



Under Suspicion

Hannah Jayne

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She's the new head of the Underworld Detection Agency's strangest division. What a nightmare. . .Being a human immune to magic helped Sophie Lawson get promoted. It's also made her a major, very reluctant player in a game that stretches beyond even the Underworld. Having handsome buttoned-down Englishman Will as her new guardian is one tempting blessing, especially since sexy fallen angel Alex is mysteriously MIA lately. But as a frightening number of demons start disappearing around the city, Sophie suspects that an Armageddon-level prophecy is about to become everyone's nightmare. And her investigation is testing her bravery--and Will's unexpected vulnerability--in ways neither could predict. Now Sophie and Will are fast running out of time as an unstoppable evil prepares to lay waste to demons and humans alike. . .

Under Suspicion Details

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Author : Hannah Jayne

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From Reader Review Under Suspicion for online ebook

Vera Maslow says

Underworld Detection Series Book #3

The cover shows a Kick-butt female, which the main character isn't. She only imagines in her mind that this is who she is, but in reality not so much and she knows it!

This is good for a fluff UF series. It has some fun and funny moments. The best friend is so weird and sometimes obnoxious for me. The main character is someone I want to root for as she stumbles around. Sometimes I think oh you are being dumb, stop it!

For me a mostly enjoyable read. Some of the negative is that it just characters stumbling and bumbling around, making it just blah at times.

Kristen says

GENRE: Urban Fantasy

THEME: Vampires, Werewolf, and Angels

RECEIVED: Received for Review from Author

BLOG: <http://seeingnight.blogspot.com/>

REVIEW:

Sophie Lawson is back! Hannah Jayne does it again and this time Sophie gets deeply involved in a dangerous case. I really enjoy Jayne's writing and her very dynamic characters that she has created, plus adding some humor in the mix makes it all that more entertaining.

Sophie is a rare "human" known as the Vessel and she even has her very own Guardian Will, whom protects her a lot. Luckily he's around to watch over her because supernatural beings are being targeted and since the Angel Alex isn't around to help she and Will get deep in some trouble trying to figure out what's going on. Sophie I felt has grown up a little more in the novel, she's not pinning over Alex as much because he's on a mission of his own this time around. She concentrates more on how Supernatural beings are disappearing and being targeted by an unknown person, and she seems to be in the middle of it all. I like how she takes things into her own hands when know one else will listen, no matter how much she puts herself in danger.

Will, Sophie's Guardian got a major role, which of course I loved! I feel he has a better connection with her and also has done a lot to keep her safe. He also is the only one that helps her with the case, Nina is too love struck with a writer and in wanting to write a novel of her own. So Will seems to be the only one here for Sophie and gets to steam it up with her as well.

Nina, Sophie's BFF and vampire was actually not my favorite this time around. She was in a way rude to Sophie not understanding that her friend has been through a lot and is in the middle of something dangerous. She really only cared about this very stuck up writer, that doesn't believe in the supernatural. I hope she can redeem herself in the next novel, but I do always love her off the wall fashionista humor.

In the end there is a cliffhanger and thank the gods there was an excerpt in the back for me to read or I would have been freaking out. But I'm so excited to say one of my favorite characters is back, not sure for how long though. Sophie has a lot to look forward to and I think Alex and Will are going to need to work together with her to stop the dangers that are coming.

Overall I really enjoyed this third installment, I can't wait to see what happens next. Especially in the romance category since there is a bit of a love triangle. Though I'm Team Will at this point. The writing is great and Sophie is such a quirky and entertaining lead that I'm always excited to see what she does next. I highly recommend this Urban Fantasy series and everyone should start reading this asap!

RECOMMENDATION:

This is an adult novel with humor, action and all the right stuff that everyone wants in the Urban Fantasy genre. Fans of authors Ann Aguirre and Jennifer Estep will be captivated by Hannah Jayne's novel Under Suspicion.

