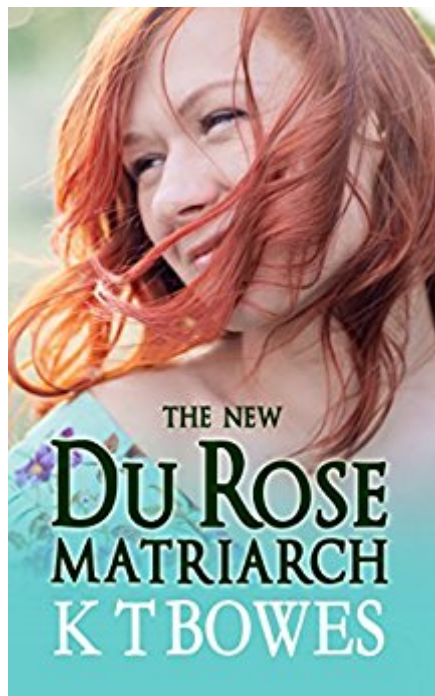


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The New Du Rose Matriarch: Love And Intrigue In The Stunning New Zealand Wilderness (The Hana Du Rose Mysteries Book 4)



Synopsis

“Blame and hate are so overrated, my friend. They deliberately draw us backwards and never let us go.” The boarding house in the usually prosperous New Zealand boys’ high school is failing when the figures say that it should be thriving. Something is going seriously wrong. Logan Du Rose is drafted in to solve the mystery, bringing his wife, Hana and new baby daughter with him to live at the derelict staff accommodation. For him it is a welcome distraction, which stops him having to deal with the chaos of his mother’s horrific suicide and the misery it has unleashed on his whole whanau. Hana Du Rose is struggling. New motherhood at forty-five is not quite what she expected and she is feeling disappointed in herself. The man who hunted her previously is now behind bars, but another danger is getting ready to stretch its wicked fingers over her and make her life unbearable. Who is the handsome man in the black Mercedes and why does he seem intent on punishing Hana? Why is it that she can’t ask her husband for help this time? Just as Hana’s circumstances become more and more untenable, the arrival of her nephew complicates matters further and drives an even bigger wedge between her jealous, eldest son, Bodie and the strong, Maori Du Rose family which Hana has chosen to belong to. With the absence of a female figurehead, the Du Roses are flailing and tension is threatening to undo the work of generations, until Hana steps up and shows that she bears the hallmark of the new Du Rose Matriarch.

Book Information

File Size: 2541 KB

Print Length: 463 pages

Publication Date: January 10, 2014

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00DY30DRK

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #654,518 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #58

in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Literature & Fiction > Drama & Plays > Australian & Oceanian

#61 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Dramas & Plays > Regional & Cultural > Australia & Oceania

Customer Reviews

The fourth installment in K. T. Bowes's Waikato Presbyterian School for Boys Mysteries, *The New Du Rose Matriarch*, continues the adventures of Hana. With grown children, Hana thought she was prepared and equipped to deal with her newborn daughter. With her husband Logan fulfilling an obligation at the school, Hana feels overwhelmed with a colicky baby. At the same time, although Logan has ceased his investigations in the underworld, Hana can't shake the feeling of being watched. Faced with numerous family conflicts, a mystery at the school, and the imminent possibility of her worst nightmare becoming a grim reality, Hana must reach deep into her psyche and find the strength to save herself, her child, and her husband. At the end of the book, a special treat awaits the reader. The first chapter of the fifth book in the series is included.

The beginning of the book is a little exposition heavy, and the backstories felt larger than life, because they're so deeply rooted in the awesome events of previous novels. Definitely give those a look first. There's a lot of sweet elements, but some aspects of Logan and Hana's relationship felt off to me. That may just be me not really getting why people treat violent jealousy as normal. Since Logan's jealousy is brought up again and again, it made it hard for me to feel invested in the romance, since I think my wife would castrate me if I was half as aggressively jealous as Logan. Toward the end, the Du Rose's tendency to fix evvvverrrrrything got on my nerves a bit, but it was overall a very sweet story. I just don't care for stories in which the solutions are constantly presented by one or two people, with no involvement from other helpers. If you like cozy mysteries or non-gory thrillers, the series should be right up your alley. It wasn't quite what I wanted, but it was a fun read, overall.

Another in the series about Logan and Hana du rose; I go through them one after the other, and they always end too quickly. The two have so many adventures, most of which are foisted on them. I highly recommend this series; they're really good!

It started kinda draggy, but then I got into it. The only thing was that the past happenings kept repeating itself into every book. I just skipped those parts. But I read the whole series up to date. The characters are so well defined and you keep seeing the growth of them as the books progress,

except Bodie. He still needs a lot of growing up and learning to accept his family as not the ideal that he imagines. I think Hana is such a strong woman even if she is not yet aware but she is so very involved with all her and Logan's family. Of course Logan is just a wonderful hero, just a little to stubborn but is also learning. Looking forward to book coming in 2015.

It is clear that the author of these books is a mother herself. Filled with concern and fear for her family when danger threatens, the character of Hana is very believable as the writer draws you into their world. Set in New Zealand and the fourth book in the series, this tale picks up Hana's story as she has become a mother in later life. Full of self-doubt and worry about her ability to play the role of mother again, Hana is very easy to relate to. Her concern for those she holds dear and her instinct to protect her family are endearing qualities. Logan, Hana's husband is clearly deeply in love with his new wife and this story shows how their love overcome all obstacles leaving them stronger and more united.

This whole series has been a "Cannot put this down" read for me. The characters, the background, the story line is interesting, exciting, and challenging. I have finished the whole series and wish it would continue on with future generations of this family! I recommend the series highly!

After starting this series I found I couldn't put them down and have now read all six books one after the other, so this review covers all books - as for me they have all blended into one fabulous story. I live in the Waikato in NZ, where the mysteries are set and love the familiarity of locations nearby. The traits of each character are so clear that I miss them now that I have 'caught up' and finished this last book and feel like I know them! The plot of each book is unpredictable, yet realistic and interesting. With little tidbits of life lessons skilfully scattered through they leave you thinking, and they all have a lifelike humour which makes pleasurable reading. Great books!

I came cold into this series, wondering if I should read the earlier books first. No, you don't need to, as Bowes gives you just enough detail to understand past events well, without overkill on the backstory. I do admit that I want to go back and read them, though - after I read the next book, for I want to know what happens to the du Rose family afterwards even more. From the beginning, Hana had my heart - as the book opens with a situation most mothers can relate to with frightening clarity. It almost had me in tears at the memory. Bowes is a brilliant storyteller, drawing me in from the start with the realism of her scene. Hana Du Rose reminded me a little of Kay Scarpetta from Patricia

Cornwell's books, in that she's a tough, older woman with a grown family and a past that wasn't exactly sunshine and roses. Hana has an edge that Scarpetta doesn't, though - she's living in New Zealand. For me, that brings her story closer to home and even more real to me. Now I believe I need to go hunt for Book 5.

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