



The Revenge

Hannah Jayne

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Tony just wanted a little revenge when he posted his ex's location online. He never meant to lead a predator to her doorstep...

After Hope breaks up with Tony and embarrasses him at school, he's devastated. In a moment of revenge, Tony makes the location on her phone public. But a week later, when Hope calls Tony and begs him to stop the prank, he hears a shriek and a car door slamming. Then the call is dropped.

When Hope isn't back at school the next day, Tony realizes that he may have put Hope's life in danger. Can he trace Hope's movements and save her before it's too late?

The Revenge Details

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Author : Hannah Jayne

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From Reader Review The Revenge for online ebook

Jenna says

This book was good. It's like a teenage version of Gone Girl. I didn't expect a couple of the twists but a couple I did.

Didn't overly like how the book ended. There was no story of rescuing, it kind of just ended and there was nothing about the people involved which I found to be disappointing especially since this book is a thriller which involved a kidnapping.

Bri •Books and Bri• says

Wait, wait, what? After reading this book, **I have a very different understanding of the events that went down.**

I have a lot to say, so buckle up, friends, this is going to be a long review.

Before getting to the actual book review itself, there are a couple things that I want to discuss first:

Disclaimer: I want to start by saying I do not mean any of what I say to be argumentative or demeaning to those that don't agree. I'm stating my opinion and feelings about the book and what I've seen on the internet. I *completely* understand why some will hate and/or not read the book. Similar to works like Thirteen Reasons Why, Go Ask Alice, or The Giver, there are sensitive topics in The Revenge, such as doxing and stalking, that may trigger some people or feel this is romanticizing the issue. There are some scenarios in the book that could be disturbing to some, so please read with caution. Ultimately, I just hope that this review produces civil conversation with people of varying viewpoints.

Doxing: *search for and publish private or identifying information about (a particular individual) on the Internet, typically with malicious intent.* (Source: Google Dictionary)

1. Doxing is never a joke, and to me, Jayne is not presenting it as one. She's using an increasingly common and complex social issue as a plot device. There's new reports all the time of celebrities' nude photos being leaked or someone posting someone else's work information to have others call in to get them fired. I've known people in my own life who have posted dating profiles of their exes, posted their personal info/photos online and/or found ways to burn them virtually. Is it a dick move? ABSOLUTELY. But is it surprising? Not really. Unfortunately, doxing has become such a common problem that social media sites like Reddit and Twitter now have a "Report Dox" option. The whole scenario used in The Revenge is a very plausible one, and I think it is important to discuss it to raise awareness instead of trying to keep books like this one from being published.

2. This book's release should not be pulled as I think there are important issues for teens to be aware of. While I understand that some people believe that this is not a book that teens should have access to, they are the most susceptible age group and one of the largest contributors to doxing and public shaming/cyberbullying. At one point in the story, a character calls Tony's doxing of Hope a "good prank." While this is a disgusting statement, to me, it's a realistic one. My younger brother and sister have told me stories very similar to this that they've experienced in high school, where other students encourage doxing,

sharing nude pictures of other students or the like. ABSOLUTELY HORRIBLE AND DISGUSTING, but again, realistic in nature. Hell, there have been documentaries highlighting teens and their role of the sexual abuse, doxing, suicide of other students, you name it. I would encourage watching the documentaries Audrie and Daisy and The Hunting Ground for reference. It's horrific that such terrible things are occurring, but for me, this book portrays realistic events that should be brought to the attention of others, especially teens. While this book might not be the best way to start discussions on these issues, I do not think that the author should be silenced for using them as plot points in a YA novel.

