



Stone Cold Seduction

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When a regular night of Robin Hood-ery results in the manifestation of some, um, unusual paranormal abilities, perfume-maker Elleodora Fredricks realizes the normal world she lives in isn't quite... normal. And neither is she, thanks to her father, king of the shadow elves. Not only is he evil incarnate and the reason Elle moonlights as a burglar someone has to take care of all his victims he's stolen her memories. And only reading her fate can fix that. Good thing she's got a trio of hotties willing to help her find said fate, but only if she gives them something in return. Saving her oracle BFF's fiance, falling in love with the gargoyle, and making up for breaking the phoenix's heart ought to be a piece of cake for the princess of the shadow elves. If only the king didn't want his daughter dead...

Stone Cold Seduction Details

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Author : Jess Macallan

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From Reader Review Stone Cold Seduction for online ebook

Marq(ReadingRomanceinColor) says

Stone Cold Seduction is the first book in the Set in Stone series. This book caught my eye because the characters are preternatural creatures that I have not read about before.

Elle is your average business owner who sometimes steals from her father. Their relationship is tenuous at best and she doesn't feel any remorse about what she is doing. Elle is your regular Robin Hood; she sells the items that she steals from her father and uses that money to help out his victims. During one of her escapades, she is nearly caught but thanks to her handsome employee, Jax, and Elle's shadowing power, they avoid being detected. Elle is grateful to have escaped unnoticed but when she discovers it is due to her shadow elf power, the world as she knows it crumbles around her.

Jax is a gargoyle and his duty is to protect Elle from her father. Elle is in a vulnerable position because everyone knew about her heritage but her. Now Elle is forced to come to terms with the knowledge that she isn't fully human, she has powers that are manifesting at a fast pace, her best friend is an oracle, her evil father is royalty and that her hot employee is a gargoyle. Oh yeah and that she is fated to be his mate.

Stone Cold Seduction offers a different twist on standard paranormal romance trope. I liked that the beings in this book are not your standard vampires and werewolves. I can honestly say that I haven't read many books where the hero is a hot gargoyle. Who ever thought that gargoyles could be sexy? Not only does Elle have to contend with the information overload about her dad, but a man from her past, MacLean, arrives and proclaims that they were once engaged. MacLean is a phoenix and his father and Elle's signed a contract for the two to wed. Something happened to break that contract and now MacLean is back, 10 years later.

Stone Cold Seduction was a quick and easy read. There was just enough information to get the plot moving and not bog it down. As Elle learns about this new world she is a part of, the reader is learning as well. The story is told from Elle's POV. Her voice is funny and snarky. We are along for the ride and it isn't an easy one. The love triangle was interesting and Elle's faith and love wasn't truly tested until the end. I'm usually not a fan of love triangles; it reminds me of so many YA novels. But so far, I find Elle's conflict to be true and genuine.

I enjoyed Stone Cold Seduction but it didn't wow me. There were some moments where I felt that Elle was TSTL but understood that her actions were necessary to create the overall arc of the story. Stone Cold Seduction ends with a whopper of a cliffhanger that makes me anxious to get the next book. All in all, a good start to what I hope will be a great series.

Sharon says

<http://ismellsheep.blogspot.com/2011/...>

Jess has created a new and captivating world full of Shadow/Light Elves, Oracles, Phoenixes :swooning: and Gargoyles :swooning yet, again. This is the first book in the Set In Stone trilogy. I am a big fan of trilogies because you get a complex story with closure in sight. The second and third books come out March and

April 2012 so there isn't a long wait and considering the cliff hanger on this one I am glad.

The story is fast paced at breakneck speed, but it is at the expense of creating characters without much depth. In the case of this story I didn't mind so much because it is so entertaining! The main character, Elle, thinks she is just an ordinary girl until she starts to exhibit some unusual abilities. She finds out her memories have been tampered with and she is actually the daughter of the Shadow Elf King and in a whole lot of trouble. I love Elle's attitude. She is written with just the right amount of clever snarkiness.

Now let's talk about smoldering alpha males (you knew I would). Elle is being pursued by two OMG perfect lovers. First there is Jax, a gargoyle shifter. Gargoyles serve the Shadow Elves. Who knew they could be so sexy? When Jax turns to stone he is more like a smooth Greek statue that is just as flexible as his human form, but can crush you without much effort. He can also turn specific *parts of himself to stone at will (hubba, hubba). Elle is his fated mate and he will have you swooning with the way he loves her, but he has some very dark secrets that Elle might not be able to forgive.

