



# Deceived

*Julie Anne Lindsey*

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## **Deceived** Julie Anne Lindsey

When Elle's father, a single parent and a big shot in corporate insurance, moves her to yet another boarding school for senior year, Elle is disgusted when nothing changes. Her night terrors don't go away, and, soon, despite her father's caring calls and visits, Elle starts to believe she's losing her mind. She knows she's being followed; a ribbon is tied around her doorknob, and there are those cigarette butts that keep turning up on the doormat, in violation of a strict smoking ban on campus. Then there's Bryan, an intriguing boy Elle meets at a flea market and later finds out is a student at her school. Yet on campus, he pretends he doesn't recognize her - until the day he divulges just how much danger she's in. In her search for an answer to all the madness, Elle unravels the truth about her dad's real identity, why someone has lied to her all her life, and the terrifying truth that she may be the only one who can save her from the one who's following her now.

## **Deceived Details**

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Author : Julie Anne Lindsey

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## From Reader Review Deceived for online ebook

### ari says

3.5/5 stars.

<http://seh-bookblog.blogspot.com/>

My thoughts:

After turning the last page of *Deceived*, I can tell why Julie Anne Lindsey decided to go with the title. In the beginning, I thought it might have had something to do with the romance element, but going further into the book, I can see that the romance is only a side story to Elle's life.

Elle -- a caffeine-addict trying to fit into her role as the new girl, at Francine Frances Academy; with the help of her new best friend, Pixie. Since she can remember, her dreams have been haunting her, and getting little to no sleep has become a part of her everyday life. Strange enough, she always feels as if someone is continuously watching her. The meeting of the new boy, Bryan, doesn't make things less complicated. He is always there when she needs someone, yet again he has so many secrets, and of course he being cute doesn't quite help either. She doesn't know what to make of his actions towards her. With Bryan's appearance, Elle will discover heartache from years ago, which will have you bawling your eyes out.

*Deceived* was such a thrill! The mystery kept me on edge and the secret identities of the characters paranoid me. I was constantly taking guesses at who the serial killer might be. Everyone seemed so suspicious. And I feel bad about directing my main suspicion towards Davis -- also a student at Francine Frances. You know those plot twists where the goody-goods end up being the psychotic one? Well, yeah I was sure it was Davis, until ...

I liked that the story was set in more than one setting. It keeps the premise fresh. Admittedly, I may have skimmed a few times, as the mystery drags on, but as I said the change of settings really played an enormous part in grasping my wandering interest. And although I cannot pin-point what exactly I enjoyed about Elle being the protagonist, she just seems worthy of that title. Her attitude, personal, background, -- everything seems real -- believable. Her character continues to develop with each passing chapter. What's fascinating about Julie Anne Lindsey is that she writes so you can see the transition between the stressed--afraid Elle in the beginning of the book, to the brave Elle near the end. Even with the always brave and calm Bryan, you'll witness his demeanor faltering at one point. Her characters are not "perfect" -- each with their own struggles and self-proclaimed insanities, I believe this is what attracts readers to her writing. The realistic qualities. Overall I enjoyed *Deceived*, and would recommend it to all the Thriller-lovin' readers.

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### Margo Kelly says

If you liked the movie *THE BODYGUARD*, you'd probably enjoy this book. I certainly read faster during the second half of the book, because I needed to know exactly what was going to happen. A fun read for sure.

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### Cheryl says

Elle's father has relocated them again in a new town. Elle is tired of all the moving. At least this is her senior

year. Elle does not receive the warm welcome she was hoping for at her new school. Strange things start happening to Elle. First there is the ribbon stuffed in her locker door. The ribbon looks just like the one Elle's mother used to have. She is gone. Then there is the mystery of the cigarette butts that someone leaves on Elle's door mat at school. Who is stalking Elle and why?

I was not feeling this book as much as I would have liked to. It is on the darker side but not dark that it is depressing. What I mean by this is that the book does touch on a serious subject but without all the gore. I just could not connect with any of the characters. In fact, I found myself skimming parts of this book to make it read faster. From what I was reading it did not make me stop and slow down. The ending was alright. Sorry as there is not much else I can say about this book.

