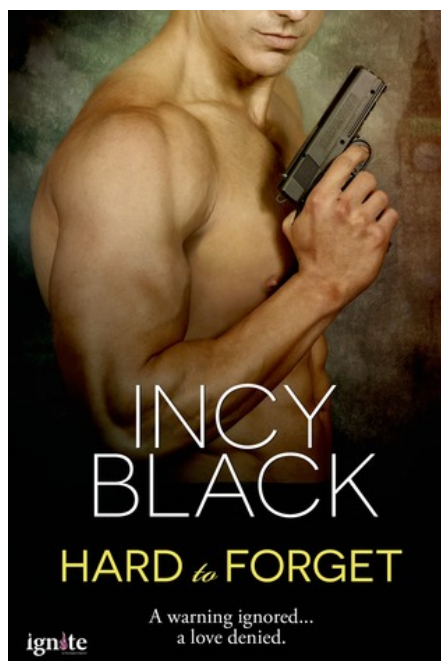




Hard to Forget

Incy Black

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Hard to Forget Incy Black

A thrilling category romance from Entangled's Ignite imprint.

A warning ignored...a love denied

Four years ago, Commander Jack Ballantyne followed Special Agent Lowry Fisk into a death trap. Fortunately, both of them lived to tell the tale, but when he had Lowry drummed out of the British Intelligence Service for her own safety—and his own peace of mind—he knew she'd never forgive him.

Lowry Fisk knew, she just knew, that the Assassins, the secret black-ops unit of the Service she and Jack belonged to, had a mole. And as the Assassins Commander, Jack should have believed her, even though she had little evidence beyond a gut feeling. But when he hadn't, she'd taken it upon herself to find the traitor—and ended up assaulted, shot, and left for dead. Jack had come to her rescue, but it had been too little, too late. Now all she wants to do is forget the attack, the Service, and the sexy, steely-eyed Commander with the power to make her feel weak.

But the mole is on the move, and he's coming for Lowry to finish what he started. Jack has to get the stubborn, dangerously gorgeous woman to let him back into her life and allow him the Assassins to protect her—without allowing her to worm her way into his heart.

Hard to Forget Details

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Author : Incy Black

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Genre : Romance, Romantic Suspense, Contemporary, Suspense, Contemporary Romance, War, Military Fiction

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From Reader Review Hard to Forget for online ebook

Athena says

Hard to Forget is the second book in the Hard to Series by Incy Black. Hard to Hold is the first book and it's Nick's and Anna's story, while Hard to Forget is about Jack and Lowry. Plus, Hard to Forget's events are before Hard to Hold's events!!! I wasn't aware of that before I read Hard to Forget, but it didn't stop me from absolutely loving it; hence following the story properly.

I LOVED the first book, Hard to Hold!! And I LOVED the second book, as well!!!

Incy Black creates adventurous, mysterious stories surrounding brilliant and amazing characters! Her stories have tons of humour, some sexy scenes and definitely suspense and mystery! Her writing is amazing, as always, while her stories are mesmerizing and her characters absolutely brilliant! Incy Black has fast become one of my go-to authors and one of my favorites!

Jack is one of the most intriguing alpha males I have ever had the pleasure of reading! He is strong, insistent, overprotective, loyal and quite frankly his broodiness is really adorable! He is sinful!! Even when he was being a jerk, you still love him. In fact, when he is acting like a jerk, it's when you really really fall for him!

Lowry is such a strong woman. She has been through hell. Literally. And survived. She hasn't lived since then, but she has survived. I loved her for it. She is witty, smart, funny, strong, decent and kind. She is a survivor and no one should blame her or anyone else for what she did to survive. She is an example.

The Hard to Series is an amazing book series with strong characters and a powerful story. It is truly a MUST-READ series and the author herself is MUST READ and MUST FOLLOW!!!

I guarantee you will love every second of it!!

So, 5 Huge Golden Sparkling Stars go to Hard to Forget, a story that is indeed hard to forget!!!

Mandy says

It took this book to confirm it, but Incy Black has made it on my auto buy list. After reading Hard to Hold in April, I was eager to read the next installment in this series. I have to say that I enjoyed this one even more than the first.

Ms. Black has a very unique voice/writing style that keeps me on the edge of my seat. She is very good at making you feel like you are right there in it, when the shit hits the fan. This series reminds me a lot of the new James Bond series. Daniel Craig as Bond is much edgier than the Bond of old, which totally works for me.