Cass says

3,5/5

Μαρία Γεωργοπούλου says

4.5 stars

The third book of the Underworld Detection Agency series is here and Hannah Jayne made her miracle again! "Under Suspicion" is as good as the previous two books. This urban fantasy story is different from other books of this genre because it's more funnier. I love that there are many mentions to modern TV shows, movies and books. The characters are great. Even the ones that the reader won't really like, are very well-written.

Sophie, as we know is immune to magic, and now she has troubles again. She with her Guardian, a sexy English guy, Will are trying to solve the mystery of demons' disappearing. Sophie is as always witty and funny. Sometimes I think that she is too funny for her own good! Also, I have a feeling that Sophie is trying to please everyone but only a few people really care about her feelings.

Will is a great guy! I love him! He's also funny and witty and he is very good person. I was sorry for him sometimes because his feelings were obvious to other people but not to Sophie. He is always there for her, helps her and keeps her company. I think that he is what Sophie really needs.

Nina is selfish as always! But I love her! Sometimes I thought that she isn't very good friend for Sophie but now I really think that she's just different. She has the greatest lines in this story! She is the best female vampire ever, because she knows everything about fashion and she doesn't look like other vampires. You'll love her!

A very nice story that all the fans of urban fantasy will definitely enjoy reading!

Carrie says

OK, we are heading back into the realm of awesomeness that the first book of the series really captured for

me. There's a definite shift from "crying-all-the-time Sophie" into this "crying-less-but-still-getting-really-hurt Sophie" that I liked a lot. Yes, she still pines over the annoying jerky angel, but with Will in the mix, I forgave her those moments of weakness.

I guess I expected this book to show Sophie being awesome in her new position, tracking fallen angels, but there is maybe one or two sentences around it and nothing more. Instead, this book shows Sophie realizing that a shockingly large percentage of her clients are suddenly missing (or dead, or missing and then found dead). While she's alarmed by this, it looks like her largely vampire management is not dedicating the necessary resources to finding the killer.

At the same time, Nina is still awesome, but seriously distracted with an obsession about becoming a writer and dating a writer. Normal, right? Except for the fact that said writer makes a living proving that vampires and other supernaturals don't exist. I guess their differences will make their romance interesting. The murder-mystery aspect of the story wasn't exactly surprising, but did keep the plot moving along. I was happy to see Sophie start to become more of her own independent character (and have some sexy times), so I will keep my fingers crossed that it continues in the next book. For such a tough woman, she certainly falls apart an awful lot.

Laura says

I am a fan of this series but I was very disappointed with this book. I had trouble getting through it. At times it dragged and the main character Sophie Lawson was not only annoying but disgusting. Everyone has flaws but she stole the show. From her eating habits, peeing on herself and her stupidity was something even I couldn't take after a few pages in. Hopefully in the next book she cleans up her act. If not I am resigning from the UDA.

Dark Faerie Tales says

Review courtesy of Dark Faerie Tales

Quick & Dirty: More of the same in this book I'm afraid, but with some actual romance.

Opening Sentence: You'd think by the time a guy had gained immortality, he'd tire of copying his butt on the office copy machine.

The Review:

For Sophie Lawson, being the spawn of Satan has its good points and bad points. In the case of this story, Sophie's genetic gift of magical immunity has allowed her to be placed as the chief of the UDA's Fallen Angel Division. Also, being the one thing that most would give their left arm for doesn't hurt. Though, you wouldn't know that her job had changed much, since in this book we see her performing many of the same tasks as before, and dealing with the same clients.

In this book, though, being her client turns out to be a rather deadly proposition. It seems that someone has decided to clean up her town by taking out all of its otherworldly inhabitants, starting with the names in Sophie's rolodex. And when Sophie herself is attacked, she realizes just how close to home this threat is, and

she vows to neutralize it.

