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The Indebted
Donahue Silvis
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Black Rose Writing
Reviewed By Josee Morgan

Official Apex Reviews Rating: ★★★★★

Having grown up in the same poor Italian neighborhood in New Jersey, Frankie, Phil, and Carlo formed an inexorable bond that sustained them through the toughest of times. Given the mafia's considerable stronghold in their native stomping grounds, it seemed only natural that, as they got older, the three friends would naturally migrate into "The Family"; however, as it turns out, only Frankie and Phil end up as members, while Carlo - intent on pursuing a life outside the criminal element - joins the police force instead.

Old bonds die hard, though, and when Carlo starts encountering difficulties in his everyday life, he calls on his childhood friends (and their "extended family") for assistance - and as everyone knows, favors given by "The Family" are always expected to be repaid in full...even if in blood...

With compelling action and suspense, **The Indebted** is an intriguing crime fiction drama. Less a scandalous tale about the sordid mob underworld and more a telling narrative of the ties that bind, author Donahue Silvis' gripping offering puts a refreshing new spin on the world of mafia lore. With genuine, authentic characters - rather than over-the-top, sensationalized caricatures - Donahue weaves a highly believable tale with plotlines taken straight from the pages of everyday life. Perhaps the most salient aspect of **The Indebted** is its ability to persuade the reader to abandon all judgmental predispositions and simply view the game's major and minor players the same as they would anyone who goes into a situation with the best of intentions - only to quickly find themselves in way over their heads.

An enjoyable, entertaining read, **The Indebted** is a solid offering from a standout literary talent. Highly recommended.