

The background features a complex network of white nodes connected by thin purple lines, set against a gradient background that transitions from dark purple at the top to a bright pink at the bottom. The nodes are scattered across the frame, with some forming larger, more prominent clusters.

The Favorite Daughter

Written by Kaira Rouda

Published by sanmarco-sf

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The Favorite Daughter

By Kaira Rouda

The Favorite Daughter By Patti Callahan Henry

From the author of *Best Day Ever*, another gripping novel of psychological suspense set in an upscale Southern California community, for fans of *B.A. Paris* and *Shari Lapena*. The perfect home. The perfect family. The perfect lie. Jane Harris lives in a sparkling home in an oceanfront gated community in Orange County. It's a place that seems too beautiful to be touched by sadness. But exactly one year ago, Jane's oldest daughter, Mary, died in a tragic accident and Jane has been grief-stricken ever since. Lost in a haze of anti-depressants, she's barely even left the house. Now that's all about to change. It's time for Jane to reclaim her life and her family. Jane's husband, David, has planned a memorial service for Mary and three days later, their youngest daughter, Betsy, graduates high school. Yet as Jane reemerges into the world, it's clear her family has changed without her. Her husband has been working long days--and nights--at the office. Her daughter seems distant, even secretive. And her beloved Mary was always such a good girl--dutiful and loving. But does someone know more about Mary, and about her last day, than they've revealed? The bonds between mothers and daughters, and husbands and wives should never be broken. But you never know how far someone will go to keep a family together...

4.5 Stars* (rounded down)

Oh What Wicked Fun!

There are characters .. and then there's Jane. She's the kind of woman who makes you cover your mouth with your hand and say "Oh no you didn't!" Then you gasp in complete and utter deliciousness simply because, Oh yes she did! She's that kind of Character!

Oh how I love her.. I mean I don't really love her. I don't even like her - except yeah, I kinda do (in a she's so despicable she's likeable kind of way of course!) - and I just admitted it in public 4.5 Stars* (rounded down)

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The Favorite Daughter

So whatâ€™s with Jane?! I wish I could tell you! Sheâ€™s so over the top itâ€™s outrageous, preposterous even! I mean out-freaking-rageous. Like absolutely-fabulous outrageous .. in an absurd and heinous way. Bawaawah!! Iâ€™ve never really â€œmetâ€• anyone like her - except well, yeah, I have.. (There I go again, covering my mouth with my hand!). Forgive me, wonâ€™t you? But I just canâ€™t spoil the surprise!

If this isnâ€™t on your list, do me a favor and go grab it! Youâ€™ll be highly entertained and immediately intrigued! Once you start reading, youâ€™ll seriously have the best day ever! Jane is waiting.

This was a buddy read with Kacey. We needed a great read and we found it with â€œFavorite Daughterâ€• by Kaira Rouda.

A huge thank you to Edelweiss, Harper Collins - Graydon House and Kaira Rouda for an arc of this novel in exchange for an honest review.

Published on Edelweiss and Goodreads on 3.26.19.

Will be published on Amazon and Twitter on 5.21.19. ...more

The Favorite Daughter Allen Say

An unreliable narrator, teetering on the edge. A family she's unable to keep under control.

Kaira Rouda introduces a character you're going to love to hate! So many times I found myself shocked, confounded, or laughing at Jane's over-the-top audacity.

It's the one year anniversary of her daughter Marys' death. The pain hasn't diminished, but it's time for Jane to look to the future and begin reclaiming her life.

Starting with her husband David and younger daughter Betsy. Only both have apparently An unreliable narrator, teetering on the edge. A family she's unable to keep under control.

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Starting with her husband David and younger daughter Betsy. Only both have apparently moved on...seemingly without Jane. Well, that just won't do! Jane is going to do whatever it takes to keep their focus on her....no matter the consequences.

