



Exposing the Heiress

Jennifer Apodaca

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When wealthy heiress Alyssa Brooks finds out her stepfather has been paying her fiancé to marry her, she's humiliated and betrayed. She quickly breaks the engagement, only to be blackmailed by her now *ex*-fiancé, who threatens both Alyssa and the son she gave up for adoption. With nowhere to go, she turns to the one man she can trust.

Former Marine sniper Hunter Reece's lethal skills could save Alyssa's life. But his little sister's best friend has turned into a woman, who is an irresistible mix of secrets and sexiness. And while Hunter can trust himself to protect her, he can't trust himself to keep his attraction hidden...or even pretend to be the man that Alyssa remembers.

Because the only way to keep the lovely heiress safe is to become the one thing he knows she could never love...a killer.

Exposing the Heiress Details

Date : Published August 4th 2015 by Entangled: Ignite

ISBN :

Author : Jennifer Apodaca

Format : Kindle Edition 248 pages

Genre : Romance, War, Military Fiction, Romantic Suspense, Contemporary Romance, Contemporary

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From Reader Review Exposing the Heiress for online ebook

Claire Robinson says

1.5 - "You've totally ruined boring sex for me." Stars.

If I was asked to sum this book up in one word -

Having enjoyed the previous two books in the *Once A Marine* series, and waiting over a year for this the third book, I was looking forward to reading Alyssa and Hunter's story.

The woman touched places in him best left alone.

Sadly, nothing really gelled for me with this couple. There was an overabundance of dirty talking but the action seemed to burn out very quickly, the same can be said for the drama, lots of little bits and pieces but it never really felt fully put together.

"All these years... it was you. It's always been you."

The tropes used are some of my favorites, but I don't know, I literally saw what was coming each and every time before it even happened. I wasn't expecting a who-dunnit of Agatha Christie levels or anything but I was expecting a little more...

Hunt and Lyssie did have some very sweet and poignant moments together, and Jennifer's writing is to her usual standards, but having read a few books by her now, I just feel that this one didn't really have the usual spark and connection her romantic couples have always had together in my previous reading experience.

I will be in the minority with my thoughts, and I am sure that most people will love *Exposing the Heiress*, it just all felt a little forced and fell a little flat for me this time.

ARC generously provided via Netgalley, and I am sorry that I cannot provide a more positive review on this occasion.

Anita says

ARC provided by the Publisher via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

Beef-cake Marine to the rescue. There is just something about a military hero romantic-suspense that just makes my heart go pitter-patter. I am always up for a good tale involving my favorite good guys and *Exposing the Heiress* is more than up to the task. As #3 in the Once a Marine series this book reads like a standalone. That gets extra points for me. This is a wonderful, sexy romance with a really good suspense plot too.

Alyssa's stepfather is paying Nate to marry her. When she finds out, she dumps his sorry ass. Nate threatens

Alyssa and she turns to Hunt from Once a Marine Security Services. Hunt is also an old family friend and the childhood crush turns into a flaming hot romance. Nate is a nasty piece of work and Hunt, a former Marine sniper can't wait to get him in his sights.

Darcy says

I never really warmed up to this one, not sure why. Nate was a nasty piece of work, was glad that he got what he deserved. The one highlight to this one was the video that Alyssa made about Hunt, to show him how a Marine was better than a prince.

Nicola says

Having read and enjoyed the previous books in the *Once A Marine* series, I have to admit to having fairly high hopes for *Exposing the Heiress*; I'm quite partial to the best-friends older brother and second-chance love tropes and the storyline sounded promising.

Unfortunately, it wasn't to be.

"You know what I like?"

"Me. We've established that.

Hunt and Alyssa were a nice enough couple, and they did have some lovely moments together, but on the whole they were quite boring and their story failed to hold my interest. I've read Jennifer Apodaca before so I know she has the ability to bring her reader a sexy romance with likeable strong characters and a story to become invested in with some action, but I found this steady, highly predictable, and boredom quickly set in. I wanted more than I got in first 90% of the book. Cramming everything into the final 10% doesn't work and I'm still a little perplexed at how I managed to get to that point.

I'm sure many will enjoy this, it just didn't work out for me which is a shame.

Copy received courtesy of Entangled Publishing via NetGalley for an honest and unbiased opinion.

Jonetta says

Heiress Alyssa Brooks learns her fiancé, Nate, has ulterior motives in marrying her so she breaks the engagement. His reaction frightens her so badly that she runs to her childhood crush, Hunter Reece, for protection. He's a former Marine sniper, now an operative with Once a Marine Security.

This series has turned out to be one of my most pleasant reading surprises. Each book has featured women and men of substance who are making the best of troubling circumstances and this one is no different.