Enter, MacLean. He is a Phoenix shifter and they serve the Light Elves. Elle is also his fated mate (I know, lucky damn girl) and she was once engaged and very much in love with him, but her evil father has stolen all her memories of this supernatural world she is part of and sent her to live as a human. Elle has fallen in love with Jax, but her memories of MacLean start to come back. This is setting up a tumultuous love triangle that will leave someone with a broken heart. The author has said Elle will end up picking one over the other by the end of the trilogy and that the one who is dumped will get his own story, hopefully with a HEA! At this point I want her to pick Jax, but I think MacLean will shine in the next book leaving the reader and Elle with a very difficult choice.

This is quick, light, entertaining reading with all the right PNR and Urban Fantasy elements and is well worth your time.

Kara-karina says

3.5/5

Egalley thanks to Entangled Publishing, LLC

Stone Cold Seduction is fairly light, amusing urban fantasy. Elle has this wry sense of humour which captivated me straight away.

"I jerked at the unexpected male voice, sloshing coffee on my hand and the table. "Damn! MacLean, what are you doing here? And why do you always sneak up on me when I'm holding hot coffee?" MacLean didn't answer. I noticed his copper eyes were streaked with flame.

"Guys, can we tone it down? Please? Can we have one conversation where no one loses a shirt, is on fire, turns to stone, or growls uncontrollably?"

She is this artsy new age woman, owner of a spa products shop, products which she creates herself. Her only drawback is her evil dad. She thinks he is some sort of mafia man and from time to time she steals some precious stones or antiques from him to donate the money to the families of his victims.

However, reality is much more complicated. Dear daddy is a king of shadow elves, and Elleodora is his heir.

On the night of her latest burglary, Elle is saved from being seen by her hot new employee Jax who suddenly sprouts wings and drops them from multi-storied building. Bewildered, Elle finds out that her world is not what it seems. Her best friend is an oracle, Jax is gargoyle and she actually has an ex-fiance phoenix whom she can't remember because dear dad wiped her memories...

Elle starts manifesting powers unusual even for her new world and her time is running out as everyone wants to either use or kill her, and the only way to save herself is for Elle to read her fate...

Loved everything in the book, but love relationship between Elle and Jax. I'm not a big fan of soul mates idea as I said before, and here it's done particularly badly. Everything happens super fast, unbelievably fast, and all these smoochies and swoons were making me gag. He was calling her his "little gem" for God's sake! It's even worse than "ma petite"!

Other than that I loved that Elle's character develops really well and she finally grows a pair to stand up to her dad. I'm looking forward to the next installment and well done to Jess Macallan for such an interesting book!

Verdict: refreshing, fast read, full of humour and drama. If you like Mary Janice Davidson and Kerrelyn Sparks, I think you'll like this one as well.

Brooke Moss says

Excellent read. I am extremely picky with my fantasy/UF books that I read, as I am not typically a fan. But this book had enough sass, wit, and realism to suck me in. The main character, Elle, is as believable as my own BFF, with her sardonic humor and lack of confidence, and the hero character? Jax? Oy, a very tasty treat. This is a highly recommended read for anyone who enjoys urban fantasy, OR for someone looking to dabble. If you are considering trying out an urban fantasy for the first time...this is the crossover book for you.

Dahlia (yadkny) says

What's a girl to do when some want you dead and some want you alive, but you're not even sure who you are anymore? Well one thing's for certain, knowledge is definitely power.

Elleodora (Elle) Fredrick's might seem like a small-time soap shop keeper in a big city, but that's just barely touching the surface to who she really is. By night, she is a thief determined to steal from the man who made her young life hell for two weeks every year. Her independence was hard-won and so she takes from him and gives back to the families who were made to suffer while in her employ.

On what was to be a night like any other while burglarizing her father's property turns into a night of unimagined discovery where mythical creatures are no longer myth. Elle's sadistic father is revealed as the shadow elf king making her the royal heir to the shadow elf throne. Unfortunately, no one told her any of this until now when latent abilities start to manifest. Turns out, she's an anomaly to everyone and only receiving her official fate reading can provide answers.