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### **Bev says**

I enjoyed the plot. I guessed some of what was happening before the end, but not everything. I didn't particularly like the characters though. Gabriella/Elle alternates between boring and ridiculously naive. "Oh, this person keeps creeping up on me and I'm not sure whether I find him scary or not, but he's attractive so I'll go off on my own with him anyway". Uhh, okay. But even though I didn't care for Elle I did want to know what had happened to her and read this book through in one sitting. I'm giving 3 stars, but really it's somewhere between 3 and 4.

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### **Alexa L says**

Wow I am not exaggerating when I say I couldn't put this book down! I put off sleep and homework to get to the end of Julie Lindsey's new romance thriller! I immediately fell in love with Brian and was so jealous of his relationship with Elle! Nobody else could make protecting people from serial killers sooo sexy! If you're looking for an awesome read that gets you sucked into the story from page one, then pick up a copy of *Deceived* ASAP you won't be disappointed!

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### **Chiara says**

A copy of this novel was received for review via NetGalley.

I had quite high hopes for *Deceived*.

Unfortunately, it fell a little flat for me. *Deceived* has all the tropes that have been used to exhaustion in the YA genre. Mysterious boy, instalove, damaged family, predictability, clueless heroine.

*Deceived* also dragged. On. And on. *And on*. Barely anything happened, and yet there was so much potential for things to happen. I mean this is a story about a stalker serial killer, but there are only two interactions between the main character and this evil guy. There could have been creepy shit left, right, and centre, but the room for creepy shit was just not utilised in any shape or form.

Our main character wasn't really ... anyone. She didn't have a passion. She didn't have aspirations. She didn't have hobbies, or anything that she liked. She wanted to be a lawyer but even said that she wasn't so

keen. And then once it was mentioned that she liked crime shows (which seemed quite ridiculous given her paranoid recurring nightmare about *someone murdering her*). So it was quite hard to connect and really care about Gabriella (or Elle as everyone calls her ... which made no sense but hey).

The romance was predictable, like I said before. Mysterious guy who is nice to the girl when they're alone but a dick when they're in public. Wants to protect her. Can't be with her because of obligations. Still makes out with her anyway. Happily Ever After.

Overall, *Deceived* had some great potential but seemed to fall victim to genre clichés.

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### **Erin Laidley says**

*Deceived* is a chilling, suspenseful read. I was drawn in from the first scene by Elle's recurring nightmare and the paranoia associated with it and immediately wanted to know more. The mystery was easily the best part of this book: there were so many small things that just didn't add up, causing both Elle and the reader to question everyone and everything. I enjoyed watching the mystery unfold, though the big reveal didn't faze me because I had figured everything out partway through the book.

For the majority of the book, I wasn't quite sure how to feel about Elle. She's a strong and determined, and I liked how she was willing to find her own answers when something didn't seem right. For someone who has reasons to be paranoid, she made some pretty poor decisions, so there were many times when I wanted to shake her and tell her to get her priorities straight.

I'm not fan of instalove in any book, and the romance in *Deceived* is no exception. It happened far too quickly, and didn't make too much sense given the context of the story. When a girl is questioning the motives of everyone she meets, you would think she'd have bigger issues than boys, right? Unfortunately not. At the 30% point, Elle entertains the idea that the boy that she's in love with - who she had just met, mind you - might be following her (view spoiler). That thought would make me run the other way as quickly as I could, but to each his own, I guess.

As Elle learns more about this mysterious boy, the story begins to pick up the pace once again. A lot more questions are raised and lead up to some fairly intense scenes, though they don't quite make up for the way that the plot dragged on in the middle portions of the book.

Overall, *Deceived* was a pretty enjoyable read filled with mystery and intrigue. If it weren't for the inconsistent pacing and the fact that I somehow became a super sleuth overnight, I would have been hooked.

*This review can also be found at The In-Between Place. I received a copy of this book from Netgalley and Merit Press in exchange for an honest review.*

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### **Brooke Church says**

A very VERY great story! SO intrigued from the very first page!

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### **Sheila Osborn hatcher says**

#### **Awesome**

Julie,

I didn't want to put it down. You are an amazing author. I'm not going to stop until I have read every one of your books. Keep them coming!!!!