Around this same time an author who is famous for his books debunking the myths surrounding everything Sophie holds dear, and her vampire roommate fall in love. How funny, the famous myth buster dating a real life myth, one he himself has discounted. After a few more attacks, Sophie becomes convinced that this author is the key to the mystery, in fact he may even be the murderer himself.

Sophie being Sophie, ends up bumbling her way around the author, her roommate and a few more murder scenes, all in search of the perp. And poor Will, as her guardian, feels compelled to trail along behind her, trying his damndest to keep her alive. She doesn't make this easy for him, as usual, and even goes as far as being kidnapped, yet again.

Will, good guy that he is, runs to her rescue, fights the bad guy, with some help from Sophie. And it does turn out that the author plays a role in this adventure, just not as the bad guy. The clueless guy, maybe, but not the bad one.

Oh and there is one more spot of good news...Sophie was finally allowed to have some fun *wink, wink* in this book, with Will of all people. And then, because we just couldn't be allowed to feel good about it all, she just has to run into Alex in the hallway while doing her morning after walk of shame. And just when we thought Alex was gone for good.

When all is said and done, I give these books a "just OK for me." They just weren't as exciting as I wanted them to be, in fact I found it all too easy to put them down and return to my regular life. Light and easy reading, sure, and if that's what you're looking for then great. But, like my fellow reviewer said, if you're looking for a story like the one promised by the cover, look not in these pages.

Notable Scene:

"Hello?" I asked. "Is someone there?"

I heard the distinctive crunch of feet on gravel and then another wince. As much as I wanted to avoid another naked Vlad-and-Kale situation, something inside me was drawn, desperate to help. Before I could think better of it, I ran into the alley. My footfalls echoed heavily between the buildings, and the limp wail, the crunching gravel, was gone.

"Hello?" I asked again.

My voice bounced off the wall and was cut off by my own scream.

Something hit me hard, cracking against the back of my head. I pitched forward, my palms and chest making contact with the damp cement. Beads of gravel dug into my skin. My knees throbbed and I tried to cry out a second time, but my breath was gone and my mouth was filled with the hot, metallic taste of blood. Someone yanked me, flipping me over so my tender skull smacked the cement. Bright white light burst in front of my eyes. I felt the urge to vomit, to cry, to wail, but my eyes began to focus. I saw my assailant above me, both hands hugging a sharpened dowel, both coming directly at my chest. There was an "oof!" and a scream, and the sharpened edge of the stake dug at my collarbone and slid over my breast.

FTC Advisory: Kensington Books provided me with a copy of Under Suspicion. No goody bags, sponsorships, "material connections," or bribes were exchanged for my review.

Jen says

Humorous. Would have been really good if secondary characters weren't morons and the plot obvious. What's worse, the editing. Did anyone proof read this thing? "Kale handled over her precious stack (of folders)." "Will started pulling dollars bills from his billfold."

Fangs for the Fantasy says

When a client doesn't show up for an appointment, Sophie decides she needs to investigate. She quickly finds that the client isn't the only one to disappear – or face violence

Faced with the complete indifference of her boss, colleagues and friends, Sophie decides she will track down the attacker.

Sophie is one of the most frustrating protagonists I've ever come across. She is supposed to be in her 30s but she is grossly immature and ridiculously incapable. She acts like a particularly inept teenager. She's utterly dependent on the people around her and regularly collapses into tears in a puddle of limp spined jelly on the floor. Where she will get wet because she drools so much over hot guys (when not monologuing over them ridiculously) that she must be constantly standing in a puddle. Also the "Sophie gets drunk, makes a fool of herself and needs to be carried home" looks like it's becoming a compulsory scene in every book. Sophie, you're 33+ years old. Grow up, get yourself together and check under the couch cushions for your dignity that you must have mislaid them somewhere.

When not pushing around the decaying mass that pretends to be a plot, Sophie is finding random events that are supposed to be funny (which aren't) or worrying about getting fat while eating chocolates and sweets.

