



Hunter

Blaire Drake

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Hunter Blaire Drake

Born into blood, I was a mafia princess. Raised in hiding, I was a Californian sweetheart.

The day my father sold my thirteen year old body to pay off a five year old debt was the day my mother stole me in the dead of night. She protected me as she was supposed to.

My father may have been the king, but my mother was the queen.

The mafia blood was hers.

That was ten years ago. Now... the devil was on the loose.

Carlo 'Hunter' Rosso was my father's right hand man and the boy I'd loved since I could tie my own shoelaces. He was always the most ruthless and the most deadly of all the children.

He'd thought I was dead until the day his assignment was given: Kill Adriana and Alexandria Romano. Kill the princess, and definitely kill the queen.

What he didn't know was that the queen was dead, and the princess had taken her throne.

Blood didn't lie. It smeared, distorted, stained. But it didn't lie.

My father was going to learn the hard way that the empire he'd stolen belonged to me.

And so did Carlo 'Hunter' Rosso.

Hunter Details

Date :

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Author : Blaire Drake

Format :

Genre : Romance, New Adult, Contemporary, Suspense

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Michelle says

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Blaire Drake. Immediately when I hear this author's name, I think of her book, *Dear Professor*, which was wickedly sexy and steamy. And so when I found out that she was releasing another book, I knew I had to get my hands on it.

“My name, Adriana, was dark. My nickname, scuro, was dark. My life, a mafia princess, was dark. My father had no idea what he'd done. One day, he would pay. He would atone for his sins. I would make sure of it.”

Unlike her first book which had the forbidden and sexy undertone, **Hunter** was very different. Though this book had the sexy element weaved into the story line, it wasn't the main focus. This book was more a mafia suspense. Yes, Blaire Drake had incorporated a romance aspect but it was mainly more suspense in my opinion.

So what happens when the hunter becomes the prey? When a mafia princess makes her return and gets revenge on the man who ruined her life? Can the prey become the hunter?

“The boy I'd once loved was now a monster. Nothing more than a cold-blooded killer. Or was he?”

When it comes to mafia romantic suspense story lines, I don't like to say much in my reviews since the best part in truly enjoying the book is going through all the unsuspecting twist and turns, discovering revelations and experiencing the passion between a trained assassin and a mafia princess. Yes, there will be heartbreak, loss, passion, violence, revenge, and danger but there is also a raging inferno of desire and love. So if you are ready to experience a whirlwind of love and danger, then hold on tight as Blaire Drake tells the story of a mafia princess who is on the hunt for love and justice and of a trained assassin who is on the hunt for redemption, absolution, and love.

Review can also be found on Four Chicks Flipping Pages: <http://fourchicksflippingpages.weebly...> Blaire Drake

1-Click Addict Support Group says

Hunter is a white hot thriller with an exquisite combination of danger, sex and intrigue.

I have a thing for dark, dangerous men—especially when they are tied to the mafia. It's like my lady bits just spontaneously combust. And *Hunter* happens to be a perfect read for spontaneously combusting parts, panties on fire, and danger afoot! I feel like I was swept away into the perfect movie. Hot, hunky men.

Strong, gorgeous women. Adventure. Guns. Blood. Oh, yessssss!

Anyone who's ever loved and lost, or been betrayed, will understand Adriana Romano. She is sassy and strong and doesn't lay her heart on the line for anyone. Revenge is a dish best served cold, or in her case, in the cold.

When you fall in love with your best friend at an early age like Carlo 'Hunter' Rosso and that love is ripped from you in a split second, your life is forever changed. Until the day you are summoned to kill the person you love.

I am not sure I'll even be able to adequately articulate my feelings about this book. It's movie magic, it's fast-paced and intriguing. It's the kind of book you start and don't look up from until you finish it. Then you look around and take a deep breath. Then, you click back and hope for more. Because by the end, you crave more. Just more.

Now Gaige, Angelo... maybe? Baby? Please?? ~ Heather, 5 Dangerous stars

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*Hunter* is the second book I have read of Blaire Drake's and I thoroughly enjoyed it. It was dark and twisted, hot and sexy, and oh so good!

Adriana is a kick-ass heroine. She is a mafia princess who is feisty and sassy and doesn't take shit from anyone. After being taken away from her home when she was thirteen, she has lived a good life. But she still missed her Hunter.

Hunter aka Carlo was the first boy she ever loved. He protected her throughout childhood and when she disappeared, he was torn apart. With nothing to live for, he became her father's assassin. He was a monster trained to kill anyone and everyone.