A dangerous journey to Scotland is in order to find a fate-reading oracle that has first hand knowledge of Elle's fate, but before this "Dorothy" can leave for "Oz", she'll be taking a few people with her. A quirky oracle of a best friend, a sexy gargoyle bodyguard, and a fever-inducing phoenix. Since nothing ever comes quite so easy for Elle, she'll also have to avoid being caught by hunters out to collect her dead or alive thanks to her father and do battle with her father's nightmarish goons. And if that wasn't enough, suppressed memories from her formative years are starting to pop up revealing enlightening truths, but even scarier revelations. Who is Elleodora Fredrick's and what is her fate? Once found, her fate will change everything.

I am in love with Ms. Macallan's writing! She completely had me seduced by the first page of this entertaining, action-packed story. Her writing is fluid and easily imagined where complexities of world-building could have become confusing.

Elle's voice is strong and comes across with such clarity. Her flashbacks were brilliantly timed and placed in the story as to not overwhelm, but leave the reader craving more. Elle's a unique and memorable heroine with her cat-burglary and strong aversion to violence. The start to her journey is a bumpy one, but her growth thus far is tremendous and I quite like how she doesn't give in too easily to anything and above all continues to fight for her independence. Fate or no fate, she lays many burdens heavily on her own shoulders and remains determined to avenge those who have been wronged by her father. Ms. Macallan has created a very admirable and likable heroine indeed!

"When you are ready," he interrupted, "I would like you to call me 'love.' Until then, Jax is fine."

That's right ladies, get ready to fall in love with a gargoyle! Jaxon West is protective, possessive, strong, perceptive, not to mention insanely gorgeous, and almost indestructible. When it comes to Elle, Jax always seems to know what to say and what she needs sometimes even before she does. He never pressures her more than she is willing to give him and will wait for as long as it takes her to accept this new part of her life. In other words, Jax is perfect. Well now, we shouldn't get too far ahead of ourselves because there is another candidate in the race to win Elle's heart with a slight advantage over the competition. Beware of the phoenix! I have a feeling he may steal some of the show in the next book.

A phenomenal first installment to the *Set in Stone* series! Even in the aftermath of having read the final page to the story, I am still in awe over all that happened in what seemed to be a blink of an eye. I am spellbound and anxiously wait until the next chapter of Elleodora's journey begins. The next showdown is bound to be even more heart-stopping and adrenaline-inducing than the first and I find myself already addicted. Ms. Macallan is officially on my author's-to-watch-for list and I am excited to share such incredible talent with others who are readers of the paranormal romance and urban fantasy genres.

Review also posted @ Night Owl Reviews

Danielle says

This review was originally posted at Ramblings From This Chick

Wow. Wow, is the only word I can think of after finishing this book. It was just so good and I couldn't put it down. I just kept turning the page completely absorbed in the story.

Elleodora Fredricks or "Elle" has recently learned that she is part of a supernatural world consisting of

Shadow Elves, Light Elves, Oracles, Phoenixes, and Gargoyles. With her future unknown she sets off on a journey to find her fate with her oracle best friend Teryl, and her possible mates Jax the gargoyle and Maclean the phoenix.

I really enjoyed this story and it's great cast of characters. I felt like I connected with Elle and her mission to find fate. I couldn't wait to see what was going to transpire with everything. There were many twists and turns that I can honestly say I didn't see coming.

I can't wait to pick up the next book in the Set in Stone series because I am definitely hooked.

This was an ARC copy provided by NetGalley

Μαρ?α Γεωργοπο?λου says

I really can't believe that I just read a book and it made me find a GARGOYLE sexy! But, it happens! "Stone Cold Seduction" by Jess Macallan is the first book in the Set in Stone series and it's a powerful start!

This book is about Elle a young woman who is happy running her little shop and hating her father. Her dislike is so deep that she's stealing artifacts from him so she can give the money to people who have suffered because of her father's actions. One day she learns that nothing is as she believed. Her father is king of the Shadow elves and she is his heir. Ah.. and her best friend is an oracle and her sexy employee a gargoyle. Soon, she finds herself in big danger. With the help of a mysterious man all of them will start a journey so they can find her... fate!

Elle is a young woman with some horrible memories from her childhood and that makes her hate her father. She is strong and she handles pretty good all these new information about her life. The only thing she wants is a happy and peaceful life but, unfortunately, this is not going to happen anytime soon because now she has to deal with her father!

What can I say about sexy Jax? He is the typical tragic hero. Of course, he is sexy and I love that he's so overprotective with Elle but a few things I learned while reading the book didn't make me happy! The truth is that he loves Elle very much and he can do anything for her.

