



The Boss

Melissa Schroeder

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Sick of the spy game, former CIA operative Vic Walker takes time off from his security firm to figure out just what he wants out of life. But peace and quiet isn't in the cards with a former business partner and ex-lover like MacKenzie Donovan.

Mac doesn't like asking for help from anyone, but this latest case has her in a little over her head. She crashes back into Vic's life with the CIA, the Russian Mob, and the FBI, on her tail after a job goes south.

But even as old feelings rise to the surface while they're busy dodging bullets, the authorities, and mobsters, they'll need to get out alive before they can have a second chance at love.

The Boss Details

Date : Published May 1st 2017 by Entangled Publishing (Select Suspense)

ISBN : 9781633759350

Author : Melissa Schroeder

Format : ebook 282 pages

Genre : Romance, Romantic Suspense, Contemporary, Contemporary Romance, Fiction

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From Reader Review The Boss for online ebook

Erin Lewis says

4.0 Star Review The Boss by Melissa Schroeder

The Boss is a romantic suspense and I enjoyed reading this story. With fast paced action and a interesting story line you cannot help but be drawn into the world created by Melissa Schroeder. These books are exactly what I have come to expect from Melissa Schroeder, well written and riveting.

When a case turns bad and MacKenzie Donovan find herself being chased by several “bad guys” she has no alternative nut to crash back into the life of her ex-lover and business partner Vic Walker.

Adding suspense and danger to the mix, it soon becomes apparent that there are unresolved feelings involved between Vic and Mac. Their relationship has always been passionate, whether making love or fighting. Both these alpha personalities want to be the one to come out on top. Who will win in the end? At the heart of this book is a second chance at love; let's hope that Vic and Mac are prepared to jump for the brass ring and hold onto it.

I received this book in exchange for an honest review from the publisher through Netgalley.

Bette Hansen says

Wow this one had a lot going on! Former partners and lovers Mac and Vic are reunited when Mac shows up on Vic's doorstep asking for help on a case that is clearly too much for her to handle alone. Her case involves the Russian Mob, the FBI, and the CIA so danger lurks around every corner. There is a ton of action and twists to the story so you'll have a hard time putting this one down. I would recommend this one.

Tina says

The Boss by author Melissa Schroeder has action, adventure, spies, and lots of love! I adored this book. The pacing of it is just right always keeping me guessing what would happen next. I love strong Heroines and Mackenzie or Mac as she likes to be called is a very strong independent woman. Former British spy she is a woman you do not want to mess with. She loves just as fiercely as she works. Vic was a former lover. Well if she is honest she wants him now too, but this on and again off again thing they do is getting to her. She wants him either all in or all out. But she is not even sure where she stands for a while in this book. Mac is the girl you want as your best friend. She will be there for you through thick and thin.

Vic. He is former CIA. He can kick butt pretty well himself. He thought he was falling for Mac so he ran. Who knew she would follow and bring all the trouble she could with her. Not that Vic minds. He wants the action and adventure. And he wants Mac. She is the one he thought he could never have. Now he might have his second chance. He is determined to get it right this time.

Over all loved this story. Could not put it down. I keep re reading it as well. This book is going on my keeper shelf. When I want to read about some very hot spies and the trouble they get into in and out of bed I will pull this one out and read it.

Five Shooting Stars And Recommended Read

ImABookAddict says

This ARC was provided to me by Netgalley in exchange for an honest review

The Boss is a second-chance romance between two ex-lovers, ex-spies, and ex-business partners. Mac and Vic met six years ago during one of their government assignments. Mac was MI6 while Vic was CIA. They've had an on-again-off-again relationship since then. Six months before the story starts, the couple finally split up. Vic walks away from Mac and their security business, holing up in a cabin in a rural area (I forgot where). Fast forward to the present, Mac sneaks into Vic's cabin to ask for his help. The company's last assignment was with the NSA and everything went FUBAR.

There's a lot going on in this story. We have our main characters, Mac and Vic, who have a lot of emotional baggage between them. They each regret a lot of things. They love one another but have never professed their feelings. It's just been work, fight, and sex. The lack of real communication has finally broken the relationship. And the only reason they're in the same place right now is because Mac and the rest of the team are in deep trouble.

Now, the trouble started when Rock, Vic's best friend, saw a girl almost get kidnapped during their assignment. He ended up shooting the target and grabbing the girl. The team has no idea who's after them right now. Is it the Russians who were buying the girl? Is it the NSA who gave them the assignment? And why were they so adamant about getting the girl? What's so special about her? All these questions need to be answered before they get into deeper trouble.

Like I said, there's a lot going on in the story. I liked the second chance romance in this one. Despite the lack of pages on their initial relationship, there are a lot of pages dedicated to Vic and Mac's thoughts and feelings. So we know exactly how they feel about each other. And we know how they both screwed up the relationship. And I like how their characters were written because you can't pinpoint exactly who was to blame. And you shouldn't. It takes two to tango, after all. That dose of reality into their relationship made the story interesting enough for me that I read it all in one go.

