



Rainey Days

R.E. Bradshaw

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Special Agent Rainey Bell is on medical leave and has been for over a year, after a horrific attack left her scarred both inside and out. She drinks too much and hasn't had a good night's sleep in months. On a hung-over morning, in June, Rainey finds herself thrust back into the world of stalkers, rapist and serial killers by a request for help, from an old friend. The next thirteen days will change Rainey's life forever, if she survives. On top of all that, Katie, her friend's wife, the one she is supposed to protect, brings out feelings Rainey didn't know she had. Though Katie is married and neither she nor Rainey has ever been in a lesbian relationship, the two women are thrown together by a bizarre series of events, learning to depend on each other for survival.

Rainey Days Details

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From Reader Review Rainey Days for online ebook

Tatiana says

I didn't like it very much:

1. It's nice the way the author describe all details... But just it's not my thing.
2. I knew the killer since the beginning (all right that I did the same assumption in another book and ended up being someone that I didn't thought about it, that was what I was hopping for in this one, but not happen).
3. The romance part... It's not developed quite, well maybe because is just the first.

Joc says

I'm a little confused by this book. Parts of it are dark and gritty, fitting for a mystery/thriller and then there are parts which are light and fluffy and I don't know how to mesh them in my head. Rainey Bell runs a bounty hunter agency which she inherited from her father. She is on medical leave from the FBI because she is the only surviving victim of a vicious serial killer who is still at large. She struggles with nightmares and is permanently scarred both mentally and physically.

She is hired by an old school friend to try and catch a stalker who is sending photos and notes to his wife, Katie. Rainey reluctantly takes the job because her agency doesn't do that kind of work. When she meets Kate for the first time she is struck by her attraction to her. Rainey is straight, Katie is straight and married.

(view spoiler)

I've only read one other book by Bradshaw (Before It Stains) and I enjoyed both the story and the writing. I'm quite conflicted by this so I'm going to read the second in this series and see how it goes. 3.5 rounded up.

Warning: There is a fair amount of violence and the serial killer is a rapist.

Baxter Trautman says

First novel I've read of Bradshaw's. Her protagonist, Rainey Bell, is an FBI Special Agent on whom Bradshaw clearly did her homework. Having written mysteries/police procedurals I know it's a fine line between too much professional detail and not enough to sound authentic. Bradshaw gets it just right.

Her writing is sound and well-paced. I read this on my Nook and though the formatting was sloppy enough to be a distraction, I don't know enough about e-publishing to know if that's just the way it uploaded on my reader or if that's something Bradshaw can correct and reload. (Lessons learned - I had to do that with my first e-book - twice. And a third, cleaner version is in the works.) I can overlook formatting issues because the writing is solid, but what dropped this from 4-stars (really liked) to 3 (liked) was plot.

POSSIBLE SPOILER!!

In Rainey's psychological profile of the perp Bradshaw basically tells us who the bad person is. I kept reading, hoping it was a red herring, and though there was an attempt at one toward the end, it was too little, too late. I'm not an overly smart reader, pretty slow to tell the truth, so if I can figure out the baddy from the get-go I suspect a lot of other readers will too. And if I saw it right away, why didn't a highly trained FBI Agent?

OKAY - SPOILER'S OVER

All in all, Rainey Days is a solid read. Try it. You might not have the same issue I did. Even if you do, Bradshaw's basic story and her ability to string the reader along to the end, make it a worthwhile read. I hope she fixes the above flaw in her sequel as I'm looking forward to what Rainey does next.

Arien says

[in both how it's used as a cheap plot device for shock effect as well as characters shrugging it off just hours later and going all happy like it never happened. (hide spoiler)]

Serena says

Even though this book gets many positive reviews, for me this was not a keeper.
Even though I quite understand why others like it so much, I must judge it involving my personal taste, and what I'm looking for in a book to be satisfied.
So it's not the quality of the book that falls short, it's just me.

My problems with this book are:

With the introduction of Rainey's character I was very sure that she was gay. She was "one of the guy's", "tough as nails", former agent. Her reaction to Katie and how she approached her beauty were obvious. In my mind Rainey would never fit with a guy. Then with I learned that she was straight, I was more then a little confused.

Don't get me wrong there is nothing wrong with a straight character but it just didn't fit in with the character of Rainey.

My next problem was that there was no build up between Rainey and Katie. In the first part of the book there was no romance at all. And then when they meet everything happens to fast. The first kiss, first time making love and the words "I love you" all happen at a pace that for me didn't felt realistic. It had more potential, because I thought Rainey and Katie were a nice match.

After my first problems it was hard to read and still have my heart in it. I kept trying to find things I did like. I must admit it was great as a thriller, but not as a romance.

For me the balance between both the suspense and romance have to be right. For me it wasn't, so that was my main problem.

As far as reading more books by R.E. Bradshaw, there will be no problem because I have read more of her work to know that she is an excellent writer. So with this book I blame it all on me and my crazy taste in

romance.

Alealea says

This is my first Bradshaw book, and I dislike it almost as much as I liked it. Pun intended. I am gonna try and enjoy the ride, hopping the next books of the series are better.

I liked the way it's written. I liked the main character mostly. I liked some minor characters... a lot. I mean, everybody needs an Ernie in the background.

Still, the storyline was so obvious it hurt my teeth.... a lot !!!!

So now I warn you : BEWARE SPOILERS

and I had a real hard time to connect with the school teacher-wife of politician- -ever-busy-cook-resilient victim (twice!!)-trust found baby - and -greatest-gal-ever and so on.... Katie character

Third element in the no way side : Why those two women go from rape to lesbianism ?

