



## The Running Game

*L.E. Fitzpatrick*

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## **The Running Game** L.E. Fitzpatrick

Her father called it the running game. Count the exits, calculate the routes. Always be ready to run because they'll always be coming for you. Whatever happens, they'll always be coming for you.

Rachel had let her guard down and they had found her. She could run now, leave the city and try her luck beyond the borders, but with no money and a dark secret to hide her chances of survival are slim.

But then she meets two brothers with a dangerous past and secrets of their own. Can they help her turn the game around?

This is the first installment of the Reacher series. Set in a grim and not too distant future, this urban thriller will keep you hooked until the last page.

## **The Running Game Details**

Date : Published 2013 by Smashwords

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Author : L.E. Fitzpatrick

Format : ebook 228 pages

Genre : Fantasy, Paranormal, Science Fiction, Dystopia, New Adult

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## From Reader Review The Running Game for online ebook

### **Kirsty Bicknell says**

The synopsis of this book is enough to excite any reader; an ailing dystopian society, one hunted girl, two guys and a paranormal twist.

L E Fitzpatrick's pace is energetic and unrelenting; these are characters with a purpose and although they all survive in the direst of circumstance they are determined to succeed. Yet, on no level did I feel connected to them, despite the fact that they have all experienced loss in one form or another. Out of all the characters I did really like Roxy; he is honest enough to be self-serving, yet perversely loves in his own subjective way, whilst also being the only one who has any sort of a sense of humor!

The paranormal element is pivotal to the story, yet L E Fitzpatrick introduces the idea of characters possessing Reacher abilities quietly and without spectacle. I found these talents intriguing and am very exciting to see how the author develops these in the later installments of the Reacher series.

I did enjoy this book, although I admit that I may have to re-read it to clear my confusion about certain areas of the plot.

One to add to a TBR pile!

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### **Laura Mcgee says**

Wow what a book!!! Amazingly written draws you in from the start and doesn't let you go! I loved this story and all the characters. Rachel is leaving her shift from the hospital when she feels like someone is following her. What she doesn't know is that her secret is fixing to be revealed and her life will be on the run again. Pinky wants her for his own self gain and Charlie and John want to save her and make her family because Charlie and Rachel are the same. Will they be able to keep Rachel out of Pinky's reach or will they lose her? I can't wait for the next book I give this a 5 fang review.

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### **Arlene Lagos says**

This fast-paced heart pounding story centered in a corrupt futuristic London had me in suspense for hours! I couldn't put it down, I was up until 3am and then couldn't sleep after that! Rachel and Charlie's characters were extremely well written and the story itself was layered and gripping with gritty detail. The descriptions made me feel as if I was along for the ride, it is that good!

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### **Jaid says**

L.E. Fitzpatrick sets a blazing course of adventure, murder and survival all set in a dark realistic world crumbling under its own weight of evil corruption. Helplessly grabbed by the scruff of the neck her readers are forced into a world that leaves them questioning if they themselves could survive in such a place, and secretly hoping they never will.

You feel the slippery streets under your feet and smell the rancid stench of the sewers. You are immersed in

an environment so well presented you feel the slimy grime and the bone chilling wind on your skin. Closing your eyes you can see the faces of the characters in this tale and when opened you expect them to be in front of you. Each with their own demons and pasts; they stand on their own as completely believable individuals.

I was captured by this book and appreciated the authors expressive writing style. Her stories pacing, unique unforeseeable plot and her character development was stellar. Set just outside of London in a realistic future, I felt transported there as a witness to the plights of these characters as they transverse through the many ploys and back stabbing plots thrown in their path. With double crosses and internal moral dilemmas you're left guessing where it will lead them or if they will even survive at all.

I can't wait to read more books by this author! I did receive this book in exchange for an honest review.

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### **Adrian Rafail says**

I literally can't put the book down.

The Running Game by LE Fitzpatrick is such an awesome combination of so many things, all of them brilliantly intertwined that it makes an absolutely awesome read.

The greatest thing about it is what it wakes in my perverted mind.

So basically, when I read a book I picture the events, the setting, the characters, everything.

While reading The Running Game, I also do that, but they are sort of manga images.

Not the funny crazy, face making ones, but the dark ones, like Samurai X, Helsing, Darker than Black, Death note.

I think the most interesting aspect of it it's the mix of elements from Tarantino, Shakespeare and the above named manga, with a touch of British humor, one of my favorite thing in the world (I am a huge Wodehouse fan.)