**"The boy I'd once loved was now a monster. Nothing more than a cold-blooded killer."**

So what happens when Hunter is sent to kill Adriana and her mother, the Queen?

**"It was fucking wrong. I shouldn't have a goddamn hard on over her. I was supposed to kill her...Not kiss her and get a boner."**

I loved Adriana and Hunter together! They knew how to push each other's buttons which was just hot. This story had quite a few twists and turns, and you never knew who was on whose side. I couldn't put it down! I definitely look forward to more from Ms. Drake! ~ Tiffany, 4 stars

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### **Audrey Carlan says**

Mafia princess vs the assassin vs the Godfather. What an intense ride! I'd not read anything like this book before. Sure, I'm Italian, so I've seen "The Godfather" movies and had an idea what to expect. So wrong. This book was one of those tales where you had no idea how it was going to end. Both the anti-hero and heroine were beyond complex. Their personalities were difficult, layered with past tragedies and present

regrets. The smutty bits were wicked hot, but the dirty talk...that was where it was at! I love an alpha that can talk filth and still be sexy as sin. Fab read. I'd recommend to anyone who wants a fast paced, unusual love story with a whole lot of edge.

"From start to finish, Hunter was action packed, thoughtful, heat-filled, and an intensely wild ride! Watch our for Blaire Drake, she is a force to reckon with in the erotic romance world."

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## **Sophie \*\*2 Greek Girls Reading\*\* says**

Review to come.

*ARC was kindly provided by the author in exchange for an honest review.*

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## **Sabrina says**

### **4 'Kill me or fuck me' Stars**

"Addy I need you to come with me. now." Those were the words that changed Adriana Romano's life ten years ago when she was only thirteen years old. Her mother, the Queen of the Romano family, took her away from her home when she learned that her father had sold her to cover a debt. When Adriana was taken away she didn't just leave behind her home, she left her best friend. But when he shows up out of no where after ten years, she knows it's definitely not a happy reunion.

Carlo 'Hunter' Rosso had a piece of him break the day he was told his best friend had died. For ten years he has mourned her loss and there hasn't been a day that he didn't think of her. So when he's told that she's alive after all this time apart he should be ecstatic, right? He's more tormented than anything when he finds out, though, because now he's been ordered to kill her.

I loved the mystery that was involved in this story. There was a lot that we had to figure out, and it kept me on the edge of my seat the whole time. Even Hunter was a bit of a mystery since the author made it so that readers couldn't tell if he could actually be trusted or not. It kept the story exceptionally interesting.

Adriana was a intriguing character and I enjoyed getting to see her grow throughout the story. The character development was amazing in this book, and I especially liked getting how we saw Adriana go from the unsure woman we first met, to the new reigning Queen of the Romano family.

Overall, this was a thrilling tale of young love that has grown into a dark battle between two hearts. I loved Hunter and Adriana's story and the intensity of it. I wouldn't classify it as a dark book really, but it did have some dark aspects to it that added a bit more interest to it.

*ARC kindly provided in exchange for an honest review.*

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## **Beverly says**

I have been so intrigued by Blaire Drake's writing since I saw the blurb for *Dear Professor*, so naturally I had to jump into this one. I didn't actually read the blurb and was so pleasantly surprised with the unexpected suspenseful plot.

Adriana is just a child when she is woken in the middle of the night by her mother and flees from her home. Her mother saves her that night because her father, a mafia leader, sold her to the highest bidder. Her and her mother escape leaving that world behind in order to save Adriana's life.

The story then starts years later and Addy is now an adult. Her mother has passed away and she is left trying to figure out what to do next. What she wants to do is get revenge on her father. She hasn't worked out all the details, but she feels she owes it to her mother. Her plan is put on hold when her father's assassin arrives to kill her, but not just any assassin, but the boy she has loved her whole life.

Trust no one.

People will hurt you to help themselves.

Blood doesn't lie.

I was alone. I had no one. If I wanted to carry on with this, I had to do it myself.

Hunter isn't the boy he once was, he is now a cold blooded killer. I love love stories so naturally this is when the story really took off for me. I loved seeing them reconnect and watching them fall in love as adults. I wish there was a little less suspense and twists and more love story, but that's just me and my preference. I could see a lot of my friends really enjoying the suspenseful side and loving this one.

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*Teaser created by me with stock images purchased from depositphotos.*

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## **Maayan says**

3.5 stars.