Kaira Rouda's addition of the bizarre, tragic ways someone can die in America left me in stitches! Everything from bee stings to falling on upright knives in the dishwasher, to chickens seeking revenge through food poisoning!~

Without question, this has climbed to the top of my favorite reads so far of 2019! I loved Ms. Rouda's previous novel Best Day Ever. This book takes that narcissistic behavior one huge step further! You'll be shocked by horrendous behavior, you'll laugh, then be horrified once again! What fun! An absolute roller-coaster must read!

A fantastic and fun buddy read with Susanne!~

Thank you to NetGalley, Edelweiss, Harlequin Graydon House Books and Kaira Rouda for an ARC to read and review.

...more

My reviews can also be seen at: [https://deesradreadsandreviews.wordpress...](https://deesradreadsandreviews.wordpress.com)

4.5 Stars!!

I have been looking forward to reading more from Kaira Rouda since reading and enjoying her previous

The Favorite Daughter

novel, "Best Day Ever" .

"The perfect home. The perfect family. The perfect lie".

Meet Jane Harris.

Jane spent the last year grieving the death of her daughter, Mary. She stayed in bed lost in her "haze of grief" .

But Jane is now ready to step back into her life and family. Jane's therapist suggested that the family s

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Meet Jane Harris.

Jane spent the last year grieving the death of her daughter, Mary. She stayed in bed lost in her "haze of grief" .

But Jane is now ready to step back into her life and family. Jane's therapist suggested that the family should eat together to reconnect. So Jane is putting together a special dinner.

"The perfect vision of a happy homemaker"

She waits for her husband, David to come home. He'll be surprised. Jane says David has some surprises of his own. Jane accidentally found out about a big one. David's surprise snapped her out of her haze.

Nothing had been right after Mary left them. David was never home, always busy with work. It felt like he was avoiding her.

"Your husband should love you and worship the ground you walk on. He doesn't just now, I know, but he will again. I'm back. He'll see."

Jane's other daughter, Betsy is about to graduate. Jane tries to ignore the voice in her head (it

The Favorite Daughter

sounds a lot like her mother) that tells her Betsy is going to leave her. But Betsy needs Jane. She would never leave her.

Jane is happy that everyone seems to be getting in line. Now that she's back and better than ever. She's even been secretly working out. On her few recent outings she's noticed admiring glances from men. Not that that's anything new. She's always turned heads.

There is an upcoming memorial for her daughter, Mary. Jane's psychologist, Dr. Rosenthal tries to prepare her for it. Jane often says what she thinks the psychologist wants to hear. She talks about the things her mother taught her. Jane's mother loved bringing people down, Jane included. But Jane is winning! just look at her lavish life.

Jane used to have a group of friends but they've drifted away. She knows it's because they were jealous. Jane used to win at everything; tennis, Bunko, etc. And it wasn't her fault their husbands found Jane attractive.

After the memorial, Jane suddenly starts receiving anonymous notes. The notes say that there's more to Mary's death than they know. Could this be true?

As graduation nears, we learn more about the Harris family. It seems like everyone is keeping secrets and/or has something to hide.

With a riveting storyline, some jaw-dropping moments, and a wicked ending, this was another hit for me.

The story is told from Jane's point of view. Jane Harris is a character that many will love to hate (some will just hate). She is definitely one of a kind. The author's sense of humor really comes across. This psychological suspense novel had me laughing out loud a few times.

Clever, entertaining, and delightfully insane, "The Favorite Daughter" was the perfect escape.

I'd like to thank Graydon House for providing me with a copy of this novel. All opinions are my own.

...more

The Favorite Daughter Book

Jane puts the insane in the membrane.

We meet Insane Jane two years after the tragic death of her daughter.

Of course Insane Jane unreliably narrates this story. She is, after all, the only one that knows the truth behind why her family is imploding. And obviously Insane Jane holds no responsibility at all as she will tell you.