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### **Brittany (Brittany's Book Rambles) says**

1.5/5 Stars.

Thank you Netgalley.com and Merit Press for my electronic ARC of this book.

The plot is unique but too many things didn't add up or make sense to me. I understand that this was meant to be a mystery book, but I found a good chunk of this book to be written in an overdramatic fashion. There were some brilliant flashes in this book, but just not enough for me.

To read my full review of this book, you can visit my blog here: <http://brittanysbookrambles.blogspot....>

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### **Yuliza says**

I thought this book was great. Had a little bit of everything. I loved it! It started a little slow, but it grew into a faster paced book, which I enjoyed.

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### **Heidi says**

I really enjoyed this novel by Julie Anne Lindsey. A young teenage girl who has moved around her whole life is going to boarding school in a small Ohio town. Elle didn't know that her life was about to be turned upside down.

I have read several crime/mystery/suspense novels throughout my life so I thought I had this one mostly figured out a little over half way through, but Julie Lindsay really threw a couple of curve balls my way. Except for a few blurbs it is a very well written book.

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### **Jeanne Drzewiecki says**

I really liked this book and would not have read this had Julie Anne Lindsey placed the 5 chapter teaser on

GoodReads! I was hooked actually after the first chapter and had to download this.

I loved the suspense and fell in love with Elle as a vulnerable character trying to gain her independence as she tries to go on with her life after being plagued with dreams and feelings of being watched. I loved the delicate situation of the romance between David/Nicholas and Elle which I felt was very well done.

I truly think that we need more stories with Austin family in it as I would have loved to gotten to know each of them better and we only got a small glimpse of the dynamics of that family (hint hint!)

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## Nicole Levesque says

I actually really liked this book. I think that it was intriguing enough to keep my attention, so it's good in my book. I would actually read another book about these characters as well.

Book 50/50 (2017)

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## Anne says

Also reviewed for Addicted2Heroines

*Uhhhhh....*

The last part of the book was pretty good, but to get to it you have to wade through some pretty murky waters. I had a really hard time understanding what was going on for the majority of the book...and not in a good way. There were numerous times when I couldn't even figure out who was speaking, mainly because it wasn't clearly stated. It's not that I like the *Bob said, "Such-n-such"* style of writing, but there has to be more than just quotation marks letting me know that someone else is talking after a while. In little doses it's a good thing, but after a page or so? Well, I lose track of *who* is saying *what*. Especially if there are more than two people in the conversation.

In the beginning it was also had to swallow Elle's attraction to Brian, mainly because she was so frightened of him. I didn't understand how she could switch gears that fast. She would be almost ready to pass out from a panic attack (because she was convinced he was a dangerous stalker), but she was simultaneously blushing and feeling butterflies in her stomach?

*Oh God! I think he's going to kill me!*

*\*swoon\**

*He's so gorgeous!*

That just wouldn't happen. I've known quite a few guys who were extremely attractive, but they gave the the creeps. So. While I recognized they were good-looking, nothing fluttered around my abdomen except that tingly **Danger! Danger!** feeling. And honestly, that's more of a churning nausea than a tingle.

Bad-Boys? *Yes please!*

Showing-Up-At-Odd-Times-Stalker-Boys? *No thank you.*

There's nothing sexy about a guy that you think might stuff you in his trunk. And even if you're not right when your gut is telling you some dude is a possible creeper, you're not going to get a warm fuzzy feeling in your tummy if you find him lurking in the shadows.

Ever.

*P.S.-Even if he's not planning to ask you to 'put the lotion in the basket', there's a reason your instincts are giving off a warning vibe. Trust your gut, ladies.*

There were manymanymany other parts of the story that didn't add up...even at the end, but I would have to give spoilers to point them out. And there's no point in reading a mystery/thriller if you already know all the secrets, right?

If you can make it through the first 70% of the story, the rest of the book is very readable. At that point I got sucked into it, and flew through till the end.

Would I recommend it?

No.

But if you're a fan of YA mysteries then you might enjoy this more than I did.

*Thanks to NetGalley for a copy of this book.*

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