MacLean is another sexy man but there is a mystery about his past with Elle. He's also very good and he wants to do the best for her.

Teryl is her best friend and one of my favorites in the book! I'm looking forward to read more about him in the future!

I recommend this book to all the fans of the genre!

Mrs. Badass says

Grade: B+ 4 Stars, Thank you to Netgalley and Entangled Publishing for allowing me to read this novel.

Stone Cold Seduction by Jess Macallan follows the story of our un-likeable heroine Elleodora {Elle} on her journey to find her fate.

By Day, Elle owns and runs a scent shop called Emmaline's and finally feels she has gotten away from her Evil father and his henchmen.

By Night, Elle moonlights as Robin Hood--stealing from her Father and selling the merchandise in order to pay the medical bills of her fathers victims and families.

While stealing some precious jewels, Elle finds herself in a precarious balance. On the ledge five stories up on her fathers building, she is almost caught by her arch-nemesis Luke. But Jaxon pokes his head out a window, assess the situation, steps out with Elle and they hold their collective breathe while her fathers minions search the building for the thief. Elle shadows for the first time, and Jaxon hauls/jumps off the ledge from five stories up.

Enter the Truth. Can Elle Handle the Truth?

Secrets seem to be the theme of Stone Cold Seduction and Jaxon is keeping his close to the vest. So is Elle's best friend of 17 years Teryl. Teryl is an Oracle and Jax is a Gargoyle. We meet Macleon-- The Phoenix and learn of his history with Elle.

You see, Elle has had her memory wiped out and she doesn't remember Mac, or what she could be, or who her father really is as King of the Shadow Elves.

So sets the journey. Both Jax and Mac claim that Elle is their true mate. Elle get's flashes of her past love of Mac, but that conflicts with her present love of Jax.

What will happen? Will Elle find her fate? Will Luke get a hold of her and torture her again as he did when she was young? What will fate hold in store of Elleodora?

This book was cool and different. There are a lot of twists and turns. By the end, you think you know--but you have no idea. Love, Betrayal, Trust. This book is frustrating--in a good way.

The end is maddening. In a fresh way. I can't wait to read the next chapter of this trilogy by Jess Macallan.

Erica says

You could say that I couldn't choose between this book to read or another one at the time and I can honestly say that I am glad I chose this one first. As I had received this book through Goodreads First Reads, I wasn't sure what to expect. I thought "Gargoyle? Phoenix? I haven't read anything like this" and I was right. I was hooked from the first line, quickly devouring the world that Jess Macallan has created. With a overly sexy and tempting gargoyle, a gorgeous Phoenix, and a best-friend who's Mr. Funny Man (not to mention good-looking as well), who wouldn't enjoy it?

With most books that I've read lately, there isn't much content. Halfway through the books, I find myself thinking that I've read nothing at all except the sexual tension between the main characters. While there is plenty of that in Stone Cold Seduction, there was also content behind it.

Can't wait for the next book! I'll tweedle my thumbs as I wait in anticipation... I can't wait that long..... Oh well, just have to read another book from my to-read list. :)

Fani *loves angst* says

4.5 stars

Wow! This turned out to be one of the most entertaining books I've read all summer! I admit, I'm not a big UF fan; I picked this up with the illusion that it was a stand alone PNR. It turned out I was wrong, but I haven't regretted it a single moment:)

UF seems to be dominated by kick-ass, bitchy heroines, who don't trust anyone and refuse all kinds of help offered to them. This fact doesn't make them too endearing to me I'm afraid. In this book however, I met at last a heroine, who burglar-abilities aside, could be like any other girl out there: she's afraid, truly scared of the bad guys but also has brains, determination and is willing to ask for help and advice and actually listen to it. This, is a refreshingly nice change IMO. I really, really loved Elle -and her passion for perfumes which happens to be a hobby of mine- and wanted for her to find the truth about her past and future. And I really wish for her to pick the right guy in the end. Because this is a love-triangle story and she has to choose who's the right one. At first things seem pretty obvious as she's very attracted to Jax and feelings are obviously mutual. However, it soon became obvious that he's been keeping some secrets from her that could affect their relationship. Still, Jax was one hot hero and I enjoyed reading about the two of them. I do admit though, to being very interested about the other potential love interest, that in this book stayed in the backstage mostly.