You see she's only ever wanted what's best for herself....errrr...I mean, her family, right up until they all turn against her.

insert ominous music

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insert ominous music

_____ This is a fun compulsive read. Insane Jane narrates the entire story as if she's speaking directly to the reader and this choice by the author is what makes this book so entertaining.

There are a fair share of twists in this story but most astute thriller fans will figure most of them out before Insane Jane feels compelled to grace you with her secrets. So there really aren't any omgfuckmewhatjusthappened moments but it doesn't take much away from the enjoyment of this book.

and

Insane Jane gets a little wordy and repetitive in the middle, I think she likes to hear herself talk.

For those two reasons I had to downgrade this book to a 4 Star ⭐•⭐•⭐•⭐•

The Favorite Daughter

I received an ARC from NetGalley in exchange for an honest review. ...more

3.5 stars.

Just when I thought I had seen the craziest, most out-there, insane protagonist, along comes Jane Harris in Kaira Rouda's upcoming book, *The Favorite Daughter*.

Lord. Have. Mercy.

Jane thought she had it all: a handsome husband, two daughters, a beautiful home in an exclusive oceanfront community in California's Ocean County. But the last year has been terrible. She's been consumed with grief since the unexpected death of her oldest daughter, Mary, in a freak accident. All of the antidepressants she has been taking have left her in a haze, and she's barely been functional, let alone capable of being a good wife or mother. 3.5 stars.

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Jane thought she had it all: a handsome husband, two daughters, a beautiful home in an exclusive oceanfront community in California's Ocean County. But the last year has been terrible. She's been consumed with grief since the unexpected death of her oldest daughter, Mary, in a freak accident. All of the antidepressants she has been taking have left her in a haze, and she's barely been functional, let alone capable of being a good wife or mother.

But that's all about to change. As they get ready to celebrate the one-year anniversary of Mary's death, Jane is ready to take control of her life again. She hasn't been entirely unaware of what's been going on behind her back. She knew that her husband and both of her daughters were trying to keep things hidden from her, but she knows a lot more than they think—and it's high time she let everyone know they can't fool her.

Jane is surprised, however, how much has changed in the year that she was immersed in her grief. Her husband can barely stand to be in the same room, let alone the same house, with her, and her younger daughter is uncomfortable around her, and keeps talking about how ready she is to leave after she graduates high school in just a few days. But as Jane discovers that her husband and daughter have even more secrets, this time Jane will not stand idly by.

When someone starts leaving notes for Jane saying that there was more to Mary's death than a simple accident, and that someone close to her should be looked at more closely, Jane insists the investigation

The Favorite Daughter

be reopened, no matter the amount of chaos it might cause her family. Could someone have killed Mary in an effort to control a particular situation? How far would they go to keep that a secret?

The Favorite Daughter takes you on a wild ride. I honestly had no idea what to expect from this book because Jane was such a bizarre character. Part of me kept expecting that this would resemble Sandie Jones' *The First Mistake* in that you'd see the story from Jane's side and then see a wholly different version through someone else's eyes, but apart from occasional barbs from her husband or daughter, that didn't happen. Regardless, she is so unhinged that I found it difficult to determine what she actually was seeing and what was imagined.

This book definitely kept me guessing as it hurtled toward its conclusion. I read the entire book in just a few hours because I needed to see how Rouda would tie everything up.

I really like the way Rouda writes, and in her "Dear Reader" letter that appeared in my advance copy, she explained what brought her to create Jane's character (if it's in your book, I'd recommend not reading this until after you've read the book), and that's fascinating. But these characters all seemed so unlikable, and it almost felt like I was seeing them through Jane's drug-induced haze, so I never understood them thoroughly enough.

If you're looking for a book with one crazy character, pick up *The Favorite Daughter*. It's quite a read!

NetGalley and HARLEQUIN "Graydon House Books provided me an advance copy of this book in exchange for an unbiased review. Thanks for making it available!

This book will be published May 21, 2019.

See all of my reviews at itseithersadnessoreuphoria.blogspot.com.

