



Sail

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Since the death of her husband, Anne Dunne and her three children have struggled in every way. In a last ditch effort to save the family, Anne plans an elaborate sailing vacation to bring everyone together once again. But only an hour out of port, everything is going wrong. The teenage daughter, Carrie, is planning to drown herself. The teenage son, Mark, is high on drugs and ten-year-old Ernie is nearly catatonic. This is the worst vacation ever.

Anne manages to pull things together bit by bit, but just as they begin feeling like a family again, something catastrophic happens. Survival may be the least of their concerns.

Written with the blistering pace and shocking twists that only James Patterson can master, *Sail* takes "Lost" and "Survivor" to a new level of terror.

Sail Details

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From Reader Review Sail for online ebook

CupcakeBlonde says

This story, with its many different layers and one disaster occurring after the next is riviting. (Sorry Lisa, I really wanted to hate it) The idea that so much could go wrong on one family vacation trip makes me feel bad for complaining about all the excursions my parents lugged us on as kids. They had nothing on this trip from hell. And then to come out of everything to discover that someone you loved and trusted set you up to die is infuriating...and they get away with it...sort of. The end had me gloating that the bad guys did not win in the end. My only beef with the story is that once the uncle died he was almost forgotten except for a mention here or there. And he was a pretty integral part of the story. But other than that it was a really entertaining tale and a fabulous book to have read to me with two very distinct narrators.

Claudiu D. says

Final ruinat, dar devine un soi de regula pentru romanele lui James Patterson.
Pentru o dupa-amiza cand nu ai ce sa faci, romanul acesta e perfect. Se citeste repede, e plin de clisee si extrem de uitabil. Si nici nu trebuie sa te soliciti prea mult in timpul lecturii - deloc, as zice.

Deej Greenwood says

"IMMA KILLMYSELF! WE'RE SINKING! BOOM! HOMIGOD A SHARK! SNAAAAAAAKES! Oh and throw a ghost in for good measure."

There, now you don't really have to read this drivel!

I've never read a James Patterson book before and I don't think I'll read a second. It reads like a goosebumps book* that he had to pepper with "adult themes" Y'know because adults cheat on everyone all the time. It's also dreadfully dull, probably because each obstacle was so easily overcome that more had to appear, to just offset the tedious monotony. There's no tension at all, none. It's like "OH NO A SHARK! oh you killed it already? Ok now what?" And it's like that through the entire book. It's a bad book, I wish I could rate it minus stars! But actually, it's so bad you have to read it. Just drink a lot before hand, for yourself.

OH! One more thing, was it really necessary to have 125 chapters? I mean most of them are 2 pages long, you might get the odd 4-5 page chapter. Also the font has to be at least size 16. All in all it made me feel like The Family Dunne; A bad metaphor sailing through an ocean of sh*te.

Nancy Zorn says

I've read other books by James Patterson. This, however, was the first I've read by him with a secondary author. The "short chapter" style is typical James Patterson. What I don't understand is this: Were they both responsible for the story? I wonder because the storyline was pretty far-fetched and hideous. I just kept

thinking, "They're doing what? That's stupid." Honestly, I think I'd head back to the dock after the first snafu. Or, "What idiot put dive tanks in an overhead locker?" I have, after all, spent a little time on-board a sail boat. Even if they've not sailed, they could have done a wee bit of research. Seriously, these people would have been weeded from the gene pool early on. And, yet, I kept reading....all. the. way. to. the. end. (I'm a little OCD in that way.) Given all my gripes, there were a couple good things about this book – Good thing #1: You never wonder if you're going to get stuck for a long time before the chapter ends because I don't think there's a chapter that exceeds six pages in the entire book. Good thing #2: You don't need to pay a lot of attention to the story because it's dead simple and is easy to read in distracting situations (like airports and planes). This book will be setting sail for the used book store.

Suzanne says

3.0-3.5*

Not bad. I liked it but certainly not my favorite James Patterson co-written book. I was drawn to the book because of the lost at sea aspect; a scenario that is terrifying! The mixture of a murder plot and scandalous relationships really added to the plot. I did not connect with the characters and found the story a bit predictable. I am not one that is going to complain about the typical shark scene of being lost at sea because, well, honestly as a reader I was waiting for it. The snake scene I'm just indifferent about.

My quick and simple overall: a quick read that only takes about 5 hours to read, with enough entertainment to keep a reader interested but not the best Patterson co-written book by any means.

Kaila says

Sad to say, but I only made it about 45 pages into this book before I decided to move it along unread. The story sounded like it might be on shaky ground to begin with but I had heard such great things about the author that I was determined to give it a fair shot.

The story goes that a family that has recently fallen apart since the death of the father that acted as the linchpin takes a vacation on the very boat that was the scene of the father's death. Mom, who is a workaholic heart surgeon, is determined that the forced family vacation is the only way that she can hold her family together. This is the shaky ground that I mentioned earlier. Now that the mother is the figurehead of the family she decides it is time to spend some time with her children, all of whom are falling apart in one way or another. Within the first forty-five pages the oldest child attempts to commit suicide, the oldest boy gets high, we learn the brother-in-law is in love with the mother and always has been, the boat begins to sink and there is a hired killer after them the minute they leave the dock. I just did not buy it and I could not get into it. On top of all of this, the novel switches from a third person omniscient narrator to a first person account by the mother and although it was not confusing it grated on my nerves. I decided the best course of action was to just pass it along to the BCer I promised it to in a trade rather than spend weeks dreading it.