3. The evidence that has been presented on Twitter is painting a very one-sided story. From the first tweet, the premise is set up as a boy dumps a girl and then posts her private info online. What an absolute tool, right? But a key piece of information is being left out: the girl humiliates the boy in school by reading the love letters and poems he wrote for her out loud to the students. What's even more mind boggling is that the synopsis of the book *explicitly* states that Tony was humiliated by Hope at school. This is after he broke up with her in private and let her control the narrative of the breakup to her friends. In anger and to retaliate at how she responded to what he thought was a clean break, he decides to get revenge in his own way by posting her info online. **Now I'm not trying to defend him or his actions AT ALL.** What I'm trying to point out is that the Twitter rant started by pointing fingers at one party, when to me, neither party is 'innocent.' The story is more complex and convoluted than what is highlighted in a couple posts, and all characters, both male and female, are terrible people.

4. I found some of the responses on Twitter to be disappointing, especially from those individuals who have not read the book. Doxing is directly correlated to internet vigilantism and public/online shaming. As mentioned above, people were getting limited pieces of a messed up story, and they quickly jumped on hate bandwagon without looking more into things. The responses to the book turned into nasty comments about the author, mentioning her pregnancy and newborn child, how she's not a respectable woman, and additional talks of 'savaging' her and publisher to the point that the book is no longer released. (I went way too deep into social media... ><) So while some people are up in arms about the doxing issue, in turn, they are contributing and supporting an issue directly related to doxing by publicly shaming the author. Additionally, the comments about the book being misogynistic were a bit misplaced. To me, this book was chock full of asshole characters, both male and female, and as mentioned before, both sexes made negative comments towards the other (with comments such as "boys were so easy [to manipulate]" to "I don't put any kind of bizarre behavior past a woman.") But only the comments made towards the female characters were focused on, and this lead to the author being called a misogynist, a hateful woman, etc. I understand completely why some people were upset with the comments made (I didn't like them myself), but the women Jayne wrote about were also terrible towards men. It was a two-way street; there were misogynist and misandrist comments peppered throughout the story. This just leads me to believe that Jayne just sucks at creating decent characters.

Now on to the book review:

I didn't like this book.

I think Jayne was trying to create the YA version of Gone Girl or The Girl on the Train, a mystery thriller where characters try to figure out what happened to a character. But in the end, it was poorly executed, I hated all the characters, and the plot twists and ending felt cheap. And honestly, the single, most frustrating thing about this novel is (view spoiler)

So, let's first start with the characters. As mentioned many times previously, **every single character in this book is an asshole, both male and female.** I hated Tony and Hope, Hope's parents, the cops, and the

lawyer. No one has a single redeeming quality, and some characters, such as Everly and Naz, were solely introduced for dramatic effect. There was no purpose in their parts in the novel, and they didn't drive the plot *at all*. I ultimately didn't care what happened to anyone in the book since no one elicited sympathy from me. And for a novel where the reader is supposed to care about what happened to Hope, the fact that I couldn't be bothered to care speaks volumes.

The plot twists were poorly executed and were too similar to other big named books like Gone Girl. As a reader, you can clearly see what Jayne is trying to achieve, but it just doesn't work (and in some cases, certain elements were a little too similar to Gone Girl and The Girl on the Train for my liking). And the ending seemed like a complete cop out. Nothing was resolved and I was just left to guess what happened next. No, thanks, not how I like my mystery thrillers to end. Also, the villain was so generic. I feel like Jayne just watched an episode of Criminal Minds and tried to portray a creepy version of one of the bad guys, but did so poorly.

The writing also left a lot to be desired. The characters were horrible (I apparently can't state that tidbit enough), and their feelings and emotions were lacking. I literally didn't care a single iota for any of them, and it was because of how they were portrayed. **There was no excitement or mystery surrounding the events that took place in the book.** The pacing also felt choppy at times, and we would jump around from one point to another with little to no cohesion. The whole thing was just a mess.

And that's it. I'm done with this book. *drops mic*

I received an ARC of this book in exchange for my honest review. Special thank you to NetGalley and the publisher for providing me with a copy.

