants of the Rose for online ebook

Candace says

Descendants of the Rose is the first in a brand new series by Juliette Harper. It's definitely a different sort of book from her Lockwood Legacy books but it was just as excellent! This is a paranormal mystery and it's very paranormal. There are lots of different paranormal 'creatures' out there and we get to see a few of them in the book.

Selby is a bold and snarky chick. She speaks her mind and doesn't hold back. Because of this it had a bit of an urban fantasy feel. There's also no romance. Well... that's not totally true, but you'll have to read it to see. There is romance for secondary characters. Or some potential romance anyway.

I really liked Selby. She has some things to sort out in her head but the baggage wasn't super heavy on the page so it was pretty easy and fast to read. I liked how she's so accepting of people. As long as they aren't the bad guys. Then she's all up in their faces. She's also a good read on character and doesn't second guess her instincts much. Which I liked. It cut back on the drama.

The mystery was different. It wasn't a 'typical' mystery style anyway. But it worked well. It was easy to figure out some parts of it but not the reason why or how. And I liked how it played out.

I read this book in only a couple sittings. I think it was probably a bit longer than the Lockwood Legacy books, but it was still an easy fast read, which I truly appreciated. I highly recommend!

You can find this review, and others like it, on my blog at <http://www.candacesbookblog.com>

Adrienne Testa says

An excellent story, with a believable main character. The secondary characters are amusing and each has their own personality. Selby takes on a case involving a girls school, a dead pregnant fourteen year old and a dark shadow that kills. Its not your ordinary who dun it. Selby isn't your ordinary investigator, she is surrounded by the paranormal and wants revenge for the death of her husband. She doesn't profess to being an angel. But, she isn't all devil either. Its a fun read and refreshing new characters that keeps you turning the pages.

Kim says

Great Start!

Great beginning to a good series, wonderful characters you can instantly bond with. Witches and vampires and demons...oh my!!!

You're gonna love it, I promise!!!!

Patti Brennan says

Fabulous

I didn't want to read this book because I didn't think I would like the main character or a paranormal themed book and I didn't like it I LOVED it there is so much more to this book it does have paranormal and elements of Jinx Hamilton books but it was a mystery and romance all mixed in with everything else . It was so good that I couldn't stop reading it. I highly recommend it and am looking forward to the next book in the series

Viola says

I'm really happy so many people seemed to love this book. Good for you, people!

I had some issues with main character, plot and pacing, especially in regards to the romance sub-plot (honestly, that could have been left out and I would have rated at least a star higher).

Other aspects I quite enjoyed like the supporting cast and that everyone was working in a team, instead of keeping stupid secrets from each other (mostly. Again stupid romance... argh). Problem was, the antagonist/issue they were trying to battle basically solved itself, so there really wasn't any need for a story at all. Also every clue along the way was presented on a silver platter.

Reading all those words felt very unnecessary in retrospective, because literally one side character could've resolved the main plot all on her own.

Well, maybe they improve that for later installments. Peace out, I'm going to sober up after a night full debauchery and unnecessarily read words.

Penney says

Great Combo

Excellent combination of characters. Humour and danger. I'm very much looking forward to the next book in this series. Harper is very clever in developing her plots. Enjoy!

So, I Read This Book Today says

It truly is darkest right around 3AM. Even the stars seem to dim, fading into the quiet of the night. The universe itself seems to sleep. But sometimes? Sometimes, not often, but often enough to keep your eyes turned to the sky in the darkest hours, a bright light flashes. Far off, and very quickly fading, a star explodes, giving off one brilliant flash before falling into the darkness, never to return.

Sometimes, I have that feeling with books. Even though my choices at that particular moment in time seem no more than dim stars, one will blast out through even the worst cover, worst blurb, the unknown (often only unknown to me, but well known to others, but not always) author, and, for whatever reason, simply take me someplace special.

It was a bit of a fluke that I picked up Juliette Harper's *Descendants of the Rose* (The Selby Jensen Paranormal Mysteries Book 1). I am in no way a "Historical" lover. Long skirts and proper manners, they just don't turn me on as they do some readers. So, when I saw the cover of this book, well, to say I was "put off" is a bit of an understatement. Although the cover is gorgeous, it screams historical romance. Or at least historical ghost story. But, for some reason, I went ahead and downloaded it (Free on Kindle!) and opened it up. Maybe it was the fates, maybe just sheer dumb luck, but I opened up a little world of wonders.

This is by no means a historical. Instead, it is a modern day jewel, filled with fascinating characters and a rich paranormal mystery (just as the title promised – imagine that).

Hi. My name is Selby Jensen. Now, unless you're buying the coffee, get the hell out of my way.