Marc-Antoine says

A fast read, couldn't put it down, and enjoyed the heck out of it.

Stephanie says

The only reason this book was published was because James Patterson's name was associated with it. There is no way he wrote this. It was horribly written...most of which sounded like a ninth grader. The story had an interesting premise but was terribly written, predictable and annoying.

Susan Barrett says

This was a real good story and had a great ending...I am so glad he left out all that gory stuff, kept me on the edge of my seat. Don't know if I will be getting on a sailboat for a vacation any time soon!!
Patterson has won me back after this book...
Susan

Lainy says

Time taken to read - < 1 day

Pages - 388

Publisher - Arrow

Blurb from Goodreads

"Barely out of sight of land, the Dunne family finds its summer getaway to paradise already turning into the trip from hell. Carrie, the eldest, has thrown herself off the side of the boat in a bid for attention. Sixteen-year-old Mark is getting high belowdecks. And Ernie, their ten-year-old brother, is nearly catatonic. It's shaping up to be the worst vacation ever." "Katherine Dunne had hoped this trip would bring back the togetherness they'd lost when her husband died four years earlier. Maybe if her new husband, a high-powered Manhattan attorney, had been able to postpone his trial and join them it would all have been okay." Suddenly, a disaster hits - and it's perfect. Faced with real danger, the Dunnes rediscover the meaning of family and pull together in a way they haven't in a long time. But this catastrophe is just a tiny taste of the danger that lurks ahead: someone wants to make sure that the Dunne family never makes it out of paradise alive.

My Review

I really enjoy Patterson books although his collaborations with other authors not always so much. This one is perfect for a beach read or if you just want something that isn't challenging. The Dunnes are taking the family boat out for a trip together to try and reconnect & sort out their issues. Peter Carlyle is the step dad and staying behind in New York, his wife, her three kids and her brother in law from a previous marriage head off. Personal problems arise, a horrendous storm hits and then there is an explosion, certainly not the

best start to a holiday. Stranded, hurt and presumed dead, the Dunnes need to do what they can to stay alive.

There is a lot about this book that you find yourself having to suspend reality to get through but once you do that it is actually an enjoyable, fast paced read. The characters have a lot of personal issues to get through but once they are in peril that takes a back seat. The book splits between the Dunnes encounters and back home with the smarmy step father hot shot lawyer.

As with all Patterson books, the chapters are tiny which annoys some people but I actually really like that, you can dip in and out as time allows. As I said a good choice for a day by the pool and if you can get past the most unlikely events happening you will enjoy the book, 3/5 for me.

Matt says

This may be the stupidest book I have ever read. I ran to the library before our vacation to get some books to read at the beach. This book says on the back something like "may be the perfect book to read at the beach" so I checked it out. I haven't read any other books by this guy so I don't know if it is normal for him to write like this or not. I was in the mood for something sort of mindlessly entertaining but I wasn't expecting something designed for the absolutely lowest common denominator that is still capable of reading. It is really a shame that this guy makes money from writing this trash. (It wasn't particularly profane or graphic, it was just really dumb)

Julia says

This book was easy to read and kept me engrossed throughout. I made predictions on what was going to happen every time I finished a chapter and I was surprised of the outcome. Some of my guessing was right, but some were wrong and that made me excited to continue reading. My favorite character in the book was Katherine Dunne. Katherine's life gives one's desire to have besides the unbalance family. Katherine has a good career, wealthy and a second husband who she was deeply in love with. From reading the book I can say that Katherine Dunne is brave, committed and strong. All the negative things that were thrown at Katherine, she remained strong. Her motivation to not give up was very inspiring. Katherine's purpose of the family vacation was to bring her family back together. With that being said will Katherine's mission to unite her family be fulfilled? This book will keep you laughing and will leave you in great surprise. The story will grip you as you keep turning the pages. Overall, this book was awesome I would give this book five stars!!

Julie says

Not my favorite of Patterson's books, but I did like the ending. I always love it when they get what's coming to them..... :)

David says

I like James Patterson. I wanted to like this book. I really tried... but this was terrible. Maybe it's because of

the whole "co-author" nonsense, but this is just an embarrassing effort. In fact, if you are a speed reader then this is the perfect book for you; no depth, lazy writing, no development of characters... you just want to get through it as quickly as possible. It reminds me of some of the drivel churned out by John Grisham in recent years; his early work was so good and then he got complacent and just tried to crank out anything he could.

I think if James Patterson himself were to review this book he would give it a poor rating and most surely chastise himself; he really shouldn't let this happen again.

Barakiel says

Here's some advice: Read a really bad book before you pick up this one.