If there's one thing I didn't like in this book, it's that Jax's and Elle's relationship starts in the middle; there's already plenty of background between them and the courting has already been done off-stage when the book starts. This left me in a kind of confusion at first and less than sure that what they have -at least from Elle's side- is not just lust but love. Add to this, the heap of things being revealed in a steady stream that seemed a little too fast for the reader to catch at first, and the beginning becomes a little convoluted. But after the initial confusion, everything gets clear and when the action begins.... it's a ride to enjoy! The fact that the species in this book are not the usual ones like vampires and werewolves, is an added bonus that adds to the book's uniqueness.

I'm definitely looking forward to the next book in the series. I have already picked my favorite guy and I'm really anxious to see if he'll win:) And of course there's the suspense about Elle, Luke, her father and her role in Fate's plans.

If you're looking for a fast paced, interesting UF book, out of the ordinary *cliches* of this genre, I highly recommend this one!

ARC provided by NetGalley

WildAboutBones says

A Shadow Elf King, gargoyles, oracles, phoenix, light elves, fae, demigods, halflings, an evil father and not one but two romances are featured in this paranormal fantasy romance that grabs you from the first page.

It is a very humorous yet intense story told first person from Elle's point of view. One day she's just an ordinary 27 yr old woman trying to get back at her father for all the years of abuse and his murdering of innocents. The next day her life is turned upside down when she learns her world is not what is seems, nor are the people in her life.

Not Teryl, her best friend since she was ten. Not her gorgeous new employee Jax, who she thinks is "*hot, sweaty, bring-the-roof-down sex poured into jeans*" with a voice which reminds her of "*her favorite chocolate. Dark, smooth, and so delicious, you can only eat one small bite at a time*". Not even her father nor Mac, who she doesn't remember but tells her they were engaged.

Both Jax and Mac claim Elle is their mate. What? She doesn't even know what that is supposed to mean, let alone know why she has two.

Has very funny lines such as "*No more manversations. Use your words, please. I'm not up for interpreting meaningful stares and growling.*"

The chemistry between Jax and Elle is steamy and the sex out of this world good. When she gets a few of her memories of Mac back, he is like a comfortable old sweater to her.

I read this in one sitting as I got so caught up in the story I was surprised when I reached the end so quickly. I cannot wait for the sequel.

Warning Spoiler Alert!!!

The story ends with a cliffhanger which leaves you wanting to run right out and get the sequel.

Julia says

STONE COLD SEDUCTION establishes the start of a new series, and it is a mixed bag to begin with. Elle seems to move backwards throughout the book, starting out as a leather-clad cat-burglar robbing her father to help his victims, and ending up as a victim herself. While there is obvious potential for her to grow into her birthright, Elle's resistance and anger is her own worst enemy in book one. Even her love life is hard to get excited about, as the two handsome, charming, and wonderful men in her life are obviously pitted against each other in a love triangle decreed by Fate.

Though the end of **STONE COLD SEDUCTION** gives hope for future books, there is no incremental triumph to celebrate at the close of this one. Elle's strength in the face of childhood trauma is admirable, and she is able to fightback against her tormenters for the first time, but ultimately we are left with the prospect of an uncertain love life, an uncertain home life, and a battle against her sadistic father to look forward to. I'm interesting in finding out more, but I think I'll wait until I can read the rest of the series in one sitting. Elle will come out on top in the end, I just want to make sure I can get to the end as soon as possible.

Full review at All Things Urban Fantasy.

Sexual Content: Several sex scenes.

Sareh says

So I guess this is one of those things I've seen on other blogs where the post title is usually something like In My Mailbox. But I'm just gonna call it a review as I would do with normal books. I have signed up with a website called Netgallery where you can request to read and review books before they are out. And because I'm suppose to get the review for the books out before they're actually published, I'm going to post my reviews for these requested books first before I get to my regular books. Anyways....

So the title is kinda sketch I know, but it's an adult book. Yes, I, a teenager, read adult books. One of the reasons I picked up this book was that it's fantasy and has elves and the like in it. I'm interested in pretty much anything that has elves in it.

Writing: I enjoyed the writing style in this book. I thought it was good and I saw a few words here and there I had to look up because I wasn't sure what they meant. The story's PoV is in first person, present tense, which I enjoy reading. I have seen a lot of books in first person but not a lot of them are in present tense. I also thought that Macallan keeps up the tense well throughout the rest of the book.