Hunter struggles with nightmares resulting from all of the kills in his career and turns to his sculpting for relief and release. Alyssa uses her photography as an outlet to express her true self, very different from her public image as a spoiled rich girl. I loved their relationship for its honesty and sincerity. They had deeply

rooted feelings for each other stemming from their childhood and it was a great foundation for their developing romance. It was really well done, in spite of Hunter's fears that his past service made him unloveable.

The tension related to Nate's threats provided an element of suspense that made an already good story better. I loved and respected both characters as well as the romance. This series will continue to be an auto read for me.

(I received an ARC from NetGalley in exchange for an honest review)

Danielle says

Since this was my first time reading a book by Jennifer Apodaca I wasn't really sure what to expect. All I know was that blurb totally sucked me in and I knew I had to give it a go... And okay, in total honestly that cover might have had a little something to do with it too. That being said, while this was my first Jennifer Apodaca read, it definitely won't be my last.

So what's it all about? Alyssa is months away from marrying her fiancee, Nate, when she overhears a conversation between him and her stepfather about how he's paying Nate to marry her. When she confronts Nate about it and calls off the wedding he becomes a completely different person than the man that she knows. Fearing for her life and the life of her son that she gave up for adoption, she goes to Hunt for protection.

Hunt used to be a sniper in the Marines but he knew he had to give it up when killing became too easy for him. He's definitely not the young man that Alyssa remembers, but he still offers his protection to the girl that used to be his sisters best friend.

The attraction between Alyssa and Hunt is apparent from the get-go but Hunt isn't relationship material and knows that Alyssa deserves more than a fling so he resists her at first. Unfortunately, or maybe fortunately for him, Alyssa knows that even a fling with Hunt is better than never knowing what could have been between the two and goes after her man.

I absolutely loved the couple time between Hunt and Alyssa. The way they opened up to each other and felt safe enough with each other to share secrets that they haven't shared with other people. Hunt was definitely in a vulnerable place when it came to relationships, and I'm not going to lie, I got a little tired of Alyssa having to constantly reassure Hunt that she wasn't afraid of him, but his vulnerability made him sweeter in a way that most alpha males aren't.

The suspense, while not exactly lacking, wasn't really what I was expecting. We knew who the villain was, obviously, but most of the book was basically just them lying in wait and trying to figure out Nate's end game. It wasn't bad, per se, just not as nail biting as I was expecting.

I would have loved for a little more at the end of the book and that's the only reason why I couldn't rate this one five stars. Nate and Alyssa definitely had a couple things that they needed to work through and I felt that Nate needed a good grovel scene for abandoning her at one point, but besides my own personal pet peeves, this was a great read and definitely warrants me going back and reading the rest of the books in this series.

*ARC kindly provided through NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

Reading In Pajamas says

Blog Tour, Review & Guest Post: Exposing the Heiress (A Once a Marine Novel) by Jennifer Apodaca

<http://wp.me/p3d0RZ-2Ry>

GO TO BLOG POST FOR GIVEAWAY

Publication Date: August 4, 2015

Reviewed by: Reading in Pajamas/ Cori

Rated: 5 Stars

REVIEW:

I know when I pick up a book written by Jennifer Apodaca (Jennifer Lyon) it's going to be good. *Exposing the Heiress* was great! The Once a Marine Series features a different former marine and a woman in need of protection in each book. Alyssa turns to her friend's brother Hunter for protection when she finds herself in danger. I loved Hunter and Alyssa together! I wasn't sure I was going to like Alyssa at first but Jennifer Apodaca creates heroines that are both strong and vulnerable. The reader falls in love with the hero and roots for the heroine. *Exposing the Heiress* was an emotional and sexy romance that captured my attention and held on to it. I recommend this book and this series for romance lovers looking for hot romance with protective alpha males. I love this series!

**Review copy provided by Entangled in exchange for an honest review.*

Wendy says

3.5 stars

Brittany says

I received this from Netgalley/ Entangled Publishing in exchange for a honest review. So what is a girl to do when she has been threatened? Well, find a hero of course and what is a good hero without some issues. This is a tale of two people that have to overcome some major obstacles to come together.

Kelley says

Novel received courtesy of Goodreads.com giveaway

I loved this book! I usually find these "romance" reads a nice diversion after reading something heavy but

this novel grabbed my interest from the very first page. It was so much more than a "formula" story. It was deeply engaging with well developed characters. I will be looking forward to reading more in this series!

Sandy S says

3.75 stars

ABOUT THE BOOK: Release Date August 4, 2015

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When wealthy heiress Alyssa Brooks finds out her stepfather has been paying her fiancé to marry her, she's humiliated and betrayed. She quickly breaks the engagement, only to be blackmailed by her now ex-fiancé, who threatens both Alyssa and the son she gave up for adoption. With nowhere to go, she turns to the one man she can trust.