Selby Jensen in a nutshell – the queen of snark. Of course, she has good reason for her attitude. Her life hasn't exactly been rainbows and lollipops. Far from it. Her father was murdered by a monster, drawing her into a world she never knew existed. Then her beloved husband, Dex, met the same fate. Now, Selby spends her time with the dead, 24/7. Her vampire business partner. Her 'died in Selby's arms after a horrific car crash' best friend Helen. Only, Dex apparently didn't stick around after he died. And Selby? Well, after five long years, Selby hasn't recovered, and it looks like she never will. So, why not face off with werewolves in filthy alleys, searching for the one who slaughtered her husband? Life as a blood bag just isn't all that special any longer. Even though life is, well, 'Interesting' in the Chinese, "May you live in interesting times." sort of interesting.

Burn all the sage you can find, but sleep with one eye open. The bogey man is real. I've met him. He's from Bakersfield, and he did not have a happy childhood.

Well, the very fact that he is stuck living in Bakersfield would make anyone grumpy, just IMO.

Then, school calls. Well, "The Good News Educational and Salvation Academy" calls. One of those, "Praise God and don't spare the Rod" sort of places (Well, their new headmistress is a bit 'different', but that is a part of the charm of making you wait to read it yourself) where your "embarrassing" daughters are sent away to be out-of-sight, out-of-mind. You see, they have a bit of a demon problem . . .

Ugh. Talk about your understatements. Now, a human, a ghost, a vampire, a witch and a smoke demon have a bit more than a 'bit of a kerfuffle' on their hands. And how's that for the New Scooby Doo Crew?

Of course, now I have to wait (Impatiently, I might add!) for the next, *Lost in Room 636*. I have to wonder, now that I have researched Ms. Harper's bibliography, if the publisher was simply kowtowing to the fact that the team of Patricia Pauletti and Randa K. Williamson (writing as Juliette Harper) are apparently well-known for a series called *The Lockwood Legacy*, a "nine-book chronicle of the lives of three sisters who inherit a ranch in Central Texas following their father's suicide." Hum... well, it seems to be set in the 1960's (?) not the 1800's, so I guess I am off on the whole "lady in the long dress" cover style. Boo me.

Well, well. Lookie there – the first three are a free box set (Kindle Unlimited) so maybe I will have to check that story line out and see if I like their previous works, but I think I will read "Witch at Heart" first. The first

in the “Jinx Hamilton Mysteries” it looks like it could be a really fun series. Looks like there are three of those in print, another three (at least) up to bat (wink wink, nudge nudge) so I will let you know what I think. WaH is free on Kindle Unlimited, so I just downloaded it. Will let you know what I think!

Nikita (NjKinny's World of Books & Stuff) says

<http://www.njkinnyblog.com/2015/07/b...>

I discovered Juliette Harper when I read her book, Langston's Daughters and I just fell in love with the authors' writing style and their expertise in bringing alive a story. Descendants of Rose is another enjoyable read from this author duo and with this book, they have proved that they are good writers capable of switching genres without losing that edge in their writing.

I loved the blurb of this book and it was this along with Juliette's name that had me picking this book up to read. The cover is also catchy but the best thing is the blurb.

This is a paranormal mystery unlike any other. There are dead people walking here but despite this there is a really brain teasing mystery at play.

Juliette's writing style is engaging and had me glued to the book right till the end. The scenarios, events, practices and the characters all look so real and despite knowing in my mind that they are fiction, I could imagine a world with them in it!

Selby is determined, quirky and sassy. I loved her independent spirit and enjoyed her adventures all through the book.

However, despite all the entertainment I need to warn you that this book questions religious institutions and if you don't feel comfortable with books having these themes then this one is not for you.

All in all, I loved reading Descendants of Rose and strongly recommend it to everyone. **4.5 out of 5** stars to it. Go grab and enjoy this book!

Juliette Harper is a talented author pair and I am definitely going to checkout more of their books in the future.

I received the book from the authors and the tour organizers and I am very thankful to them. The above review is my honest and unbiased opinion and in no way influenced.

Norma Storms says

A Paranormal Mystery Winner

Selby, a private investigator, works with a geek vampire boss and a ghostly best friend to find the reason a 14 year old girl was killed at a private school. Twists and turns around. Well written with strong characters. I will look forward to another book in this series.

Daniela Ark says

See my review and author interview on **my blog**

I really liked this book! it is a surprising read, full of pleasant unexpected elements and twists!

My **page-turner checkmarks** go to ✓writing, ✓ premise, ✓ characterization and ✓plot

4.4 stars

The book is written in first and third person POVs and I was surprised when this unusual combination didn't bother me. First person POV, is not my favorite because they usually carry too much telling and internal monologue. But from time to time I find a book with a voice I really enjoy. Selby was witty, sassy and snarky. She could be my BFF! I just love a girl with an attitude problem :)

But the best was the premise! I absolutely loved the premise! Which makes me think I may have a pretty eccentric taste in books. I'm not a religious person so I don't mind like when religion is thrown in the mix. Actually... I very much enjoy books that dwell in the gray areas of human nature and challenge religious beliefs.