As for the suspense part, I liked it but I didn't love it. I don't particularly care for the conspiracy thing - i.e. the government's out to get you. And while it was entertaining, trying to figure out how all the pieces of the puzzle fit, I didn't like the lack of action. It looked like they just kept making the same moves over and over again. And for spies, they seemed to lack a lot of connections. This part of the story really could have been better.

And the hints to Mac's background (her family) didn't help either. The characters have intimated (a lot) that her father is a really bad guy but part of the nobility in England. I would like to have the dad's character explained a bit more to give justification to how bad Mac's upbringing really was.

This review's pretty long now (as my reviews tend to be) so let's cut it short here. The verdict? I loved the romance but I wish the suspense part was better. Will I recommend it? Yes, it was entertaining enough that it kept my attention all the way through.

Anima says

Spies, Russians, hackers, lovers and fighters. Suspenseful and exciting The Boss never quit. Mac and Vic, former lovers and business owners, were on the outs for a bit when a job went sideways and Vic was needed. MacKenzie is a powerful woman with drive and serious tactical skills. Vic is the guy with brains and abs but doesn't know how to talk to his woman, typical guy. The relationships between the others could easily give us another couple of books. Millie is a sassy chick with genius hacker skills and easily picked up the military lingo. I could see her fitting right in to the group. I've been a fan of Schroeder's books for awhile, her Task Force Hawaii series and military romances, this is a new favorite. I found myself trying to piece it all together and figure out who the ultimate bad guy was and why. On the edge of my seat the whole time.

*ARC provided through Netgalley, review written voluntarily.

Tracie R says

I liked the concept along with the majority of this story, however I found it hard to connect to Mac and her character behavior was counter balance to the story. I love this author and will continue to read her books but this one didn't grab me

Jen says

This was just an okay read for me. I kept putting it down to read something else more interesting. It didn't get really interesting until after the 60% mark.

Vic and Mac are former on-again, off-again lovers and business partners, but haven't seen each other in six months after a breakup. They're brought back together when Mac seeks out Vic's help with the case of a computer hacker who was almost kidnapped by Russians, but that was thwarted by Rock, a member of their team.

Right from the start, we have a lot of names thrown at us and it's so difficult to keep up with who is who (especially the Russian players) and how they all fit together. I usually don't have an issue trying to keep up with characters, even if there are a lot in a book, but this one just wasn't written in a way that it was easy to follow all the time. It seemed every government agency possible was involved with the plot, as well as Russian mobsters and other diplomats...just way too much going on for one book and it wasn't necessary.

The romance was just okay for me. I didn't really feel connected with the characters, didn't see the 'rekindled' love that was expected. They loved each other before the book, still loved each other at the end, but there wasn't really much romancing going on in between - just bickering, self-blame and a focus on the case. The book tended to focus on the suspense part. However, the suspense was lacking for most of the book and didn't really pick up until the last 10-20% of the book. I did find myself not wanting to put the book down

though during this part, so it kept me intrigued, even if it was predictable. I wish we also had more info on Mac's dad (why he was such a bad person) and what happened later months down the road - an epilogue would have been nice.

Honestly, I was more interested in Rock/Tessa or Jay/Millie since those characters were great additions and seemed to be attracted to each other. I hope they're in future books. If not, it would be a shame.

Disclaimer: I received an ARC in exchange for my honest opinion.

Latochia Bell says

Two spies finding their way back to each other!

Truly another masterpiece by Melissa Schroeder...

Drama & Intrigue. Love gone wrong & back to right. Family who won't stay out of your business. And a lot of twists & turns.

Mackenzie "Mac" Donovan & Vic Walker are two part of a combustible machine. They work well together, but can also make the other explode. So when Mac has to ask Vic for help, she doesn't know what his response will be. Unfortunately, she has no other choice.

Vic knew what he needed in life, but didn't know how to get it! He walked away from the only family/love that he had ever known and now had to find a way to fix the mistakes that were made. So when Mac comes asking for help, he knows that he can't turn her down & has the opening he needed to fix the problems they had in their relationship.

Being a spy is never easy. Now they had a problem that needed fixing. It endangered their lives, company, and the person they were watching out for on the mission. This made their lives harder and it put a target on their back. The only problem is that they don't know who exactly is aiming fo them.

The team work together to get the job done. And while they each have contacts that will help them solve the case, they don't know exactly who they can trust.

This new series (Spies, Lies, and Alibis) is another amazing read by Melissa Schroeder. She has brought in a team that blends together as well as her Task Force Hawaii team does. Being in close proximity they still have their quirks, fights, over-protectiveness, and drama. While Vic walked away from his relationship with Mac, he thought his brother, Jay, & best friend, Rock, would keep him in the loop to avoid things getting bad. Easier said than done.

The Boss kept you guessing about where the story was going and who was causing such havoc. It keeps you reading and truly had a twist to it. The relationships that were built became solid and it made the story that much more intriguing.

Can't wait for book 2!

Dísir says

A difficult case reunites ex-lovers Mac and Vic and teaches them exactly what they'd been missing while

they were apart. In the spy world however, everything is shady and nothing is what it seems—this is at least what fiction tells us, be it in the movies or in books and whether art mirrors life or not isn't quite the debate here really. Melissa Schroeder writes a pretty convincing suspense and it's a story that takes off from the very first page, although I found myself rather disoriented without the groundwork and the name dropping that came in the first chapter.