I quit at chapter 60. Why are the chapters only 2 pages long? Why are most of the paragraphs only 2 sentences long? Why is everyone beautiful and a millionaire? Why is the 45 yr old mother/heart surgeon so immature and stupid? How accurate are the medical situations in this book? (Isn't a tourniquet a LAST resort because you can lose your friggin LEG?!) Why is there no depth in this book? Why are problems solved so quickly and without much ado? I mean, I'm a very impatient person and I love short clipped sentences and sometimes I can appreciate a startlingly short chapter if it's done for effect. But this just felt rushed all the way, like whoever wrote it had soooo many ideas they had to get it all out at once, all on top of one another. Here's an idea: Put in less content and make the content that actually is there MEANINGFUL to the reader. After 60 chapters (what, 120pages?) I couldn't care less about anybody.

I hate quitting books, I really do. But when during every chapter - that is, every second page - you think "WTH is this crap?" it's probably best to put it down.

James says

The lure of the airport bookshelf with signs extolling the wonders of Mr. Patterson's writing, the accolades heaped upon the book, etc. I should have known. Luckily I took some other books with me on holiday. I soldiered on, hoping it would get better, but it felt like wasted time.

I didn't connect with any of the characters, they seemed very two-dimensional. The plot didn't either grab or surprise me either. Sadly as my first James Patterson, I'm not inclined to try any others. In fact, a book I hated so much that I left my copy in Croatia - I never get rid of books...

Molly says

This book would probably be best read by a person who doesn't read very many books, if such a person were looking for something light to read at the beach or on an airplane. I wasn't familiar with Patterson & Co's books until I happened across this one at the library. The plotline sounded interesting and I do love a good mystery but it just didn't pan out. Plus, they kinda lost me in the first few chapters -- if you're headed out on a 2 month sailboat trip and on the first day, your daughter flings herself off the boat and tries to drown herself, for the love of god, turn around. How tiresome would it be to spend two months on a sailboat in the middle of the ocean trying to keep someone from drowning herself? The writing is chock full of cliches and

hackneyed sayings, so at least those were entertaining to listen to on the audiobook version. I got to where I could predict the cliche before it was uttered ...oohhh I betcha he's about to call her a fly in the ointment... "Well. She's become a real fly in the ointment..."

Wendy says

I must say that I'm stumped by the rave reviews on this one. I guess I'm squarely in the camp of the reviewers who found this book to be predictable, with a flimsy plot and even flimsier characters. The only thing that kept me reading on was that each "chapter" was only 1-2 pages long. At some point, it was entertaining to see how bad the writing could get. Apparently, there's nothing that a big name author with a big marketing budget and a nice cover can't overcome.

There were no unexpected plot twists, no shockers, and really no suspense. This is throw-away fiction at its best (or worst, depending on how you look at it). I think James Patterson would do himself a favor to stop putting his name on these "co-writes" and I think it discredits some of his earlier and much better solo work.

I found the frequent references to pop culture, celebrities, and brand names to be a lazy convention, allowing the author to "describe" without having to actually go to the effort of crafting any actual description. To say that one character collects watches like Paris Hilton collects shoes, or to describe another as "George Clooney in khakis and docksiders" just smacks of lazy, shortcut writing. There were a few references to people and things that I was not familiar with, rendering the description useless.

Characters acted in ways that were really unbelievable or completely stereotypical. Stereotypes were in full force, with the angst-ridden pot-smoking teen, the anorexic, suicidal teen, the precocious and loveable tween, the workaholic surgeon mother, the happy-go-lucky black sheep uncle, the scumbag attorney, the dedicated detective who goes rogue to continue an investigation against her boss's orders, and the mercenary ex-CIA operative. Give me one big, huge break here.

If you're looking for a book that doesn't tax your brain (or even engage it), that reads fast thanks to the itty bitty chapters, and that you will forget as soon as you close it, this is the book for you.

Angela says

Awesome book!! Surprisingly, this was the VERY FIRST James Patterson book I read, and before reading it, I was not into reading books at all, not since I was much younger, in high school. I had tried to get back into reading over the years, but just didn't take the time to do so. I was at a book store and *Sail* happened to catch my eye on the book stand. So I bought it and ended up reading it in like 3 days!! This was just about 6 months ago. Since then, I have ready over 15 James Patterson books and can't get enough. Thank goodness there are so many Patterson books!! lol

Seriously, this book is definitely one of his best, out of all the ones I have read and I highly recommend it!! I even talked my mom into reading it, who is mainly a Grisham fan. She didn't like the cursing at the beginning, but told me that the book was so good that she ended up overlooking that and said that it got better and finished it within a couple days.

Megan says

This novel reads like a bad movie script... the kind of film that goes straight to DVD and stars a cast you don't recognize. The Dunne family is planning to sail around the Bahamas for a two-month summer getaway. What we know of each character we are told in a "cheat sheet" that is provided before the prologue... literally, the authors give a paragraph synopsis about each character, giving their name, age, weaknesses and a bit of back story. And they never seem to evolve past that page-one summary. The back story is never fleshed out for us as it could have been and the characters are decidedly one-dimensional.

This one wouldn't have made it out of the publisher's slush pile had it not been "co-authored" by James Patterson. He should be ashamed of some of the work he's put his name on recently.
