

Jaden Terrell "Jaden Terrell" (Nashville, TN)

This review is from: *Revenge: A Mick Murphy Mystery (Paperback)*

REVENGE is a fast-paced story with a likeable protagonist, journalist Mick Murphy. After giving a speech to a journalism class at Harvard, his alma mater, Mick meets Michelle, the woman of his fantasies. She reminds Mick that he once knew her brother, Manny, and says that long-term abuse and shame over his homosexuality has driven Manny to commit suicide. Her family has sworn vengeance against the men who tormented Manny, but Michelle says she has no taste for murder and enlists Mick's help to warn the men. But what at first seems a simple mission of mercy becomes a terrifying game of cat-and-mouse that puts Mick at odds with local police, his best friends, and some very dangerous enemies.

The plot is well-constructed, and while I anticipated the twists, I think that has more to do with my own background and experiences than with a flaw in the story, which works independently of the twists. The stakes get higher and the web more tangled as the book progresses, and my concern for Mick and other major characters, along with my desire to know how far Mick will go to help and protect the girl of his dreams, kept me turning the pages.