Plot: While romance is certainly a strong theme in this book, as is the much overused love triangle, I enjoyed that Macallan didn't make it the center of the book. I enjoyed following Elle in her quest to retrieve her fate. I thought that there was enough tension and a sense of urgency to keep me reading and guessing. There were bits of mystery in this story that made it exciting. And the plot twists were great too, I never saw most of them coming.

Characters: I thought that all of the characters were very good. Elle was a character that I think people can relate to and she was interesting. Although she was good as the Main Character, I thought that she could be too stubborn and she didn't really ever trust anyone (although she has good reason not too). Jax was an interesting character, but I thought that he was way overprotective. Sometimes it was annoying and kinda creepy.

MacLean I thought was sweet. I felt bad for him when he realized that Elle doesn't remember him at all. Although as we go through the story, we see her slowly remembering who he is. As for Elle's father and Luke, I hated them. They were evil characters just as Elle said so. Macallan certainly did a good job portraying them as evil. I thought that her best friend, Teryl, was a good friend too. He was kinda funny and interesting.

What I liked: I enjoyed the creativity in this book. I was happy to not only find out that there was no vampire and werewolves in this novel, but I also enjoyed Macallan's take on gargoyles and phoenixes. This is one of those moments were I think "why didn't I think of that!". While I'm sure I've seen gargoyles in humanoid forms before, I've certainly never come across phoenixes in human shape before. So I thought it was cool that Elle could "shift" both. And how gargoyles were bound to serve shadow elves and phoenixes were bound to serve light elves. I thought that the world building in this story was very good as was the mythology

and lore put into it. I also loved the powers that Elle developed.

What I didn't like: As I said before, this is an adult novel so it has some..adult parts in it. And lets just say I skipped over them because I really didn't want to read those parts. That being said, I thought that Elle's relationship with Jax (cool name by the way) was too soon. I've seen this in other novels where the character has met a love interest and suddenly they're in love. I mean, how realistic is that?

I think Elle's relationship with Jax was based more on lust and desire than it was on love. I think that her relationship with MacLean is based more on love even though she doesn't really remember him. And the whole part about Jax being made for her I think is complete rubbish even though his fate says so. It just bugged me. Elle has only known him for two months and all of the sudden they're in love and crap.

Overall: I really liked this book and I thought it was good! I'd recommend it for it's certainly very nicely done. The only real problem I had with it was the relationship between Elle and Jax.

Dark Faerie Tales says

Review courtesy of Dark Faerie Tales.

Quick & Dirty: Elle is just a mere mortal or so she thought. In one day all that changes. Now she is confronted with gargoyles, elves of both light and shadow, phoenixes, oracles and more. Now she has to find her fate and save many from her father's evil doings. On top of that she has to choose between her first love and the man she now loves.

Opening Sentence: The worst day of my life began with a double mocha, extra whipped cream.

The Review:

This was a wonderful book to read. It is about a woman named Elleodora Fredricks who thought she was just an ordinary soap maker and part-time burglar. Then after stealing some gems from her father and almost getting caught she realizes that she is much more. In fact she is part shadow elf and part demi-god. Her father is the evil shadow elf king and she is his heir. Unfortunately for Elle, the items she had been stealing from her father turned out to be souls from other creatures. How does she learn the truth of all this? Easy, her boyfriend who is actually a gargoyle, and her best friend who is an oracle, tells her. Now these three, along with Elle's ex-fiancé, who is a phoenix, must find Elle's fate and stop her father from using her for his evil deeds.

There were times that I really liked Elle and then there were other times when I did not. I did like the fact that she held it together fairly well when she found out that she was part of a whole other world that she previously thought was all myths. She did have a few times where it overwhelmed her, but who wouldn't be overwhelmed? I also liked how she stole from her father to help those people who he had harmed in some way. The part of her I didn't like was that she was sometimes rather reckless. She knows there is a price and a death warrant out for her and she still had a tendency to take off on her own. This usually gets her into trouble and sometimes the guys also. My favorite part about Elle was that she stood up to her father and her

worst nightmare rather than just giving in when she is confronted by them.

Elle's father was a horrible being and Jess Macallan did a good job when she wrote up this villain. To the outside world he was a great business man and an honorable man. Those who knew him better knew about the evil that was in him. He had people killed just for looking at him wrong. Even though Elle was his daughter, he never had a problem handing her over to Luke, a sick disgusting man, who loved to torture Elle.