Check out my list of the best books I read in 2018 at <https://itseithersadnessoreuphoria.blogspot.com/2019/01/the-best-books-i-read-in-2018.html>.

You can follow me on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/the.bookishworld.of.yrralh/>. ...more

My Favorite Daughter Gave Me This Shirt

FIVE UNPUTDOWNABLE STARS

I'm smiling as I write this because Kaira Rouda has done it again! THE FAVORITE DAUGHTER is a tangy piece of hard candy - Just pop it in your mouth and revel in the guilty pleasure.

Rouda is the master of creating villainous characters we love to laugh at and utterly despise at the same time (now is a great time to read Best Day Ever if you missed it!!). Rouda's unusual talent for concocting charming, yet hate-worthy characters makes reading her novels so so easy and so very addictive. This one practically melts on your tongue!

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I started to spell out the plot a bit for you and realized I was giving spoilers - I can't do that! So x-ray the summary and I will just say this: you are in for a zippy roller coaster ride inside a narcissistic brain. Crazy doesn't even begin to describe it! Disturbing? Yes. Suspenseful? Yes. Hysterical? Yes.

Delicious and deeply satisfying, THE FAVORITE DAUGHTER is guaranteed to tickle your funny bone in a most uncomfortable way!

Thanks very much to Netgalley for allowing me to read and review so many fantastic books before they are published! All opinions are my own. ...more

Kaira Rouda writes the best unreliable narrators and like Paul from her debut novel *The Best Day Ever*, Jane joins the ranks.

The narrator, Jane believes she is a super mom, wife and best friend with comparisons to Martha Stewart. Some of her inner thoughts gave me pause. She has two daughters, but she does have a favorite.

Jane is quite a wild character that sometimes made me laugh or feel sympathetic towards her and at times made me give her the evil eye.

She puts her plan in motion and p Kaira Rouda writes the best unreliable narrators and like Paul

The Favorite Daughter

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She puts her plan in motion and plays the femme fatale, damsel in distress and at one point exclaims "this is going to be the best day ever."

I will say that I saw all the twists ahead of time and felt the book was a bit long and wanted it to wrap up already. Too me- a predictable read, but Jane's over the top poppycock was entertaining with many omg she didn't moments.

Entertaining with a side of insanity.

Thanks to the Harlequin for my review copy! Pick up your copy May 21, 2019 ...more

My Favorite Daughter

HAPPY PUBLICATION DAY TO THE FAVORITE DAUGHTER!

4.5 stars! Wowie - Jane is one character I will NEVER forget!

Jane and David lost their daughter, Mary, in a tragic accident one year ago. Since then, Jane has been lost within a whirlwind of antidepressants, hiding herself at home, barely interacting with her family. David plans a memorial service for Mary one year after her passing which marks the day that Jane decides she will move forward from her grieving. She plans to stop medicating, focus on

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This novel is narrated by Jane which was brilliantly executed! Being inside her head was one shocking and unforgettable journey that I will be thinking of long after I finished this book. I loved her snarky, confident and obsessive personality (not sure what that says about me "hah!"). Her inner thoughts and dialogue had me stunned yet addicted to this tragic family story.

There were a few details to this plot that I had figured out early on, yet it didn't detract from my enjoyment. For me, the true entertainment was getting inside Jane's head and exploring her personality rather than finding out exactly what happened in the storyline. The author, Kaira Rouda, did an outstanding job with Jane's character. I look forward to checking out her previous book, Best Day Ever, which I have heard many wonderful things about.

This was a Traveling Sister read that we all enjoyed!

Thank you to Edelweiss and the publisher for providing me with an ARC to read and review!

The Favorite Daughter is AVAILABLE TODAY! I highly recommend getting your hands on a copy! ...more

* 5/14/19 I've added a spoiler message at the bottom of the review.