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## **\*kawehi.reviews says**

? I received an ARC via Inkslinger PR in exchange for an honest review. Thank you! ?

What would you do if you were woken up in the middle of the night and given the choice of your freedom or being collateral for your father? Well, for Alexandria Romano, the Queen of the Romano mafia, her daughter's life is not up for negotiation and she'll do whatever it takes to keep her daughter safe. Even if that means stealing away in the night and disappearing. For now. Until she take her revenge on her no good, tyrannical husband.

Now years later, and with the Queen dead and the Princess all grown up, Adrianna, is tired of hiding and knows that her time is winding down until her father's people track her down to kill her. It's only a matter of time until her father's #1 hitman comes to take her out.

Enter Hunter Rosso. Hunter Rosso is the most notorious assassin for Adrianna's father, Enzo Romano, and has gilded the reputation of being both ruthless and deadly. That is, until, he is given the task of killing the ghost of a girl he once loved-- and of whom he believed to be dead.

Murdering people has always been Hunter's strong point. But, killing the love of his life would destroy him.

And with Adrianna planning on taking out her own father and claiming what's rightfully hers, love and loyalties will be tested in blood, mayhem, and grit. How far is she willing to risk when its not just her life on the line, but those she loves?

This was an interesting story--- with nothing wrong with it, although some parts I did skim and want the pacing to speed up a little.

I'm actually hoping that there will be a book sequel as I would love the author to expand on some of the other characters as well. But, I'm sure time will tell if author Blaire Drake decides to indulge on my wishes... ;)

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## **Heather C says**

I was intrigued by this book from the start. I love Mafia books. The crime, the suspense, the angst...all of it. I couldn't wait to dive in.

Adrianna Romono was born a Mafia princess. Her mother was the Queen. Due to a horrific decision her



father makes, Adrianna and her mother go on the run at age thirteen. She leaves behind a mafia princess enchanted life and the boy who she was inseparable from.

Carlo "Hunter" Rosso believes his best friend and childhood love is dead. Until he finds out that she isn't and her father has ordered him to kill her and her mother. He's become a ruthless assassin for her father. Thus begins the journey of old wounds, damaged souls and potential hope.

I had a little bit of a problem connecting with Adrianna sometimes. At one point, she's this head strong woman, ready to take on her Mafia boss father and then she's suddenly unsure and comes off a little meek. It was contradicting, which is normal for people but it kept me from truly connecting with her at all times. I liked the take control and don't take any crap Adrianna.

Hunter. Oh, Hunter. He's been a love struck puppy with Adriana since they were kids. You can see his turmoil throughout the entire book. His struggle between the man he is now and the boy who always loved her.

"She calmed the tornado that was my soul, and she had no idea."

I really liked him. The only thing that set me back a little with him was how quickly he was to trust people. It looked like he was super cautious but sometimes his heart put blinders on him.

Overall, I liked it. If you are looking for a solid Mafia book, pick this up and try it.

\*ARC kindly provided in exchange for an honest review\*

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**aNneMarLi - Chatterbooks Book Blog says**

#### **4.0 Princepessa & Cacciatore STARS!!!**

What was life, really? It sure as hell wasn't a mixture of love and honesty. It was closer to a clusterfuck of bullshit and lies.

Hunter is my first Blaire Drake book and I would say, the author managed to deliver a good story with a good plot. This action filled drama of a mafia princess and her hunter is worth devouring. **More than the panty wetting scenes and a damn hot lead that will make your panties melt, this story is raw,intense, heart gripping and just good that will make you captivated from the start 'til the end.**

My name, Adriana, was dark. My nickname, scuro, was dark.

My life, a mafia princess, was dark.  
My father had no idea what he'd done.  
One day, he would pay.  
He would atone for his sins.  
I would make sure of it.

What will you do if you're a mafia princess and your bestfriend whom you love since you were young was sent to kill you? That same bestfriend whom you thought you'll marry someday? The bestfriend who promised to protect you? Much worse what if both of you have goals to pursue, what would likely to prevail?

Sneaking away from California and across the country. Into New York. Find the Hamptons house my father was happily living in... the one that belonged to me... And kill him.

Rage. It was everything. I was trained to be unfeeling. To be permanently numb. There was no emotion in my job. I was an assassin. Silent. Deadly.

Me or him? My life, or his? What did he value more? I don't know that either.