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### **C4ROL says**

The Running Game by LE Fitzpatrick i gave it 5 stars if i could have gave it 10 stars i would have

It was such an awesome book a combination of so many things, all of them brilliant that it made a awesome read i just don't know where to start what ever i say wont do it justice This book was fast-paced and action packed. I did not want it to end just read it for yourself

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### **Jason Greensides says**

#### **BRILLIANT DYSTOPIAN CRIME NOVEL**

The Running Game is a brilliant and well written Dystopian novel with a psychic twist. I loved all the characters, particularly Rachel, the brothers John and Charlie, and Roxy. The story was gripping, the dialogue crisp, the characters convincing, and I laughed quite a few times too. I loved Fitzpatrick's writing style. Highly recommend.

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### **Jana Denardo says**

I won this in a giveaway a few months back (eep, sorry for the delay). It's an interesting introduction to Rachel's world. S'aven is a dystopic city outside of London in some not-so-distant future where a war stretches out endlessly, the police are as corrupt if not more so than the mobsters that rule S'aven. Rachel has it even harder. She's a Reacher and I don't want to say too much about what they are as part of the novel's pacing centers on slowly peeling away the layers and revealing a Reacher's power. Leave it at they can be powerful. They are sought after to be used by the unscrupulous and they have been hunted down and killed.

Two brothers, John and Charlie, have been hired by the head mobster, Pinkie, to locate a young woman, a doctor, who turns out to be Rachel, but when Charlie realizes that Rachel is a Reacher he knows he just can't turn her over to Pinkie. Charlie has his reasons but that's another thing I don't want to go into too much so not to spoil things. Charlie however has been badly injured in the past and is not up to snuff. He relies on John who is a bit on the sociopathic side. well, to be honest there aren't too many upstanding citizens in this story outside of Rachel and even she's willing to do whatever it takes to survive, but who can blame her.

At Charlie's insistence, John agrees to help get Rachel out of town but she's not so sure she's ready to run just yet. With the dubious help of Charlie's friend Roxy, who has his own agenda, they have to be sure to keep Rachel around but that won't be easy with Donnie Bloom back in town, the bomber who killed Pinkie's brother.

It's a good introduction into this world. I enjoyed it.

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### **multitaskingmomma says**

Original Blog Post and Get A Chance To Win A Book: <http://headouttheoven.blogspot.com/2013/01/review-reacher-by-rachel-aaron.html>

My Rating: 4.5 out of 5 Stars

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### **Alina Popescu says**

S'aven, the dystopian city surrounding the closed off London, is quite an interesting world to explore. The poverty, the thriving crime, the every day struggle for the most basic of things, the hopelessness, everything is palpable. While set somewhere in the future, it does not seem so far away, a future where everything becomes a few shades darker, more terrifying.

Rachel Aaron, a young Reacher and a doctor, struggles to maintain the facade of a normal life, hiding her super human abilities. She shields herself from the prying eyes of those looking for Reachers. Yet one of the crime bosses of the city has her sights set on her, and that is how the Smith brothers, John and Charlie (also a Reacher), and Roxy, enter her life.

If there were teams, I am team John all the way! Dark, brooding, a perfect killing machine, dedicated to his brother, loyal to a fault. But while I loved him the most, this quartet is perfect. The four of them make for a lovely interaction to watch. Rachel who's just struggling to come to terms with her new life, Charlie with his demons and nightmares of the past, John who bears his own scars, and Roxy, smooth and untrustworthy through and through, they have an interesting dynamic that caught my attention even more than the mystery and thrill of the book.

I'd tell you more, but I hate spoiling parts of the story for new readers. Just grab your copy and start reading! I personally can't wait for the next book in the Reachers series.

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### **Pratr- Authors says**

4 fangs

Reviewer for paranormal romance and authors that rock.

Rachel finished work and found that she was being followed yet again, but this time he saves her instead of just leaving her go home. After meeting John the man who saved her and his brother Charlie, her life is changed forever as they tell her they know what she is and they know that people are after her.

This is book one of the reacher series. It can be read as a standalone but you will probably find you will want to read the next book.

I found it a bit slow to start as you are getting to know the characters and the story, but suddenly it all clicks and then its full storm ahead. You will begin to love the goodies and really dislike the baddies. There are a number of twists to the book.

I found it a bit like Divergent in the way of the characters trying to hide what they are. I would recommend this book to those who like a bit of violence and an intriguing story. I can't wait to read book two.

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### **Ellie says**

The Running Game has a little bit of all my favourite things. It's set in England (I love to be able to relate to places, but this is a drastically different place from where we live now!) Rachel is doctor, with a complicated life, having a cop as a boyfriend and being a doctor in a rough area whilst hiding the fact she is a reacher. Her life gets more complicated when she meets the dangerous (and loveable) brothers, John and Charlie, and gets tangled up with the S'aven gangsters.