Note: the New York Times released an interesting article about why it is important to read books you hate, and it came at a very opportune time for me. I would definitely check it out, if you have the time! Article: Why You Should Read Books You Hate

Deborah says

A lot of my thoughts are in my updates but I'll summarize. This wasn't good. I didn't like. And it had a completely unsatisfying ending. I don't recommend it.

ReadWriteLove28 says

See below live tweet thread to understand why I will NEVER read this book.

<https://twitter.com/anoutlawlife/stat...>

Sarah says

[she staged h

Dannii Elle says

I received a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review. Thank you to the author, Hannah Jayne, and the publisher, Sourcebooks Fire, for this opportunity.

I'd just like to begin this review with a disclaimer stating that I wasn't aware of any of the discontent regarding this book's possibly triggering topics before I read it and that, in my personal opinion, this does not romanticise or in any way support doxxing. Much as in the same way that *You* was written through the eyes of the plot's antagonist, so was this book. I don't mean to discredit others' feelings on this book, but am merely stating that I did not find any controversy in this story or feel any discontent over the way the harrowing subject matter was approached.

What I didn't like, however, was how the majority of this book was basically just a *Gone Girl* rip-off, with a slightly different plot and a slightly younger cast of characters. The original book is so widely read and discussed that it was impossible to read this and not see multiple comparisons between the two books. This meant that the obvious mid-way twist was easily identifiable and much of my enjoyment was, therefore, spoiled.

Chelsea says

see: the entire awful livetweet I did of this book

Lauren says

Note: I received an ARC of this via Netgalley. This in no way influences my opinion.

When I first saw this on Netgalley, it was the first I'd heard about the book. The premise and cover drew me in immediately and I just had to read it. However, I was extremely disappointed with this book and I actually feel like it copied *Gone Girl* in quite a few places and things, but it lacked that oomph that *Gone Girl* had.

From the very first page, we are thrown in the middle of a break up between a popular girl (Hope) and not so popular boy (Tony). We are immediately given this background as to what happened to lead Tony to put Hope's information online - and then he does it within the first couple of pages. I feel like I needed more than this to actually get into the story, the mindset of the characters and their relationship before it ended. I think it took me a little longer to actually understand the characters purely because we were just thrown into the middle of this high school drama.

The first sort of half of the book I actually felt plagiarised *Gone Girl*. It was extremely similar and it was basically *Gone Girl* in YA form. It was pretty much exactly the same, but I felt like Hope lacked that conviction and villainous side that Amy had in *Gone Girl* - which means it was done poorly in my mind. Hope needed something more to her character for her to be understood and portrayed as the kind of person who would frame someone for kidnapping her for revenge.

What I did like about it was the fact that it then changed from Gone Girl when things happen. I don't really want to go into it because spoilers, but it was a good twist. It was needed because it was pretty sort of slow going up until that point because of the similarities between Gone Girl and this book.

Unfortunately, I was actually left with more questions than answers and I feel like the book ended so suddenly. I was actually confused when it said acknowledgements... and I was left thinking "Is that it?!" I have so many questions left over and I feel like the book needs to be finished off properly, in a sense.

Unfortunately, I was really disappointed with this book. Despite the fact that it was an extremely quick read, I was left with more answers than questions by the time the book suddenly ended and I feel like there were way too many similarities (to the actual point of plagiarism) to Gone Girl. I gave this book 2/5 stars.

Jennifer says

A sturdy 3.5 stars.

Brooke Banks says

<https://twitter.com/nickyoflaherty/st...>

<https://twitter.com/anoutlawlife/stat...>

Miranda says

This book is a horrific, misogynistic dumpster fire. No thanks.

Roxanne says

Thank you to Netgalley and Sourcebooks Fire for a copy of the eARC in exchange for a fair review.