I don't agree at all !!! The author could have pick something else ! and made at least one of them a bisexual grrr.

I don't disagree with coming out late in your life. I disagree with using trauma-raped victims going from raped by a man to instant crush on a woman. Twice !

Still, despite that, their interaction is really sweet (but the all raping theme was also so maddening.)

So like or dislike ? I still don't know. But this book sure made me passionate.

Toni says

Loved this book, cant wait to get started on the rest of the series. Thought the characters of the 2 female leads where awesome especially Rainey. Im a sucker for those with dark, painfull histories but still manage to survive with the qualities that matter intact and can love and be loved. The whole stalker/returning killer plot was really well done. That plus the angst of a budding romance between the female, slightly flawed and damaged leads kept those pages well and truly turning.

Marie says

Well, how to explain this.. It's not a detective book, not a horror book or a romance book, what is it? I'm still not sure.

I'm that annoying person commenting on the movie saying facts about the progress and whatever and if it was a movie I could probably skip from the first ten minutes, say what would happen and I'd be right. Very predictable plot, but it still got me entertained enough to finish the book. Maybe it was meant to be shocking and making you read the book again and go "wow, I didn't realize that", but it only made it slightly boring and a little let down.

As a romance book it wouldn't work that well either, because of the really unrealistic situation. I'm sorry, I'll probably stick with my sunny days and read a different series/book from this author, I would never recommend for this book to have a sequel to be honest.

Melissa B says

Love this book. Did not want to put it down. Great characters.

Jo reece says

Contains physical and emotional abuse towards woman, and can go into detail. Its can get dark and deep at points. So if your sensitive towards these issues, don't read. I find Bradshaw's books either a hit or miss, I did enjoy this one tho, even tho the story is very familiar, after racking my brain its similar to another book I've read this year, a book by Sybil Smith.

Anyway....

Pros.....

- *Gripping story line, keeps you engaged
- *There is chemistry between the 2 main characters. (there is a but.....)
- *Its (to a point) realistic. And its written well. Not overloaded with unnecessary shit that you get in some books
- *There are other likable characters in the story that works with the plot of the story. This book doesn't overload you with lots of information about them. The characters are there for a reason and its kept simple

Cons....

* Wow... well, lets see... the feelings between the 2 main leads are like a flick of a switch. One minute, there both straight... next thing you no, they are all googly eyes across the kitchen table, playing footsie and shagging the same day, afterneither of them being attracted to another woman before... but if you can get passed that, the attraction is there through out the book.

* Its predictable. I figured it all out very early on...

Keri says

Great read.

Really love this writer. The first book of hers I read was house on fire, it was great, so I read this one. I've just bought the rest of the series!

Grumpy Rat says

Want my review? Here, YUCK!

Megzz says

I don't usually review books that I don't finish. However sometimes I do feel it's necessary to say why one book wasn't good enough to keep me interested.

I read a bit more than half of Rainey Days. And even during that first half I was struggling not to skip chapters. Here's why:

- the story felt like something I've read a thousand times before, with the usual elements that come with a lesbian thriller: the most relevant is the broody detective traumatised by a near death experience/an encounter with a criminal, who has nightmares that SUDDENLY disappear the first time she sleeps next to her soon-to-be lover (cliché narration depicting Rainey's reaction that morning after "wow, I wonder why I didn't have nightmares yesterday. Probably because *insert naive stupidity*")

- I can't believe Rainey isn't gay. I'm not into generalisation, but some signs cannot be wrong. Sorry but I can't really picture Rainey loving being in bed with a man's "hairy legs" intertwined with her own. This just didn't fit. Someone like her just cannot realise she's gay this late in life.

- the story is so unrealistic, nothing happens as I feel it would in real life. It's all very dramatic, overdramatic. Characters cry for stupid things, characters laugh in unbelievable places. A tough FBI agent breaks down in front of the person she's supposed to protect right there in that person's bedroom practically on the day they meet. The story is too rough, too blunt, not nearly subtle enough to be described as well written. The dialogues are corny and do not feel real. I felt like watching a soap opera.

Things happen WAY too fast between Rainey and Katie... I can believe that an attraction can be too strong to be controlled and can take people by surprise in a really short time. But this was not well executed. When I thought Katie was charming and gorgeous in the beginning, I ended up finding her ridiculous. She's overly touchy, not even days after meeting the agent, sees Rainey naked and kisses her between her breasts just like that, and then a few hours (days?) later they're already making out on the bed. Already saying cheesy things like "I don't know what it is between us but I don't want to lose you". I didn't believe in this romance.

I just cringed a lot....

That was such a disappointment because I loved Bradshaw's book Molly which I rated 5 stars. But I was equally disappointed with Waking Up Gray...and for the same reasons too. It seems Molly was unfortunately an exception, maybe Bradshaw had more inspiration when writing it...

Charlie Avocado says

Requires a dose of suspended reality for the catalyst to work, otherwise I really liked it. I'm assuming Criminal Minds fans would like it. Heavy topic for some readers.

Darlene says

Mysteries and thrillers are not my kinds of books. They are the elements of nightmares for me. But I have read and enjoyed other books by R.E. Bradshaw. Decky has done it again. I read it in one day. I had previously read about 5% of the book before but had left it for a time when I knew it didn't have to replace my bedtime book, though parts would have been ok. ;)

I had to reread it from the beginning and was tied up in the story until the end.

Now I can hardly wait to read Rainey Nights!