The Favorite Daughter by Kaira Rouda was fun to read and Jane is the character who makes the book

The Favorite Daughter

zing. Perfect Jane, she'll tell you herself how perfect she is, while detailing the inferiority of everybody else, even her daughters. If Jane doesn't like something, she'll "fix" it one way or another to no one's liking but her own. Jane loves to talk and she will often talk right to the reader and those moments tickled me. Jane thi * 5/14/19 I've added a spoiler message at the bottom of the review.

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I liked the other characters in the book too because they seemed real to me. Some of the characters are up to no good, some are just trying to survive long enough to get out from under Jane's meddling ways and heavy hand. Some try their best to ignore Jane although she doesn't take such treatment lightly. This book is all about Jane but Jane makes sure others feel the brunt of her existence.

I enjoyed this book so much, Jane is horrible, she's done horrible things, she is doing horrible things, and we know she is going to keep doing horrible things. What a dangerous crazy woman and I felt bad laughing at some of the ridiculous things she says, all the while believing she is the worlds greatest gift to humankind.

* contains animal abuse (view spoiler)[for those who would like to know this before they read the book, a dog is abused and dies (hide spoiler)]

Thank you to Graydon House/Harper Collins and Edelweiss for this ARC. ...more

My Favorite Daughter Quotes

This is a challenging novel because the first-person narrator is wildly unlikeable even though she is in mourning for the death of her eldest daughter. She'll tell the reader something and then go and lie to her therapist, her driver—anyone who will listen, which isn't many since she's managed to alienate everyone over the years. She judges people by what they do for a living—how much money they make. Also a highly unlikeable trait.

She makes it clear that yes, things have gotten even worse in t This is a challenging novel because the first-person narrator is wildly unlikeable even though she is in mourning for the death of her eldest daughter. She'll tell the reader something and then go and lie to her therapist, her driver—anyone who will listen, which isn't many since she's managed to alienate everyone over the years. She judges people by what they do for a living—how much money they make. Also a highly unlikeable trait.

She makes it clear that yes, things have gotten even worse in the year since her daughter died and she was in a haze of pills for much of it, but her alienating behavior began a long time before that. Even through her self-absorbed eyes, you have sympathy for the surviving daughter and even the philandering husband. That is quite a trick to pull off. However, it's easy to figure out the gist of things early on, and that's what makes this particularly disappointing.

Thanks to NetGalley for the opportunity to review this novel, which RELEASES May 21, 2019. For more reviews, please visit: <http://www.theresaalan.net/blog> ...more

What a character! This story was entertaining and twisted from beginning to end.

Meet Jane Harris, devoted wife and mother who about a year ago lost his older daughter to a tragic accident. For the past months, Jane has been grief-stricken and spending her days at home, leaving the house only to visit her therapist or to run essential errands.

The one-year memorial is almost here, and Jane is waking up to a new reality, she wants to reclaim her place in the family but it won't be easy as it sounds What a character! This story was entertaining and twisted from beginning to end.

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The one-year memorial is almost here, and Jane is waking up to a new reality, she wants to reclaim her place in the family but it won't be easy as it sounds, things have changed.

The Favorite Daughter

The story is character driven and narrated by Jane. I found her thoughts captivating, she was a truly interesting character, sometimes making me laugh and other times cringing at her actions.

Overall, I enjoyed it and recommend it to readers of mysteries/suspense and contemporary fiction.

Received ARC from the publisher via Netgalley [...more](#)

My Favorite Daughter In Spanish

Chilling, absorbing, & oh so wickedly entertaining!

THE FAVORITE DAUGHTER by KAIRA ROUDA was such a wickedly delightful, gripping and immersive tale that totally sucked me right into this hauntingly dark psychological suspense novel. Once I started reading this one it was hard not to get totally wrapped up in Jane's fascinating, snarky, obsessive and audacious character. Making it quite the deliciously fun, compelling and an all consuming page-turner.

KAIRA ROUDA delivers an intriguing, unique Chilling, absorbing, & oh so wickedly entertaining!