Jack is such a hard ass. I thought that Nick was a hard ass in the first book, I was mistaken, Jack Ballentyne is the epitome of hard ass. He is the director of the Assassins, an elite group that Lowry was a member of at one time. Jack trained Lowry until the shit hit the fan and Lowry went off the radar.

There are aspects of this book that are uncomfortable, I'm just going to put that out there. Ms. Black handled

those issues deftly. I loved the adventure that Ms. Black sent Jack and Lowry on and I had a very hard time putting this book down. I read as fast as I could!

I'll admit that I would've like to have seen more sexy times between Jack and Lowry, BUT, the situation didn't really allow for a whole lot of snogging and the like. (Yes, I totally said snogging.) Jack and Lowry have a bit of history and whole lot of denial of their feelings for each other, that dates back YEARS. The UST? Thick as honey in January, my friends. Jack is Mr. Ice Cold and when he finally realizes the depth of his feelings for Lowry? Well, it's a lovely thing.

Christ, he'd waited an eternity to hold her like this. A few precious moments. Of barriers down. Of exquisite intimacy. Of being the man he wished he could be. Sensitive. Tender. Gentle. Because that's what this was going to take. It was going to take *everything* from him.

My fingers are crossed that we will get Will's book soon. Will was introduced in the first book and makes an appearance in this book also and I cannot wait to see what kind of trouble he gets into in his own book.

Hard to Forget : Amazon // Kobo // B&N

This review was originally posted on Straight Shootin' Book Reviews

Tracey says

Incy bloody Black you made me cry and then some!

After reading Hard to Hold, I couldn't wait to get my hands on Hard to Forget, even though I questioned how Ms Black could possibly surpass the brilliance of her debut. To say I was stunned by this book would be an understatement. I felt as though my heart had been ripped out by the author and every so often she'd give it a hefty squeeze just to remind me how powerful this read is.

Lowry Fisk dug deep under my skin from the get go and I was gripped by the trauma of her past. The way Lowry was treated by Jack Ballentyne made me want to bang his head against a rock – but only to knock some sense into him and have a reason to kiss some of his bruises better. In fact the tension between these two made me want them to be kept apart, out of fear of what they will inflict on each other when they finally do come together. But the pain Lowry has suffered is such that you need her to be healed and only a man like Jack is strong enough to take on that task.

Jack knows all about pain. Lowry Fisk was another thorn in his side and one he had never forgotten. Her

wild conspiracy theories make her a threat. As well as to herself. No way does he want to be her protector but there's something about her theories that he can't ignore. Jack thinks she's a liability and the last time Lowry needed his help she ended up getting shot.

The conflict in this story is so gripping. Jack and Lowry can't be together, but will they survive apart? This is such a brave and compelling story by an author who doesn't pull her punches to keep this book gritty, honest and so very emotional. Hard to Forget? This book certainly will be!

Pansy says

According to Goodreads, Hard to Forget is a book two. According to me, I cry bullshit! The events in this book take place before the events in Hard to Hold - the alleged book one. Not that it really matters. Both books do very well as stand-alone reads. The same cast of main characters are in both books, but the stories are different and do not require the other book for understanding. The events of Hard to Forget are mentioned in Hard to Hold, but do not detract from that story at all. So go forth and read at will. Ignore series references. Okay, on with Hard to Forget.

Jack, Jack Ballentyne. Known to Lowry Fisk as Jack Bloody Ballentyne. Okay so Jack calls her Lowry Bloody Fisk. Yep we have a love/hate relationship going on here. Now me? I thought of him as just Jackass for the first half of the book. I have been wondering if Incy Black planned her hero names this way, or if I just have a very cynical and weird sense of humor. *shrugs* Anyway, Jack is another of those idiot guys who has allowed his past to close him off emotionally. He does finally wake up and get over himself and wow! There is a neat guy under all that stupid angst.

Now Lowry, she so earned the right to retreat into herself and hide for a while. But, she is working her way past that. But there still seems to be the issue that no one wants to take her seriously and believe a word she says. Idiots! On top of that, those that maybe do believe, don't bother to let her know so she continues to think, "no one will listen." Oh! Did I mention, she has a really nasty dude out to kill her?

So the story goes. If they had really listened to Lowry in the first place, well, I guess there really wouldn't have been a story then. But really, for much of the book I so wanted to clean someone's clock. What is it with these guys? Do they think that just because they have some extra equipment, they are better and/or smarter than everyone else? Not hardly. Although there is one particular idiot in this story who actually thinks so. He added some wonderful twists and turns to this action packed adventure.