The three men in Elle's life were so different from each other, but all were very important to her in some way. First is her best friend Teryl, who is an oracle. They have been best friends forever. Whenever she is feeling down Teryl is there with a smile and comfort food. He is also her partner in crime. He finds the shipments and the items that Elle steals. When Elle learns who she really is he is right by her side the whole way supporting her and trying to help her learn about herself. Secondly, is MacLean Douglas, Elle's former fiancé, unfortunately she does not remember him because of the memories her father has stolen from her. Mac is back in her life as a hunter looking for the souls that Elle accidentally took. He believes in her innocence and wants to help her prove it and protect her from other hunters like him. Mac has copper colored hair and eyes and is a phoenix that has a tendency to burst into flames around the last guy in Elle's life. His name is Jaxon West and he is a gargoyle and the new love in Elle's life. He is the complete opposite of Mac. Where Mac has copper hair and eyes, Jax has black hair and gray eyes that have a tendency to go silver when he is experiencing high emotions. Whenever Mac and Jax are around you can expect a fight and they battle for the woman who was fated for both but meant to be with only one.

I really enjoyed reading this book. It was hard for me to put this story down. I wanted to know if Elle succeeded in retrieving her fate and to find out which man she ends up with. I was on the edge of my seat as I read page after page of action. I do have to say I was not a big fan of the end because it was a cliffhanger leading up to the next book. I cannot wait to read the next one and find out how Elle's story will play out. If the second book in this series Stone Cold Revenge is even half as good as this one I will thoroughly enjoy it.

Notable Scene:

Her eyes flicked to him for a moment before coming back to my face. "She knew how her life would end. She told me her death would be for a great cause, for a worthy individual." She raked me with a contemptuous look. "You are not worthy. She was wrong about you."

FTC Advisory: Entangled Publishing provided me with a copy of Stone Cold Seduction. No goody bags, sponsorships, "material connections," or bribes were exchanged for my review.

Kathy Martin says

I really enjoyed this first book in a new urban fantasy/paranormal romance series even though the female lead was atypical for the genre. Elle is not a kick-butt and take names kind of woman. She hates the sight of blood and violence makes her faint. She owns her own shop where she makes soaps and lotions. She is very sensitive to the way things smell. She also had an unfortunate childhood. She is the child of divorced parents and her two weeks each year with her father was the opportunity for one of her father's employees to torture her (with her father's permission.) She was constantly told that she was worthless to her father. She grew up hating him and wanting to help his many victims. This has led to a second career as a cat burglar.

She has a best friend named Teryl who assists her in her second career. She only steals from her father and

uses the proceeds to take care of some of his other victims. Teryl helps her identify things to steal. She also has an employee in her shop named Jax. He is a hottie of epic proportions but she just longs for him from afar until the night he rescues her in the middle of one of her burglaries. That burglary also caused her to manifest some unusual powers.

She didn't know that her father was a shadow elf. In fact, he is the king of the shadow elves and she is his heir. She is surprised to find out that Teryl is an Oracle and Jax is a gargoyle. Apparently, when she didn't manifest any powers by age seventeen, her father wiped out her memory. She needs to play catch-up really fast now that she is developing some unusual powers. She also finds out that she has been stealing the souls of a variety of the non-human characters in the world which were hidden in the objects Teryl had her steal. All of a sudden, she has hunters on her trail. Her only hope is to travel to Scotland to find out her fate which her father should have shared with her at age eleven.

She also finds out that she once had a fiance named MacLean who is a phoenix. He comes to her shop to investigate the thefts. She doesn't remember him. This immediately sets up a rivalry for her affections between Jax and MacLean. Both believe that she is their fated mate. Elle is very conflicted.

The book is a journey of self-discovery for Elle. She learns about a world that she didn't know existed. It is also filled with danger and adventure as Elle, Teryl, Jax and sometimes MacLean try to find Elle her fate and keep her out of the hands of the hunters and her father.

This book also introduced me to a new word - manversation. Elle defines it as "a conversation men have where only grunts, growls, and manly looks are exchanged." I love it and intend to use it lots.

I recommend this book for lovers of paranormal romance but caution readers that this is the first book in a series. There is a small resolution at the end of the book but most of the major problems are still to be solved. Luckily, readers need only wait until November for book 2 and January for book 3. I know that I am eager to find out what comes next for Elle.