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KAIRA ROUDA delivers an intriguing, unique and enthralling story here that was so irresistibly written. I absolutely loved Jane's voice and thought she was such a fantastic character. And the execution and portrayal of Jane's character was so darn entertaining and absolutely ingenious, allowing us to fully be in the moment with Jane and this story. Extremely impressive!

I absolutely loved the addition of these little bits of morbid trivia that were included in the storyline in regards to the unusual and freakish ways someone can die. There was one particular way that had me chuckling as a friend actually advised me not to do this because I could possibly really hurt myself. Do not under any circumstances put knives in the dishwasher facing upwards because you know you might trip and fall right into the dishwasher and die. Ever since she told me this story I have always and advise others to always put the cutlery in the dishwasher face down. Thanks Jane and my friend Stella for this piece of advice!

Norma's Stats:

Cover: Intriguing, suspenseful, appealing, attractive and an extremely fitting representation to storyline.

Title: Appealing, suspenseful, intriguing and a fitting representation to storyline.

Writing/Prose: Well-written, vivid, engaging, fascinating, irresistible, amusing, captivating, and fluid.

Thoroughly enjoyed the narrative!

Plot: Intriguing, perfectly over-the-top, suspenseful, engrossing, fast-paced, enjoyable and extremely entertaining. I was totally sucked right into this storyline!

Ending: The perfect ending that left me feeling totally elated and satisfied!

Overall: 4.5 Stars! This book was absolutely fabulous and the perfect escape as it was so darn entertaining, fun and amusing to read! Oh and did I mention that it has one of the absolute best

The Favorite Daughter

psychological characters ever. Kaira Rouda definitely has the knack for writing fabulous characters. Would highly recommend!

This was a Traveling Sisters read that we all really enjoyed!

Thank you so much to NetGalley, Harlequin / Graydon House and Kaira Rouda for the opportunity to read an advanced copy of this book in.

In addition to receiving an ARC from NetGalley I also won myself a copy of this book through a Goodreads Giveaway. ...more

Mothers aren't supposed to have a favorite child...â€¸.

Meet Jane Harris.

A woman who MIGHT just make Paul Strom (from the author's novel, Best Day Ever) look SWEET...

She is obsessed with being a perfect wife and a doting mother.

She is also obsessed with a tab on an online newspaper, labeled "Accidents and Disasters" which she reads when she cannot sleep.

She has memorized MANY statistics about how people die.

Maybe because so many family members have died around her...

Her Mother

The Beloved family Mothers aren't supposed to have a favorite child...â€¸.

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The Favorite Daughter

She has memorized MANY statistics about how people die.

Maybe because so many family members have died around her...

Her Mother

The Beloved family dog, Cash

Her Favorite Daughter, Mary

Did you know how dangerous kitchens are for example? Jane will enlighten you..

Excerpt: A woman died after she slipped in her kitchen and landed on knives sticking upright in the utensil holder of a dishwasher. Always point your knife blades down. I'm not making this stuff up.

Jane wants justice for Mary.

After all, her daughter Betsy is only second best.

The End. ðŸŒ•

That is all you are getting from me.

I will say that although "Best Day Ever" is still my favorite, by this author, fans of Kaira Rouda will NOT be disappointed! It took me a bit longer to become engaged with this story, and the ending was not as surprising, but still a solid 4 stars from me!

Thank You to Edelweiss, Graydon House and Kaira Rouda for the ARC I received in exchange for a candid review!

* NOW AVAILABLE* !!!! ...more

My Favorite Daughter Gave Me This Mug

There is NO ONE and I mean NO ONE who writes the delusional, unreliable narcissist quite like Kaira Rouda! If you thought Best Day Ever's Paul Stromm was a fun character to hate-read, wait until you meet Jane Harris - who just may put Paul to shame! This plot was so inventive and creative, I really enjoyed being along for the ride! I know this will be a book everyone is talking about in 2019!