So here goes the warning... This book is not for everyone. Don't like themes that question religion or religious institutions and leaders, let's say... the Vatican and the Pope? Then this book is not for you!

I've read tons of paranormal books and I've rarely seen such a compelling combination of characters and plot, craftily embellished with sparks of pop-culture and a plethora of supernatural elements! if you ever heard of it, read about it, or dreamt about it, (or most likely had nightmares about it!) it is probably here! From all cultures, religions, beliefs and folklore around the world. A hilarious global paranormal encyclopedia!

I was skeptical at first but Juliette really makes it work.

From the universally known ghosts, vampires, shape-shifters, witches, mediums and poltergeists to the more exotic find-me-in-the-international-food-isle necromancers, chupacabra, curandera and brujas... it is all here! Same goes for occult rituals... exorcism, Ouija, and more!

So... yes, I liked it! I was in heaven! (What can I say? I'm weird!)

This is one of my favorite quotes...

Burn all the sage you can find, but sleep with one eye open. The bogey man is real. I've met him. He's from Bakersfield, and he did not have a happy childhood.

I highly recommend Descendants of the Rose! It is fun, romantic, sexy, sad, creepy, mysterious... All at once :) Looking forward to book 2 of the series :)

Natasha Isaacs says

I want more !!

I have 4 go to authors and Mrs. Harper is none of them. I enjoy her books because she is great at getting you to fall in love with her characters. This is going to be a great series. This book is a great feel good story with love and friendship without being corny.

Deborah says

Wow, what a blast!

Although initially I was a bit put off by the blatant info dump at the start (the whole first chapter is the central character, Selby, filling you in on everything you should know about her world) I found Selby's voice and character - tough-as-nails, yet vulnerable beneath - to be highly engaging.

Selby is a private investigator – or at least, that's how her business card reads. She and her small team – best (dead) friend Helen, a ghost, and Johnny, a wealthy vampire with a passion for tech – peruse the internet for cases that might require their specialist attention. Thus begins what appears at first to be a 'simple' case of a demon invasion of a Fundamentalist Christian girl's school, and rapidly becomes more complicated than they could ever have envisaged.

Lurking in the background throughout is Selby's personal pain following the death of her cop husband, Dex, at the fangs of a spectacularly vicious werewolf, and with a murdered schoolgirl, a cheeky poltergeist (or is he?), the Virgin Mary, a Cajun bruja, reincarnation, and an evil shadow so powerful they have no idea how to stop it, it's a miracle the author succeeded in wrapping this story line up successfully before the end of the book, but she pulled it off.

The secondary characters are all well developed, and more of them join the team ready for the next instalment which I will most definitely be reading.

At the end of this book is a teaser chapter from the start of the next, and yet again, we get the info dump. But for this, I would have been on a five star rating, as in all other respects the book is well written, fast paced and professionally presented.

Highly recommended, unless you are uncomfortable with the idea of mixing paranormal with themes that question religion.

Kimber Wheaton says

I received this book from the author in exchange for an honest review

I really enjoyed this fun, fast-paced paranormal mystery. It's funny- when I first started reading Descendants of the Rose, I wasn't sure if I was going to like Selby. Since the story is told from her point of view, in her voice, that would be a big issue. She started out rough and gritty, but she really grew on me quickly.

The cast of characters were rather quirky making this a fun story even when the subject matter became serious. And it did become rather serious, especially toward the end. Though macabre, I did like the plot,

especially the link to the roses and the history of the girls' school.

Selby was tough, yet soft. Yeah, I know, hard to explain. She was sarcastic, yet kind, angry, yet forgiving-- at times she was a study in conflicting emotions. She'd been hurt one too many times and preferred keeping company with the dead. In this paranormal world, ghosts have lots of power. In some ways it almost seemed better to be a ghost than living. Her best friend Helen seemed to be having the time of her life afterlife.

I appreciated the fast pace. In fact there never was much of a lull in the entire story. Lots of action along with research and investigation-- all of it interesting. I'd have to say the best thing about this novel was the characters and the potential for more. They were all quite intriguing. It will be interesting to see how they grow and work together as the series continues. I'll definitely be watching for book 2.

Christi says

Great Book!

I was a bit leery of this book in the beginning with the set up explaining Dex was there but Selby doesn't know it. I kept reading and suddenly it took off and made me glad I didn't put it down. I loved all of the characters and the story is well-written and intriguing. I am definitely looking for more in this series and by this author.

Melissa Stiles says

One of the best books I have read in a very long time!

Coming from a person who reads everyday, and sometimes a book a day this book was one of the best I have read in a long time. I couldn't put it down. I cannot even begin to describe all of my reasons for loving this book, and I don't want to give out any spoilers because this is one a person should read for themselves. I laughed, I cried, I cheered, and I wanted to scream out in a few parts. And now I am waiting impatiently for the next in this series.