The action was amazing. Kept me turning the page long into the night. Who needs sleep anyway? And there was a very sweet ending. I liked it.

Contrary to what you may think my opinion of the hero sounds like, I actually love it when a book gets me all riled up. I pulls me in and makes me feel like part of the story. If I didn't want to hit him, then the book didn't engage me. Jackass stirred me up. If I wasn't engaged, I won't want to keep reading no matter who or what the hero – or heroine – was. This one grabbed me and wouldn't let go.

Now I have a question. There was this one nice guy in both books – Will Berwick. He was a good friend to everyone. Didn't picked sides. Tried to fix things. I liked him. Does he ever get to be more than be "just friends" with the girl? *sigh* He is so sweet. Another book? Maybe?

Bette Hansen says

This is definitely one book that is hard to forget! Overflowing with gripping suspense, incredible chemistry between the H/h, and deep dark emotions. The writing is fantastic with a fast pace that makes this book hard to put down. Put this one on the top of the tbr list, I highly recommend it.

Aurelia Rowl says

An adrenaline rush from beginning to end.

I loved Jack and Lowry and their sparkfilled relationship, with espionage and guns blazing to thwart them.

The second in this excellent series just as sassy as the first, I now can't wait for Will's story!

Alison says

For a start, what an opening to a book! Incy Black doesn't disappoint if you're looking for a piece of romantic suspense that will have you on the edge of your seat the whole way through. Unlike the previous novel, *Hard to Hold*, I did not feel confused about the setting and could relax into the story straight away. Also, like the previous novel, this story does not shrink from depicting violence necessary to the story and I will confess I read the first part through my fingers when considering the attack on Lowry. I won't go into too much detail here as it is a big part of the story and if you are of a particularly sensitive disposition you have been warned.

Jack and Lowry. Well yes, I did wave my mental pom-poms for them in order to get their HEA. Commander Jack Ballentyne is so stubborn and infuriatingly dense when it comes to Lowry I did threaten to emasculate him on several occasions. As her ex-boss (and when he was her boss) it seemed like he did everything to make matters worse, and he doesn't make a great start here. One tough SOB he works for the same government agency that Lowry once did and her father is currently the head of, awkward.

Former Special Agent Lowry Fisk is clever and tough, with an upbringing that would make anyone so, but in order to survive the ordeal that she went through attempting to do her duty she is damaged whether she likes it or not. Even she would have to agree that if she wasn't crazy at any stage, she certainly looked like it. Coming out the other side of this she is carving a new career as an artist with a bunker that no-one should be able to enter (really). Unfortunately for her - her attacker has recognised her and this time he means to end her.

This is an intense book and a very intense relationship - so expect fireworks when there are scenes between the two of them, there are also some sensual scenes sensitively dealt with.

What I loved about this book and very nearly gained it a hard won 5 stars (4 1/2) was it was a much more confident read than the first book. The settings were clearer in my mind as were the hero and heroine, even the secondary characters felt more confident and interesting. The story moves along satisfyingly fast, and boy does Incy Black write one hell of a chilling villain. I also loved the country house setting and Jack's family. Very intriguing, especially the brothers and Will, yes Will is here! In general the characters felt much

more rounded. Plus the twist (where I DID work out the villain, first time for everything.)

What I didn't like so much and what was slightly confusing is that this book takes place before Hard to Hold, so Nick Marshall is working alongside Jack. This did mess with my head a little to begin with until I realised, and I do wonder why this book wasn't released first? Also, while for the most part I felt that Lowry's PTSD was dealt with well, there were some areas that gave me some cause for concern. I realise though, that everyone is different but if Lowry was going to be on the road to recovery and at the point of moving forward I felt that sometimes she had gone way back to what she must have been at the time of her trauma, and this didn't feel right.

To be honest these things feel slightly minor at this point and as I say I very nearly gave this book 5 stars. I look forward to the next instalment, and WILL NEEDS TO BE THE HERO OF IT, OK?!

This book is available from today via ebook from Entangled:Ignite.

Miranda says

This book was nowhere near what I was expecting - at all. I mean, the synopsis sounded good but I didn't expect the fantastic writing, the hot tension between Jack and Lowry, and the dark scenes that Black brought to this book.