Holeeee shit!!! I honestly love this book. I'm a sucker for Mafia story and sure this one does not disappoint. I love the portrayal of the characters and to be honest it was written flawlessly. Reading this made me on the edge and that adrenaline rush? wow!!! I was just there reading planning to read just a chapter or two but I really can't put it down. The story as it progresses became more suspenseful. I like how the author made it's pacing not too fast nor too slow... just balanced. The writings too are full of emotion and was very descriptive. The characters are worth digging, not just the lead but the secondary ones too.

And did I say Hunter is hot??? uh..uh..not just him but the scenes!!! wow!!! this author surely knows how to play a roller coaster ride of emotions. I will not talk much... You have to read this to know what I'm talking about, but just a glimpse though because I'm a tease like that ;)

"You still have time to make me stop. I meant it, Addy." Two of his fingers trailed up the inside of my thigh, coming dangerously close to my wet pussy. "I don't want to ruin you. I don't play nice, but the second my mouth is on your cunt, I won't be fucking playing at all."

Overall, I love this book and I'm so glad I was given an ARC. The experience that I went through with this is just awesome. Good job to the author!!If this is not a series yet??Please make it one since I wanted to know more about Gaige and Angelo.

Death? No. I didn't fear death. A part of me welcomed it. Welcomed the silence, the peace, the black abyss. I figured that when it came, I'd be Alice jumping down the rabbit hole, except there would be no Wonderland, only numbness.

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### **Paula Phillips says**

After really enjoying Blaire Drake's first book "Dear Professor" , I was curious to read her new release Hunter. This one of course was a whole different pretense. Hunter started with a girl and her mother disappearing off in the middle of the night , then flipped to ten years later. Ten years ago, Adriana aka Addy and her mother Alexandria discovered that her father had sold her off as part of a debt and in order to save Addy, her mother planned for them to escape and run away and be safe which they had for ten years . Addy is known as the Princess of a Mafia clan. Her mother was the Queen as it ran in her bloodlines but her father wanted to be the Don and be the one in charge and as long as Addy and her mother were alive that would never happen. Flip to present time and Addy is now 23 years old and her mother has been dead for the past couple of years, she finally thought she had nothing to worry about. Though things are about to change as her father has discovered that they are alive and has sent his best assassin to kill them . Hunter aka Carlo has been an assassin for Addy's father since he was young and is the best there is and now he has been sent to kill Addy and her mother. It's not going to be an easy task as Addy has not only protection but when they reconnect, the love and chemistry that they had when they were younger is still there and now that they are adults it's even stronger. With a three day deadline until her father sends someone else, can Hunter keep Addy safe and himself alive ? For me , I found the pace a bit slow for my liking as it started off really intense and exciting and then once we got to the twenty years later, it started to slow but if you love Mobster stories and Assassin tales then you will love Hunter by Blaire Drake.

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### **Bibliophile Wonderland Reviews says**

If you are a fan of Mafia Romance books then this is the book for you!

Alexandria the queen of the Romano family took matters into her own hands and saved the person she loved the most, Adrianna. Years later the princess has now become the queen and is ready to take her rightful place as boss of the family. Someone from Addy's past comes into play and may derail her plans for the hostile takeover.

Hunter Russo, the assassin to Enzo Romano is given an assignment that shakes him to his core. To kill someone he thought was dead long ago and now after years of not feeling those feels come back in full force. The problem is he is not that teenager he was before oh no he was colder, harder and facing a major dilemma. Her life or his.

this book has some dark aspects to it but it does not go in depth into it but it is put out there. There is also a one sided triangle I felt so bad for him. being a mafia romance book this will keep you on the edge of your seat waiting for what happens next. I will say it again this author can write a good story. There was enough background information and the characters developed beautifully. The story flowed well even with the flashbacks it kept a steady pace.

**ARC was provided by the author in exchange for a honest review.**

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### **Sybil aka Lala says**

Adriana was once a Mafia princess. But when her father sold her body to pay-off a heavy debt, her mother stole her away during the night and she was raised in hiding. Now, years later, with the queen dead, the princess all grown up and her father determined to hide the fact that another claim to his ill-gotten throne still exists- a ruthless killer is sent to put an end to her life.

Hunter once loved a girl. But after her death he was left with a black hole in his heart and the only method he could use to cope was to become a violent and emotionless assassin. When he is sent on a mission to kill the girl he thought was dead he doesn't know if he has it in him. Decisions will have to be made but one thing is certain: this will all end in blood.