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REVIEW: 3.75 stars---EXPOSING THE HEIRESS is the third installment in Jennifer Apodaca (Jennifer Lyon's) adult, contemporary Once a Marine erotic romance series. This is former Marine sniper Hunter Reece, and celebrity heiress Alyssa Brooks's storyline- a friends to lovers trope that reveals many hidden secrets and ghosts from the past. EXPOSING THE HEIRESS can be read as a stand alone without any difficulty.

Told from third person point of view EXPOSING THE HEIRESS focuses on Alyssa Brooks as she must go into hiding to protect the son she gave up years before. At seventeen years old, Alyssa would discover she was pregnant and the resulting aftermath would force Alyssa to take stock of her entire life. Fast forward to present day and Alyssa will overhear that her step father has been paying her now former fiancé Nate Madden a hefty sum to marry her in order to gain control of Dragon Wing Productions, left to Alyssa in her late mother's will. In order to protect her son and his new family Alyssa will approach Once a Marine Security Agency asking for her best friend's brother Hunter Reece to act as body guard until she is able to take control of her life-once again. What ensues is a waiting game wherein Alyssa will become the target of a vengeful ex-fiance who is willing to go to any measure to take back and destroy what he considers his.

The relationship between Hunter and Alyssa is a friend to lovers trope that sees Hunter craving his little sister's former best friend. Alyssa has always had a bit of a crush on Hunter Reece, one that began at fourteen years of age, and in the ensuing time has never forgotten a promise Reese made to her. But Hunter is a man with a dark past that haunts his nights with nightmares, horrific memories, and the guilt of a man doing a job no one else wanted to do, and in this Hunter doesn't do relationships, friendships or love. The

\$ex scenes are erotic and provocative –Hunter likes to talk dirty in the bedroom but the sexual chemistry between our leading couple felt distant and somewhat flat-Reece's inability to love was readily apparent throughout most of the read. Having some issues of trust, when the time came to step up, Reese walked away leaving Alyssa unprotected, alone and broken hearted. Some major groveling was needed (in my humble opinion).

EXPOSING THE HEIRESS is an enjoyable but predictable storyline with a little bit of everything: sex, romance, some suspense, friendships, heartbreak and love. Most of the storyline focuses on the building relationship (while in hiding) between Hunter and Alyssa, and the threats from Alyssa's former fiancé that promise to expose Alyssa's secret past- the majority of the action takes place in the final few chapters.

Jennifer Apodaca (aka Jennifer Lyon) is a talented author with a spirited energy that comes through in her storyline characters. EXPOSING THE HEIRESS reveals a tender side to a man hardened by the harsh realities of the atrocities of war, and how the love of one woman can melt the ice around a frozen heart.

Copy supplied by the publisher through Netgalley.

www.thereadingcafe.com

Ofelia says

Another great. I really love this series and can't wait to read more books from Jennifer Apodaca.

Reading In Pajamas says

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Isha Coleman says

Was not sure about Exposing the Heiress. Ms. Apodaca is an author I had not had the pleasure of reading before. I was wary because I am not really a mystery reader. But I was proven wrong. There were so many angles and curve balls in this story that I forgot everything else for the day and sat down to read the book all the way through. Exposing the Heiress turned out to be a sexy thrill. I enjoyed it . Thank you Entangled and NetGalley for the ARC. Thank you Jennifer Apodaca for this wonderful story. Received an ARC of this novel in exchange for an honest review.

Eva Millien says

The only way to keep Alyssa Brooks safe is to become the one thing former Mairne sniper Hunter Reece knows she could never love...a killer in this thrilling romantic suspense.

Humiliated and betrayed, heiress Alyssa Brooks turn to the only man she knows can trust and the reader can't help but get caught up in the story of a love that heals the most wounded of hearts. The attraction between Alyssa and Hunter is hot enough to make anyone sit up and take notice but both of them have emotional scars that need to be healed and these strong compelling characters capture the heart while drawing readers in and the fast paced, smooth flowing plot captivates readers with lots of suspense, excitement and romance.

As if realizing the life you thought you had was a sham isn't enough to have it turn around and try to completely destroy you would be an emotional challenge that few could stand against but Alyssa and Hunter are up for that challenge which has expectation building lots of tension and excitement throughout the story as the danger to Alyssa escalates. The well written scenes and detail capture the imagination while the emotional turbulence and intriguing events guarantee the readers is completely absorbed in the story from beginning to end.

This story has lots of emotional elements but at the same time has a feel good story feel to it because of the vibrant intensity of the characters as they overcome adversity. This story can be read as a standalone in the Once a Marine series but I have to say that I the characters has certainly caught my attention and I will be going back and reading the previous books while I await the next one.