I know that probably a lot of people would be equally as inept as Sophie. Ok, I know there are some people who may be as inept as Sophie. On their very very bad days. Maybe. It could be argued that Sophie is merely slightly incompetent (rather than utterly incompetent) person forced into circumstances outside her skill set. But she's not – she happily "volunteers" (which is a generous way for "sticks her nose in") to random situations she's grossly unsuited for and then whines and falls apart because she's grossly unsuited. Her boss in this book repeatedly tells her to mind her own business and stick to what she's good at and I think we're supposed to see him as villainous for doing so – but he makes a lot of sense

Sophie's co-characters are equally shallow. She has her Guardian, an English guy with a terrible Dick Van Spike accent who exists to be hot and randomly save Sophie from whatever disaster she's dived head first into this time. There's her friend, the vampire Nina, old, powerful – and a caricature of silliness who manages not to be frustrating just because Sophie is so much worse. And Vlad, an old vampire who looks 16 and decides to act it as well, because why not?

Perhaps worse than all of this is the plot itself – that just doesn't work. It is held together by dubious reasoning and bizarre behaviour on the part of the cast. So much of this book is outright contradictory or forced or convoluted it was actively irritating to read

Take the very idea that Sophie has to do all the investigating – why does it fall to her to investigate despite the fact she not only doesn't have applicable skills (nor, for that matter, basic competence at, well, anything)? Because no-one else cares. Multiple attacks and murders on demons and no-one cares because...

who knows. At no point does this book ever adequately explain why everyone is so indifferent to a serial killer in their midst – it exists surely so Sophie can be the plucky one deciding to investigate. Not only does virtually no-one care about the murders, but a surprising number of people (Including Alex who has past experience with Sophie so should really know better) treat her like an actual decent investigator (or borderline competent person) and let her wander around crime scenes. This worked in book 1 where she was providing expert knowledge for the police, but not when she's running around dragging Dick Van Spike around with her.

Or there's here red herrings – now every good mystery needs red herrings, false leads and set backs in an investigation – but in this book that relies on Sophie making ridiculous assumptions and clinging to them for grim death before sense finally wedges them out of her brain. When she finds a possible murder weapon she stresses over it... but doesn't actually do anything about it. Why follow up on a clue when you can create random bizarre theories and follow them instead? I really have to show how ridiculous these theories are with an example

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Kristin says

There are spoilers for the previous books in this review.

Six months after the end of the last book, Sophie is still trying to come to grips with the fact that Mr. Sampson is gone while the changes in the department seem to be trending towards the ousting of employees that aren't bloodsuckers who are replaced by those who are, with Vlad being one of those promoted, making him Sophie's new boss. To add to the tension, Alex is getting ready to go to Buffalo for a few weeks for a stakeout for the FBI and three of Sophie's clients have been no-shows in one week, one of who is the ever prompt Mrs. Henderson. When Sophie goes to her house to investigate, she finds what appears to be a bloody crime scene. After more supernaturals are violently attacked, Sophie begins to suspect that someone is targeting them and she's bound and determined to find out who's trying to take down members of the Underworld.

I just don't know if I can continue with this series. I like all of the secondary characters. I would say Nina is single-mindedly obsessed with hot guys, but her love of clothes and shoes tears her attention from the opposite sex for at least a couple hours a day. She's great for some comic relief and to show what a stronger female character looks like, compared to the wreck that is Sophie. Vlad cracks me up with VERM (yeah, I know they don't shorten it) and his clothing. You just know he's dying to act normal, I'd love it if he'd ditch the act (and the nail polish) and behave like a teenaged guy, albeit one who's over a hundred years old. I even love it when Kale puts in an appearance to act bored beyond belief or to moon over Vlad. One character I don't like is Sophie's boss. I think Dixon is a total douche and I really miss Mr. Sampson, who I always felt had a watered down role.