*** Disclaimer I requested this book months ago and was unaware of any controversy surrounding it until I logged into to do this review. So I am just going to address what I saw from some of the reviews. First off I didn't know what doxing was until reading other reviews, but having just literally read this book, the author is not making light of this, she is shining light on it and how potentially dangerous this is as well as fame. She addresses stalking and obsession as well. Lastly I don't agree with the choices Tony made, but given that he is a teen and he was humiliated and that is the way current young people address things it's actually a really plausible scenario.***

Tony has recently broken up with Holly the star of the school. He did it privately and he thought everything was good until he goes back to school and she reads all his private emails and letters to her. In a moment of

anger Tony decides to sign her up for everything from Tinder to whatever, and he makes her location and phone number known.

Then a day later he receives a call from Holly and he thinks she is being dramatic until she screams. In a panic he rushes over to her house and finds the phone, but he doesn't tell anyone because he is sure that she is getting revenge on him. Then she is reported missing and everything blows up. Tony becomes suspect number one and things continue to spiral out of control. Another girl goes missing and her body is found the next day.

I am still pondering how I feel about the ending, because whew this was a ride. I have read almost everything Hannah Jayne has written so I knew this would be good and I loved it and hated it. I have seen some hate it because of the Gone Girl comparisons and I get where they are coming from. I loved Gone Girl, but I hated the characters. I liked Tony, I thought he was stupid and made stupid choices and he paid for them.

On the other hand I think Hannah brilliantly shines light on today's culture, by having Tony doxing Holly, she shows how people act today. I didn't agree with it or like any of it, but I see this constantly Twitter is a humiliation show these days with people dragging everyone into whatever current problem they have with something. I think it's gross which is why I am not on twitter very much these days which is also how I missed all the controversy surrounding this book.

I don't understand the need to publicly shame and humiliate people that is so prevalent these days. On top of it with social media controlling everyone's lives it has also allowed people to indulge their crazy. When I was a teen you had to stalk and humiliate people the old fashioned way now people stalk Facebooks, Twitters and everything else, locations are posted and it's actually pretty easy to know where a person is and what they are doing. So safety is out the window and in a twisted way Hannah shows that in The Revenge. I think what Tony did was crap, and what all the other characters did was crap too, but it is kind of the norm today despite what illusions we might cling to.

Emily Grace says

Best villain I've read about in ages.

Abena ~gurlwiththebook~ says

I received a copy from NetGalley in exchange for an honest review

Ok. First things first.

I don't know what all the controversy about the 'doxing' is coming from. I honestly didn't even hear about the controversy until I finished the book. My thoughts on it are simple: It wasn't made out to be a joke. News flash- people are cruel. There are people who WILL do things like Tony did in the book. There are people

WILL laugh and joke about it at someone else's expense. It's reality. An author writing about that **very realistic** possibility is NOT making a joke about it or romanticizing it. But again, that's just my thought on the matter. Feel free to form your own opinions.

Now my thoughts on the actual book itself:

Disappointing.

I noticed when I got to Hope's POV what exactly was happening here- an attempt at a teenage Gone Girl. Notice I said *attempt*. It was a crash and burn, honestly. The so-called twists and shocking developments were muted and didn't get a reaction out of me. The required mystery and suspense just wasn't there. And a very important aspect of a book about a missing girl- a reader who actually cares about what happens to missing girl. Hope just wasn't the girl to garner sympathy.

The characters.

I hate all of them. **EVERY. SINGLE. ONE.**

None of them had a single, likable quality to them. Not the manipulative Hope, her even more manipulative parents, the wounded Tony, or the idiotic cops and lawyer. I cared not for any of them.

To make matters worse, the exciting ending was not so exiting. In fact, it was the definition of anticlimactic. I was left wondering what the heck just happened and wanting the last hour of my life back.

2/5 stars

Carol Suraci says

THE REVENGE by Hannah Jayne was an enjoyable fast-read! The author grabbed your attention on page one and never let go until the very last page. This is the second book I've read by Ms. Jayne and she did not disappoint! Looking forward to reading more of her work!