I received an advanced copy. All opinions are my own.

This was my first novel by Kaira Rouda and have been hearing amazing things about the author.

Well let me tell you... she definitely knows how to deal a hand of unreliable cuhrazyyy characters!

Jane is one sh*t show of a female character that takes you on an unbelievable ride. Jane is definitely the star of this show and book!

I do have to say I wasn't shocked or mouth flown open by the reveal twists throughout the book... my detective skills were spot on in this one. But, this is an entertaining This was my first novel by Kaira Rouda and have been hearing amazing things about the author.

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I do have to say I wasn't shocked or mouth flown open by the reveal twists throughout the book... my detective skills were spot on in this one. But, this is an entertaining book and can see why so many people love her style.

For me, it was just a decent and ok read. It wasn't a star for me in my psychological thrillers that I would remember for long term. Was it entertaining? Yes! Was it something I'd re-read again? Probably not.

Overall, I wasn't that impressed be honest. It was too long for me and around 200 pages... I skimmed to get to the end. I was just getting impatient to see how it ended.

Overall, a 3.5 stars for me on this one.

Thank you so much to Netgalley and Harlequin/Graydon for the arc in exchange for an honest review.

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Your Favorite Daughter

It's not often that a psychological thriller makes you laugh out loud, but Kaira Rouda latest page-turner had me cackling until deep in the night. *The Favorite Daughter* stars Jane, a woman grieving the death of her oldest daughter, whose attempts to reclaim her place as perfect matriarch are as riveting as they are darkly hilarious. Fans of Rouda's *Best Day Ever* will adore this one, and Jane's whip-smart wit will win Rouda some new fans, as well. Smart, surprising, and 100% satisfying.

4.5 Stars

The Favorite Daughter is delightfully and deliciously wicked! Kaira Rouda certainly knows how to write diabolical, yet charming characters (remember Paul Strom from *Best Day Ever*?) who you just cannot help but love and hate at the same time!

Meet Jane, the over the top, wildly unreliable narrator in Rouda's newest book. A year ago she lost her oldest daughter Mary in a drowning accident after she fell off some cliffs. Since then Jane has been in a grief-stricken haze, relying on pill 4.5 Stars

The Favorite Daughter is delightfully and deliciously wicked! Kaira Rouda certainly knows how to write diabolical, yet charming characters (remember Paul Strom from *Best Day Ever*?) who you just cannot help but love and hate at the same time!

Meet Jane, the over the top, wildly unreliable narrator in Rouda's newest book. A year ago she lost her oldest daughter Mary in a drowning accident after she fell off some cliffs. Since then Jane has been in a grief-stricken haze, relying on pills to get by, and never leaving her house except to go to therapy and run errands with the help of a personal driver. Her younger daughter, Betsy is days from graduating high school, and Jane suddenly decides to make her return to society. Not only that, she decides it's time to reclaim her husband's wandering attention and bring her loving family together once again...

Jane is a one of a kind character. You'll be laughing at her crazy antics while despising her at the same time. She's hard not to love but you know she's a train wreck about to go off the rails. Her ego is beyond belief as she personally regales us, the reader, telling us how beautiful and desirable she is, what a great wife and mother she is, and asks us if we agree with her.Â

I'm not going to tell any more of the plot here because I'm not going to ruin it! Let's just say that Jane doesn't like secrets kept from her or things not going her way, after all, appearances are everything for a narcissist! Exactly how far will a narcissist like Jane go is the most fun about this book. Let's just say, Jane is one of those people for whom revenge is always sweet.

I absolutely loved this! Rouda is a smart writer with a mastery of writing suspense. She's deftly plotted an addictive, page-turning novel filled with dark humor, so it was comical while being disturbing and

The Favorite Daughter

thrilling at the same time. Definitely add it to your must-read list this summer!

****Thank you, Edelweiss and Harper Collins/Graydon House for an ARC to read in exchange for a fair and honest review.**** ...more