This book managed to keep my interest throughout, there are plenty of exciting bits, and the story line isn't really lacking in anything. Although I do wish there was a bit more information on how the world changed so much, but there are hints about it.

Overall it's a really good read, I'd recommend it.

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### **Karen Mossman says**

A glimpse into the future where society has broken down and things are run more by the gangsters than the cops. A great adventure as Rachel the reacher is being hunted down by the Smith Brother, paid for by Pinky Morris. Only when the guys find out she is a reacher, they don't want to hand her over. Several stories linked together in the book, with the Smith Brothers being the main characters along with Rachel.

Pinky Morris runs his empire and he wants to know who killed his brothers, so much so he would offer to pay anybody anything to find this out. That's not to say he would pay up when they deliver.

Then there is Roxy, just whose side is he on? When you figure it out, you might be wrong, but then again, maybe you were right in the first place. Lots of betrayal and mistrust as people come and go and mainly all out for what they can get.

A good read with lots of adventure, suspense and twists along the way.

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### **Tony Parsons says**

Dr. Rachel Aaron (Reacher, 24) worked at St. Mary's hospital, she had just worked 15 hrs. in the ER. She lived in S'aven a very crime ridden city. A male someone was stalking her she could sense it. A lure bomb exploded & lucky she was close by to help those injured.

Charlie (David Jones, Reacher) & his brother John Smith were hired kidnappers. John had saved Rachel when the bomb went off. The duo met with her & told her they were paid \$30 thousand but did not know what for.

Pinky Morris (45) was the new boss after his brother Frank died. Lulu Roxton killed him. James Roxton is her husband. Donnie Boom had designated the bomb orders from Frank. Father Darcy was in charge of the mob. Riva is Pinky's wife she owns the Cage. Fat Joe was the bookkeeper.

Laboratories had designed PPL born with powers, they were called Reachers, psychics, plague-bringers. Dr. Rachel Aaron was a Reacher.

Charlie Smith (David Jones) was in ER getting a prescription refilled & warned Dr. Rachel Aaron (Reacher) she needed to get out of town.

Jackie Walters & Mickey Walters, not related were sent out to whack Donnie Boom.

Who's on whose side? What is going to happen to the good/evil Dr. Rachel Aaron? What becomes of the other unique characters (Pinky Morris, Smith Brothers, John, Charlie, Roxy...)? Will the Reacher's survive?

Paranormal, scifi, mysterious, thriller, on the edge book. No grammar or out of story line sequence. It was hard to follow sometimes but it all seemed to come together. Filled with murder, suspense & drama never a dull moment. Lots of twists/turns. The possibility of a movie. I think I will end up giving it 5 stars.

Thank you for the free book

Tony Parsons MSW

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## **Kayla West says**

Okay, so...I actually was not expecting to fall in love with this book when I began reading it at first. I thought it was just going to be just another story of potential murder...well that will definitely teach me to read an excerpt in its entirety. Because this is not just another story. This is a phenomenal paranormal tale of extravagant proportions.

Rachel Aaron was taught from a young age by her father to run. To never stay in one place too long. To always keep your opponent guessing as to your position, and stay one step ahead. However, she has become complacent. She originally came to S'aven to find her lost sister, but has stayed longer than intended. So when two brothers warn her that she is in danger, and that they were hired to find her by a man who most assuredly does not have good intentions toward her, she instantly packs up and runs like she was taught. But...alas, it cannot be that easy. Otherwise, where is the fun in that?

Charlie and his brother are getting back in the game of finding people. It's what pays the bills, so why not? But when Charlie finds that their recent assignment has a connection to him, he does not have it in him to betray her location to the people that want her. He abides by the Reacher code inside of him, because that is the very power, the very connection, they share. So, he decides to help her. But when you work for the big man in town, it seems that things are not always on your side.

Danger comes in many forms in this book. Whether it be a leader searching for a killer's identity, willing to do whatever it takes to get it, a wife who is willing to sacrifice anyone for the man she loves, or a man who will play whichever side gets him the revenge he so desires.

This book was amazing. I unfortunately could not read it all in one sitting, because of the reality of having a job (WHY!!! Haha), but I never stopped thinking about it when I was away. I was always wondering what was going to happen next, and that is the most important thing in any story. To keep the readers enthralled enough to wonder what will happen if they keep reading. What will happen to the very characters they both love and hate. Will a hated character become a loved one? Will a loved one suddenly turn on you? This is a wonderful book, and I will be searching for more of Fitzpatrick's stories in the future.

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