Mac/Vic's split because of a difference in opinion along the their constant fighting made for an interesting second-chance kind of novel because it involves 2 very jaded people who actually know the score, having been in the game for a long time and play an on-off relationship the way they want. There's definitely some kind of secretive James-Bond vibe to it, yet I had a hard time getting invested in all of the characters though and not just the protagonists. Mac/Vic's push-pull status throughout became off-putting, and the way they perceived their so-called relationship as a game so callously played made me wonder if they actually were compatible at all beyond sex. The 'serious' evaluation of their relationship comes in this book somehow lacked the delicious tension that I normally look for, and Mac/Vic's scenes were peppered with more regret and caution than the fresh, exciting feel of a new relationship as they work together this time around. It's definitely mature, more adult though—and probably appealing to others who are tired of teenage shenanigans in their adult protagonists—but I wished I could have summoned more excitement about them.

The long and short of it, 'The Boss' is probably not quite for me, even though I do like what romantic suspense has to offer.

*ARC by netgalley
(grateful still, mind)

Donna says

I loved this book from page one till the very end. I adored the fact that the hero and heroine were older and still trying to figure out love. This second chance romance/romantic suspense kept me rooting for Mac and Vic and wondering just what the bad guys' motivation was. I'll admit I figured it out who the bad guy was as soon as we met him but I was blown away by the ending. This was a hell of a story and I wouldn't mind watching Rock & Tessa get their HEA and Jay needs a love too.

Glittergirl says

This is a smoldering, action packed fubar journey with two alpha former spies who own a contract security company. The book is the progression of this two on again/off again alpha lovers as they find they really are a great team together both in the op as well as in bed. They just have to figure out how to talk to each other about feelings. I loved seeing the teamwork and magnetism of the relationship on this contracted NSA security detail that goes sideways over and over. You find yourself rooting for them to make it as a couple with Vic's dominating, take charge personality and Mac's prickly porcupine personality that hides a soft center. I haven't read a romantic suspense Melissa Schroeder book before. She can write ANYTHING! I wasn't sure Mac and Vic had a chance of putting their tumultuous intense relationship with two alphas back together. I found myself rooting for them all the way. Great job Melissa, you kept me guessing all the way to the end. Thank you, Entangled and NetGalley for the opportunity to review this book!

C bond says

netgalley

This was an ok read. There's certainly a lot going on in this book.

Jennifer Pierson says

Former CIA operative, Vic Walker, is so sick of the spy game, that he took time off from his security firm to figure out what he wants out of his life. He also couldn't take anymore of the push and pull with his former partner, and ex-lover MacKenzie Donovan, so he hides out in order to get a little peace and quiet. Mac hates asking for help from anybody, especially a man who destroyed her, but her latest case has her in over her head, and she sees no other option. So she hunts Vic down with the CIA, Russian Mob, and FBI, after her, when the job takes a nose dive. Vic knows it's bad, so he jumps back into the fray, and while dodging bullets, government agencies, and insane mobsters, old feelings are rising to the surface. WOW! That description above comes nowhere close to the awesome factor that is The Boss! It started out with a bang, and never once, did it slow down at all. I couldn't love Mac anymore if I tried, as she was queen of the bad a** women, bar none! Her and Vic were awesome together, as their banter kept me laughing, especially when her hair trigger temper was triggered. Besides that, their chemistry together didn't take long to ignite into fiery flames of sexy scene goodness that was as explosive as the rest of the action packed story. The diabolical twists and turns had me on the edge of my seat cover to cover, with heart racing, and loud f-bombs raining down. Melissa Schroeder was brilliant with her fantastic writing style, as she drew me in instantly. Not to mention, I don't really like to admit this, but I never saw the mastermind behind the chaos coming! Anyway, this is the first time that I've read her, and as it won't be my last, I CANNOT WAIT to read more in the immediate future! I HIGHLY HIGHLY HIGHLY RECOMMEND this fast paced, highly exciting story to ALL!

Kim Vanravenswaay says

Vic is so used to being the boss, that it comes naturally to take control of circumstances and expect people to follow orders. Now he has to learn to work alongside others or risk losing Mac again. Mac has been hurt so many times, that trust comes hard for her. But in her job if you can't trust the people you're working with then you're screwed.

The Boss is a kick-ass suspenseful romance with a second chance at love for Vic and Mac.

Mags says

3.5?

I'm a huge fan of Melissa Schroeder so I jumped at the chance to read and review this story and whilst I did enjoy it. I did also struggle to begin with and if I'm honest it was not as suspenseful or action packed as I was

anticipating. There were also moments where I got a little confused due to all the dialogue between the group of characters involved in the fubar situation. As for that fubar situation I did happen to guess pretty early on who was ultimately responsible for it, but still I enjoyed the ride this story took me on and I did like the group of characters involved. I also thought the overall story had potential and would certainly recommend it to others.

I was kindly provided with an ARC by Entangled Publishing in exchange for honest review
