



Easy Connections

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Reviewer:

[Terry Downie](#) [3]

~~Editor's Choice:~~

off

Media type:

Book

BfK Rating:

0

Cathy is a talented seventeen year-old art student. Much of the book is about the importance of her work and the growth of her talent, which is interesting. The rest is to do with her feelings of revulsion/fascination for Paul Devlin, a fascination for Paul Devlin, a charismatic rock-star who rapes her, makes her pregnant and pursues her until, under overwhelming pressure from all sides, Cathy agrees to marry him. Her relationships with friends, family and a fellow art student and their attitudes towards her are carefully explored. So are her feelings about herself - her work, her ambitions, the pregnancy, her needs and emotions. This is interesting too. I found the book compelling and I think older readers will. (There is explicit sex.) But I don't like the unreal, more-than-human aura surrounding Dev. He has a 'strange austere beauty', he's 'dangerous' and no-one seems able to resist his magnetism. Liz Berry keeps this pedal going all through the book and our interest in Cath's art and emotional life is subsumed in it. Sad for Cathy, that she's finally overpowered; sad for the reader to carry away stronger images of his larger-than-life persona than of her experiences.

Running Order:

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