

Saving Emily

Blurb:

Janice Bracken is positive that attending a reunion of her old military outfit is going to be boring, but with a busy career in personal protection, it's a convenient way for her to catch up with several old friends who still live in Tucson. She's surprised on the first night to run into Jim MacPherson. Janice had always been attracted to Mac, but when they'd been stationed together, she was not only five years older, she was also his supervisor. Now the widowed Mac works for the city and cares for his thirteen-year-old daughter, Emily. He is also just as attractive to her as he was before and the age difference no longer seems as important.

But Emily is not happy to see her father with a woman she doesn't know and they argue. Janice spots the young girl at a local street fair and realizes the teenager is in way over her head when Emily is cornered by four rough-looking young men. But they aren't the real danger—that's the man in sunglasses and a baseball cap who's watching everything. When Janice confronts the young men, the watcher grabs Emily, and even though Janice is injured from the fight, she tries to stop the stranger. But the predator is armed and both Emily and Janice are taken.

Now as Mac struggles with the reality that he's helpless in this situation, Janice will have to draw on all her strength and skills to save Mac's daughter and herself.

Synopsis:

Janice Bracken attends a military reunion and sees Mac (Jim MacPherson). She'd always had a crush on him, but had purposely steered clear. Besides being senior to him in rank, she was also five years older than him—and those things had seemed insurmountable at the time. The other thing that drove her away was that Mac had announced his sometime girlfriend Crystal, a local party girl, was pregnant. Janice had been relieved to take a remote assignment where she didn't have to see the handsome young man every day. But fifteen years later, she hasn't lost any of that interest. Now she is out of the military and working for a private security agency that specializes in protecting executives.

Mac had been just as interested, but the discrepancy in rank and age had also kept him back. When Crystal told him she was pregnant, he'd wondered if he was the real father, but he'd stepped up and married her. When Emily was born any doubts of her parentage disappeared from the first moment he held her. It didn't matter if she was his biological daughter or not – she was his now. Crystal though was anything but mother material and had disappeared within six months. Two years later, she was found dead in an alley from an overdose. Mac got out of the military and went to work for the city in order to provide some stability, and even though Em is a good kid – she's thirteen and arrogant.

At the reunion, Mac and Janice acknowledge their interest and she spends the night with him, but in the morning, Em appears unexpectedly. She's incredibly rude to Janice, and Janice leaves Mac to try to work things out with his daughter. Mac and Em fight and Mac leaves for work, angry and frustrated. Janice later sees Em in a place she shouldn't see her and suspicious, she follows her. The girl is hanging out in at the street fair and flirting with some rough-looking

older boys. Things turn ugly and Janice intercedes. But they aren't the threat. It's the man in the baseball cap who grabs Em and drags her to his car.

Mac is trying to get in touch with Janice, unaware that she's trying to save his daughter. When the police contact him, he discovers just how bad things are. Witnesses say that a woman matching Janice's description is responsible for the four badly beaten men on the ground. A man in a baseball cap was seen dragging the girl away and the woman, who was badly injured, went after him. She'd attacking him in the parking lot, but the man had overpowered her and dumped her into the trunk of a car. The witnesses had clearly heard the woman call the girl Emily.

Now Mac will struggle with being unable to do anything but hope, while Janice will use all her strength and skill to save herself and Emily from the predator who has them.

Characters:

Janice Bracken is 39 years old, brown hair, gray eyes, 5'-8", 140 pounds, tough as they come. Bodyguard who works for a company that specializes in protecting executives in Mexico and Latin America. Never married, never wanted children, doesn't do well with bullshit, her relationships are more masculine in nature – one night stands or friends with benefits. She's always had a thing for Mac and wants to find out if it means anything. She's getting a little tired of her work – it's not as easy as it used to be and she's thinking about changing her future, but she isn't sure that settling down will work for her. She loves the drop and run lifestyle.

Jim "Mac" MacPherson is 34 years old, brown hair, brown eyes, 5'-11", 200 pounds, in fit condition. A City of Tucson employee, he took the job to provide some stability for his kid. He's okay with his life. He doesn't have a girlfriend right now, but he's not much of a drinker or a one night stand guy. He's always had a thing for Janice and is curious. He's a man that is more inclined to be in a committed relationship and will assign more meaning to the sex than Janice. His focus has been on Emily, but now he dreams of having someone to share that life. He's the romantic one.

Emily is 13 years old, brown hair, brown eyes, 4'-10", 80 pounds, athletic. Basically a good kid but spoiled and arrogant, and she'll make some mistakes. She likes things just the way they are – her father is always available to her and she is aware that she's his focus. She has a computer (which he monitors, but not good enough) and a cell phone. She has that immortal feeling until she gets in trouble. Em's been trying on the "bitchy girl" attitude, but she's not a drama queen at heart. Some tears when she's scared, but she'll be tough enough.