I can't even say I missed Alex, as he's just sort of blah. I don't remember feeling this way about him in the other two books, but I can't really bring myself to care that he wasn't in this much, especially given the lackluster way he came off in the few scenes he was in at the beginning, though I still can't decide if I want these two together or not. However, I really, really like Will and think he's too smart and way too good for Sophie. And I'm also sick of love triangles, especially (view spoiler).

All of the things that I could put up with in the first two books have finally started grating on my nerves. I have nothing against reading a much lighter, chick-lit UF book, but I can't take how freaking wimpy Sophie is. She cries over *everything all the time* and turns anything that happens right back to her. Someone's out to get me, there may be another fallen angel who's after me, everyone around me gets hurt or dies. Me, me, me, me, me. And she's really crossing the line from sloppy over to gross and seriously disgusting. I can't believe how many times snot was mentioned this time around as well as her need to pee. Constantly. And twice she even freaking lost control of her bladder. Then, to make matters even more nauseating, after the first time this happened in an alley, she got into someone's car, passed out in her apartment, sat down and ate pizza and never once mentioned taking shower or changing clothes!!!! Really? Nobody, especially a couple of sensitive vampires and a werewolf, is going to be bothered by someone sitting around smelling of urine? Ugh. The second time she did it wasn't much better and I'm pretty sure nobody who hangs around her has any sense of smell.

And in Sophie's head, she's always imagining herself as a bad ass in leather, etc. To quote Andrew Lincoln's character at the end of *Love Actually*, enough. The author seems to be trying to make her character a cross between Stephanie Plum and Bridget Jones, with a tiny bit of Buffy thrown in, but it's not really working for me anymore. She's too emotional, goofy, overdramatic and this time around, pretty revolting. And the fact that nobody believed that supernaturals were being targeted was pretty ridiculous, as was Sophie telling Sergio that Will was her guardian and she's the Vessel, all within a few minutes of meeting him. I honestly don't know why Will doesn't smack her upside the head sometimes.

And while I thought the head wagging thing had pretty much gone by the wayside, it reared it's friggin' ugly head more and more after the halfway mark, though, thankfully, it wasn't *anywhere* near as bad as in the other books.

These problems make the covers all the more ridiculous. Looks-wise, the first one was okay. Then the next chick looked like Sophie's botoxed mother. This one looks like a transvestite. And they're all absurdly dressed and armed. They should've put a doughy girl on the cover in stain-covered sweats holding a doughnut and a plastic knife. It would be more appropriate. Though Sophie would probably end up stabbing herself and crying.

The list of suspects wasn't too long and the murderer was sort of believable but the way the whole thing played out was a bit anticlimactic. And Sophie's attempted escape from someplace was just ridiculous. Soap? Really? While there is a plot here, it moves along slowly, with most of the book being taken up by Sophie's histrionics and inner monologue about how no one believes her. If it weren't for the secondary characters, this book would be getting a two star rating. Tops.

So, most of the above review was written as I was reading the book, and while I'm still not super excited to read the next one, the last couple of paragraphs had me intrigued and when I read a little bit of the snippet included for the next installment, I was shocked to find out who was standing at the door. Of course Sophie had to dampen my enthusiasm about who the person ended up being with the stupid/gross shit she did, but I'm more intrigued now than I was for most of the book.

MISS VAIN says

"In my imagination I am Sophie Lawson, Badass Investigator, Paranormak Specialist. I wear black leather, like a second skin; I wield a sexy, jeweled sword; I have the kind of hair that flies in gorgeous wisps over my naked, carved shoulders."

When Sophie Lawson an employee with the Underworld Detection agency begins noticing that paranormals including clients of hers are coming up missing. Determined to figure out what evil is lurking to destroy paranormals true to Sophie nature she goes against everybody's wishes and dives head first into a dangerous investigation and worrying about the consequences later. Quickly Sophie discovers that anyone that associates with her open for attack from the predator because there are signs that point Sophia as being the prime intended target. If Sophie doesn't move fast she might just find all her loves ones around her destroyed.