Hard to Forget starts with so much commotion and action that it is hard not to be sucked in from the beginning. It is also hard not to fall in love with Jack Ballantyne (even though there were many moments that I wanted to punch him) and feel truly sorry for Lowry Fisk. I honestly don't think that I have ever loved and hated a character as much as I have with Jack. His past has made him blunt, harsh, and most of the time just cruel but the absolute need he feels to protect Lowry shows you the kind of man that he wants to be, if he ever could be.

Lowry just attacks bad luck throughout this entire book. It feels as if she never gets a moment to just ride the waves of happiness; something or someone always shot her down. I really waited for the moment when true happiness came to her because the poor girl deserved it.

Jack would call her "Lowry-bloody-Fisk" throughout the entire book because she was a thorn in his side all the time and the best line was the last line of this book when things got switched around.

Delphine says

Incy, this book is ace. loved every second of it. cant wait for the next one now :)

just read it for the second time and it was as good as the first time. Love Jack. He's ace.

Sparkymom says

I will start by saying I received a copy of this book for review from Net Galley before I even knew what it

was about. I knew nothing about this author, and there was no blurb to explain the plot. I simply requested a chance to read the book based on having previously really enjoyed books by this particular publisher. I'm am really glad I was approved to read this story. It was full of action, very suspenseful, and ultimately alpha. The book starts out by giving the background of Jack and Lowry, particularly the cause of their contention. It then jumps forward to the present where the two of them are unexpectedly thrown together despite Lowry's very real fear of Jack. Lowry resists Jack's efforts to push into her life but ends up turning to him for help in a moment of desperation. Jack steps up but offers only protection without an ounce of compassion. The chemistry between these two is popping, but Jack is a very hard man, and Lowry is suffering from PTSD from an event in her past she has held secret and used to excuse setting herself off from everyone...especially Jack. Fortunately, Jack is able to get information about the PTSD event and his rage drives him to help Lowry in every way he can. Lowry alternates between desiring Jack and fearing his touch. As danger closes in, they both have decide whether they can trust each other. Their opinions on how to handle situations continually clash. Eventually, the danger catches up with them and pushes them out of their comfort zone and into the path of a killer.

This was a great read. I could barely put it down. I enjoyed the characters, and was totally invested in the storyline. It was way more deeply emotional and involved than I expected. I really loved it.

Pat says

This fast paced action, suspense, romance will get your heart racing from the first page. A hero and heroine that at times you want to shake senseless and other times you want to say shut up and listen to each other!

Jack Ballentyne is a commander of a black ops unit with British Intelligence, known as The Assassins. He is a no nonsense agent, who likes his job, and killing bad guys. The only wrinkle in his life is the appearance of a rookie agent Lowry Fisk. She's bright, smart and single minded. Not to mention beautiful. She's a danger to him from the beginning; his fear of her sometimes impulsive actions and the unwanted attraction he feels for her. In a mission gone very bad, to save her life, he shoots her then has her court marshaled out of the service. He know's he did the only thing he could to keep her alive, but the memory and even "shagging half the women of London" doesn't bring him any peace.

Lowry Fisk (or Lowry 'bloody' Fisk as Jack calls her) is living her new life. She has a home, a passion for art and an exhibition of her work. She's finally feeling free. One look at a pair of piercing eyes brings back the nightmare she had been running from. To top it all, Jack Ballentyne suddenly appears to grudgingly keep her safe. She wasn't falling for his "protection" this time. She would be safer on her own.

This is the first time I have read a novel by Ms. Black. I enjoyed the gritty twist and turns, and the constant feeling of something else going wrong. What I especially enjoyed was when Jack and Lowery finally give in to their attraction, Jack's sensitivity to Lowery's fragile hold on her sexuality. I found this book very entertaining and would highly recommend it.

I received this novel from the publisher for an honest review.
Pat Fordyce

April Symes says

****A gifted copy was provided by the publisher for an honest review****

The beginning of this book played out like a cannon shot a lead ball into my stomach. Dread iced my heart but I was hooked.

Lowry Fisk is a heroine who believes in doing what's right, no matter the risks and naively believed that Jack Ballentyne would come for her, when in the end, he did and blew her world to shreds.

4 years later, a damaged Lowry is back putting her life together while walking a tightrope of feelings when it comes to Jack. Part of her wants him so far under the ground, its not funny—the other half of her wants him under her body . Jack on the other hand has this strange fascination when it comes to Lowry –bloody Fisk. He was and is so fascinated by her that he had her booted out of the service 4 years ago. Jack is tormented by his fantasies of Lowry , of what he had to do to keep her safe but here she is 4 years later and she is back, slowly starting the start to drive him into insanity.