The dynamic between Hunter and Addy made for a very interesting romance and apart from all the angst and tension you could shake a gun at, it was also filled with some great chemistry that resulted in explosive sexy times. Hunter is your typical alpha and though he feels fiercely protective towards Adriana, he is also torn between his heart and his sense of duty. Addy is strong and sassy and ready to take her rightful place at the throne but it is hard to trust Hunter, even if her heart and body are wildly attracted to him.

With so many players involved, each with their own stake in the game, it is hard to discern who can be trusted and who should be feared. This was an interesting read with lots of violence, intrigue and twists and as mentioned, some insane chemistry laced with moments of epic romance. As hot as it was fun, Hunter comes greatly recommended for those seeking a bit of thrilling action in their erotic romance.

(ARC provided by author in exchange for an honest review)

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## Christine (Shh Moms Reading) says

Addictive, suspenseful and freakin HOT! The Princess is kick ass and Hunter won my heart. Full review to come!

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## Lady Gabriella of Awesomeness (On Hiatus) says

★★★ 3 stars...Or less :/ ★★★

This book started of promising enough. Great blurb, beautiful writing and a superb prologue, which might I add, raised my expectations for this book up a few notched because how suspense packed and bad-assed the characters seemed..

And well, Once the actual story started, the whole plot of wheeled down hill from there.

My biggest problem with this book was actually the Heroine. The BLURB PROMISED ME a kick-assed revenge thirsty mafia queen, instead what did I get ?

A 23 year old who acts like she's still in high school and goes around barking orders because she's the president of the student body and their new PROM Queen. Duh.

**“Get your ass into that goddamn building, rent a car, and get me the fuck out of California before I tear you so many new assholes you'll be shitting out of your armpits.”**

There is *difference* between commanding respect and demanding respect.

It's one thing to order people around when you ARE queen and have earned your title and another, to just go around randomly ordering your friends, who clearly have no respect for you because you've done nothing so far but sitting in your house and feeding tuna to your cat ever half an hour.

I get that she's in hiding and I get that she wants her family business back. But tell me, HOW is just walking in and killing your dad for his throne such a great plan. When you have NO CONNECTIONS, NO CONTACTS, NO AMMO and Clearly NO actual TRAINING, other than taking your gun for a round at your local shooting range, just to get the gist of it.

Her character was so inconsistent she not only gave me, BUT all the other characters in this book wiplashes with all her talks of being THE QUEEN seconds before running off like a scared little bunny, the moment she hears a gun-shot somewhere.

**“She looked terrified.**

**The bravado and determination she'd shown just minutes ago had quickly morphed into a 'fucking run' instinct that radiated from her with her fear. Her bright blue eyes were wide with shock, as though she couldn't believe what was happening.”**

Your A MAFIA QUEEN right,princess ? Hope your ready to get used to the sound of gunshots if your still planning on taking over your father's kingdom soon. ;/

Other than the writing,the only thing that save this book for me was the hero and a handful of the secondary characters.Hunter is your expected charming male lead,completely in love with his childhood best friend and determined to protect her from all sources of evil as long as he stays alive.

**“I wondered how many more people I'd have to kill to even get to Adriana.**

**Five. Ten. Fifty. I didn't care. I'd take down an entire country for her if that's what it took to keep her safe.”**

There was also a few other secondary characters that popped in and out after delivering the necessary information,needed to get the plot going,before disappearing again.

But By far,my favorite character was actually the Heroine's dead mother.Now She was A true QUEEN.If she didn't keep showing up in crucial turning points of the plot,P.S: *I LOVE YOU* style,by leaving cash and maintaining several safe house for her daughter,just in case.The hero and heroine would have probably perished a long time ago and never reached the climax and finish the story.

\*Sign\* At least it ended well.The last 15% turned out good hence the 3 star rating.In fact the climax got over super fast.But I didn't mind,by that point,I just wanted the whole thing to end.I kind of dragged this book on for three whole days by choosing to study my Pathology Textbook,over reading this novel EVEN though it was a WEEKEND.So yeah,now you know.

The sad part is,I actually LIKED the author's style of writing..In fact if you just picked these two characters and actually put them in a high school/new adult collage setting,this whole thing could have actually WORKED as an angsty first love romance read.

*The bad boy and his sad princess,who ends up finding themselves in their love for each-other..or something.*

**Would I recommend this read ? Or be reading the squeal,if released?**

Don't think I need to specifically answer this question after all my ranting above.

So yeah.Just No.

**P.S: THIS BOOK IS NOT A DARK READ.Not sure how it ended up in the Dark Reads Listopia.But I repeat this is NOT Dark.**

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