"Like imagining Alex Grace greased up with the coconut oil and reclining on a beach---Why couldn't I fall in love with an inmate , like a normal woman? "

When Sophia's roommate Nina begins dating Harvey a novelist writing to exploit vampires, it's a laughable Plot I enjoyed. Harvey doesn't really believe Vampires exist, yet Harvey has no idea Nina is a vampire and Sophie is being mistaken for a Vampire. The irony in that made me laugh out loud several times throughout this book.

"Alex was an earthbound angel. Fallen, if you want to be technical. But he lacked the certain technicality that made other fallen angels so annoying: he didn't want to kill me. Most of the time."

With Alex being called away out of town for an investigation this opens up the doors for Sophie to get closer to Will because he must protect her. I actually enjoyed this interaction because I didn't get bored with this new love interest and it was about time Sophie wasn't such a fan girl after Alex even though I'm a fan of his as well. Under Suspicion has set the next installment of The Underworld Detection Agency Chronicles to be filled with romance and a powerful love triangle as well!

Overall this was an action packed adventure with lots of laughter and mystery to keep me guessing. I look forward to the next installment in the adventures of Sophie and the Underworld Detection Agency. My only regret is that I want more romance in Sophie's life, but Hannah Jayne left me wanting more especially with that last sentence, **"It's been a long time, Sophie."** and I hope to get it sooner rather than later.

ARC provided for review by **Kensington**

LIA Kh. says

uhum, not good. IDK if I'll continue this series or not. my logic tell me: 3 books left to finish this installment. but my heart: stop, stop, stop reading whatever it is!

Dianne says

Under Suspicion (The Underworld Detection Agency Chronicles) by Hannah Jayne (My star rating here will not meet with Amazons star system so please forgive me for that)

If anything proves the adage “don’t judge a book by its cover” then this series and their covers does. These covers have absolutely NOTHING to do with the books themselves. The heroine is as far from being a kick-ass, leather wearing, weapon toting person, as I am to an Olympic Luger.

I realize that not every author wants her/his heroine to be a kick-ass type, one who knows how to fight and has a fairly stiff back-bone. We as readers would be frustrated if we didn’t have choices, so I can see why Ms Jayne may have wanted to stick with her totally inept heroine. I HAD hoped though, that Sophie would become less whiny AND stiffen her backbone in this the third installment of “The Underworld Detection Agency Chronicles”, but sadly if anything Sophie as even less heroine material and more ‘historical bodice ripper, damsel in distress’ material.

With demons (this term is pretty much used to mean anyone of a paranormal bent) going missing, demons dying, and with only Sophie taking it seriously, and her crush on her Guardian Will taking up most of her time—the story reads more as a romance than a speculative fiction. Sophie is under attack since she is of course the only one taking this seriously. Her friends are treating her as if she was an inept (she is) idiot (she is not, not really) and I have to admit even I’m starting to think this of her.

Most of the novel is spent with anyone and everyone under suspicion of the crimes that Sophie has come upon. The rest of the book is about her pining for Alex, having salacious thoughts about Will, worrying about her ‘father’, wondering if VERM is doing something suspicious (no! really?) and getting injured.

About the best thing I can say about this book, is the preview for the next book.

The author of this novel is trying too hard to make us laugh and it isn’t working for many of us. At this point, all I feel is annoyance and pity for Sophie the main character and dislike for the fact that she lets everyone including her best friend walk all over her and treat her like a moron.

This series is NOT for anyone looking for something with a strong heroine.

Margarida says

I have enjoyed this series so far, but this book is a letdown. Sophie becomes more paranoid as those around her disappear and no one at the UDE seems remotely interested, despite the very obvious evidence. The sole plucky heroine against the world; making stupid decisions, with those closest around her acting against type, building to a huge , somewhat forced conspiracy.

Rosemary says

While it wasn't the best .. it was funny