On top of it Lowry is thought to be crazy from the incident that happened 4 yrs ago which caused her discharge from the service, which Jack was a part of. This is a horrible incident that Jack didnt help to investigate -all because Lowry was in shock and just wanted it all to end. This is where we see Jack's inner turmoil. His "the end justifies the means" thoughts.. where we see the real villain spring to life and Lowry vow to take him out no matter what and Jack go totally ALPHA to protect whats HIS even though he hasn't spoken his feelings to her yet.

This books has the twists and turns that you DO NOT see coming, but that is what makes this book totally awesome. I hope to see Jack's brother get his own book and all other secondary characters get their own books someday soon. This world that Ms. Black wrote about was so vivid that I felt very much a part of. What can I say? Great characters, action packed, wonderful premise, twists, turns, and ending with a good HEA .

My Rating :4.7 stars ****

Tracie Delaney says

I love discovering new authors, especially those with a unique voice.

And boy, has Incy Black delivered on that promise.

Four years ago, Major Jack Ballentyne followed Special Agent Lowry Fisk into a death trap. Fortunately, both of them lived to tell the tale, but when he had Lowry drummed out of the British Intelligence Service for her own safety—and his own peace of mind—he knew she'd never forgive him.

Lowry Fisk knew, she just knew, that the Service had a mole, and it was up to the Assassins, the secret black-ops unit of the Service she and Jack belonged to, to find him. And as the Assassins leader, Jack should have believed her, even though she had little evidence beyond a gut feeling. But when he hadn't, she'd taken it upon herself to find the traitor—and ended up assaulted, shot, and left for dead. Jack had come to her rescue, but it had been too little, too late. Now all she wants to do is forget the attack, the Service, and the sexy, steely-eyed Major with the power to make her feel weak.

But the mole is on the move, and he's coming for Lowry to finish what he started. Jack has to get the stubborn, dangerously gorgeous woman to let him back into her life and allow him to protect her—without allowing her to worm her way into his heart.

When I finished Hard to Forget, I decided that the author had certainly chosen her title well. Because it was. VERY hard to forget.

I rarely compare authors, because each one has their own unique voice (aren't books great!), but with Incy Black, I had the same reaction as I had when I first read J. R. Ward. Sure, there aren't any vampires in this novel, but Incy has an extremely unique way of laying words on the page. Just like J. R. Ward.

A warning.....the prose is brutal, blunt, but also intriguing, amazing, utterly wonderful. I was absorbed from beginning to end.

Lowry is an amazingly strong woman (the type I love in fiction) and Jack is one hot alpha male. Stubborn, frustrating, downright bloodyminded. And there were times I was shouting out loud (always a good sign) for him to make a different decision.

This weekend, if you're looking for an amazing slice of escapism, do yourself a favour. Download Hard to Forget.

Five awesomely brutal stars !

Demeiko says

Hard to Put Down!!

From the moment I started reading this book I could not put it down! Action and intrigue started on page one! Despite her tragic past, Lowry, is sweet, brave, realistic and quite funny at times. Bruised and on the verge of being broken, Lowry fights to keep her head held high by facing her demons even with the temptation to run and hide. She runs straight into the arms of the intelligent, strategic, gorgeous and cold as ice Jack Ballyntine. Together they turn the tables on their enemies and a secretive establishment with ironclad rules. I was totally caught up with this book and actually failed an exam because I couldn't put this book down so I could study. Page turning and exhilarating! Great job to Incy Black!

Jane Hunt says

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'Hard to Forget' is a fast-paced, gritty, sexy story. Full of strong, realistic characters, which showcase this author's amazing, unique voice perfectly. The dark, action- packed scenarios are not for the squeamish. Every unsavoury incident reveals more about Jack and Lowry and those involved in their deadly pursuit.

Jack and Lowry are characterised by their mental toughness and emotional detachment. Haunted by a terrible incident in their professional past, their physical scars hide unwanted emotional vulnerability. This makes them wary of the other's motives and unwilling to acknowledge the desire that draws them together.

The sexual tension between Jack and Lowry explodes into heat and steam and finally love. A happy ever after hangs in the balance. Will they overcome their inner demons and outwit the deadly menace that pursues them?

This story is relentless there is no time to sit back and relax but it's worth the angst. 'Hard to Forget' has the addictive quality of a spy novel combined with the grit and realism of a psychological thriller.

I received a copy of this book from the author in return for an honest review.

Incy Black
