



First Exposure

Elisabeth Naughton

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A film that could make her career...

America's sweetheart, Avery Scott, is up for the biggest role of her life, one with Oscar potential. When her girl-next-door fame prevents Avery from doing the in-depth research for the sensual role herself, her assistant insists on traveling to an exclusive couples resort to handle the job. But when her friend goes missing, Avery's focus shifts from landing the role of a lifetime to finding out what happened on the sultry Caribbean island.

A weekend that will change her life...

Avery contacts Aegis Securities and hires one of their elite operatives to accompany her to the resort. She just doesn't expect to get former undercover FBI agent Cade Blackwell—the man who ripped out her teenage heart twelve years before. Avery's a good actress. With a little work and a convincing disguise, she's confident she can fool the staff at the resort. The question is...can she fool Cade? Because one weekend at the sexiest resort in the world with the only man she's ever loved will expose her to more than just a kinky new lifestyle. It'll expose her to numerous wicked firsts that will test every ounce of her self-control. And if she's not careful, she could lose her heart—and her life—in the process.

Author note: *First Exposure* is part of the *Wicked Firsts* anthology. It can be purchased as part of the multi-author box set or individually.

First Exposure Details

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Author : Elisabeth Naughton

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From Reader Review First Exposure for online ebook

Dee says

Two-haiku review:

Her friend is missing
Security guy to help
But she loved him once

I liked characters
A bit too short for much depth
Nice series intro

Mojca says

Avery Scott's assistant went on a research trip to an exotic swinger's resort in the Caribbean...and promptly disappeared. After three weeks, Avery is ready to find out what happened to Melody and go look for her, but she needs a cover. She needs the second half of a couple. And who better to ask than a top-notch security firm with excellent references.

But her plan doesn't seem to be working that well, since she's paired with Mr. Dark and Dangerous, a man eerily similar to the love of her life...Who turns out to be the love of her life, the man who's broken her heart twelve years ago. Now, she has two choices while looking for her assistant. Either keep Cade at a safe distance and protect what's left of her heart, or finally get closure...by getting Cade (in the sack).

I got the third book in the series as a freebie from Netgalley, so I had to read the rest of the series first (I'm just made that way).

It started great. A young actress determined to find out what happened to her assistant/friend, but knowing she's out of her depths, so she hires a security agency to help her out, only to end up paired with the man she's been pining after for almost half her life.

And this is where ~~her~~ issues started. And boy, did she have issues. I had no idea if it was self-esteem, self-preservation, naiveté, innocence, stubbornness...or everything meshed into one, the girl was all over the place. The guy luckily didn't have as many issues, for a former rebel, he was the saner of the two, but for a highly-skilled operative (former military and FBI, current security expert), he didn't seem to be able to use his upper head. Which is great when you're alone with the one you love and there's nothing keeping you back or nothing else keeping you occupied, but seemed a bit out of place during a mission that involved missing people and potential drug-trafficking.

Also, thinking with his lower head prevented him from seeing evidence of Avery having had her drink spiked (hello, the morning after amnesia clearly spelled roffie, but maybe that was just me). And don't get me started on a couple of TSTL moments on the heroine's part. Okay, I understand you're not skilled in subterfuge, but you don't rush away in a snit (no matter what the discussion was about or what memories it has provoked) alone, into the same bar where you've drunk the night before (and blanked out later, and lost

all memories of the night), heading straight for a drink, and spilling the beans on the phone for everybody around you to hear. WTF?!

Yes, it started great, but quickly lost the pace (it really dragged in some places), the hero and heroine had some very stupid moments, the suspense didn't deliver, and everything was resolved too quickly (it worked for the issues between the h/H, but the suspense part needed some extra pages).

I'm looking forward to the full-length books.

?KathyD? says

This was a nice teaser for a new series. It was fast-paced and sexy. I look forward to getting to meet more of the Aegis team.

Linda says

Avery's assistant disappears when she's on a research mission on a swingers resort, and Avery contacts Aegis Security for help with the investigation. What she never expected was her old childhood sweetheart and first love being a part of their crew.

Cade never forgot Avery and now here's his chance to reconnect.

Smutty fluff, hurt feelings, instant chemistry and suspense.

Can't wait for the next book in this series.

Awesome short story that ticked off all my boxes.

Read this as a part of the Wicked Firsts Anthology.

Janet D. Murphy says

First exposure

Cade and Avery knew each other since high school but he left her behind and never looked back. Twelve years later they are face to face because Avery needs help finding her friend. Low and behold Cade is the one the boss puts on the line to help her find her friend . Can they let the past go to do just that? Chemistry is off the charts but old hurts come to light and truths come out and shock to their core. But can love overcome or push them away?

Loretta says

Elisabeth Naughton has my interest in Aegis operatives piqued! What an introduction to specialty resorts and rediscovering a relationship from their youth. A lot happened in this novella and I am eager to discover more.

Rachel- Goodbye Borders says

2.5*

Avery and Cade's history is heartbreaking. They are able to move past it and focus on the future. The chemistry was hot. The disappointment? Avery behaved numerous times like an idiot. She also repeatedly broke character. For someone who is such a good actress, that was unexpected and unwelcome.

Jessica says

I did enjoy a few scenes and was slowly coming around to liking the book...until the last two chapters. Then it completely dumped all over what the rest of the book stood for. After that, there was no coming back from it and no redemption for Cade's character. Two things bothered me with Avery that I could easily get over, her reckless behavior particularly with speaking out loud giving herself away or jumping the gun instead of using her head. Then there's the fact that she claims to be this great actress and although in the beginning she proved herself right, the rest of the story she's an open book and can't keep focused on the job at hand. This disappointed me because I expected her to play him and keep her heart guarded well from the one who broke it and she let me down.

Cade however, he was just ten kinds of messed up and didn't deserve her. He abandons her 12 years prior to the book and jumps all over her case as a client forcing himself onto the job and initially treating her like dirt when he has no right to be pissy with her when HE left her. Seeing him try to manipulate his way back into her good graces left me with a bad taste in my mouth when he would play ping pong with how he treated her hot and cold. Once she really softened up with him though I forced myself to let it go and enjoy the rest of the book and it worked for me...until those last two chapters ruined everything up until that point. After him claiming to have never stopped loving her, how he promised he wouldn't let her go again as if that's supposed to make her feel special, only to find out through a simple picture...(view spoiler) Sorry, but that still makes me furious that I wasted my time on this. I feel cheated and hope I never remember this book again over time.

Dee says

3.5 Stars

sparklyunikorn says

It's more to a story of reconciliation than the suspense part. The most shocking of all is when the hero, Cade, had a secret. Definitely didn't see that coming. I wish it was something else though.

Nicole says

I really enjoyed this one!!

Saly says

Rating 3.5 stars

Twelve years after he broke her heart and annulled their marriage, Hollywood actress runs into Cade when she approaches Aegis security to help find her missing friend. Her friend went to an adult resort to research a role for her and Cade and Avery go undercover to find her. A lot of sexy moments and ensue and past secrets and regrets come out. I found this novella entertaining.

Robin says

It was a short book not a sure?

Riverina Romantics says

My first Elisabeth Naughton read.

I really enjoyed it. Great heat. Great writing style.

I will definitely be reading more of her work.

Shauni says

Originally Reviewed For: Tea and Book

Since I have totally fallen for the men and women of Aegis Security, I thought I might want to go back and check out some of the novellas, that started things off. First Exposure is actually the second novella in the series and Elisabeth Naughton does not skimp. And awesome series demands awesome novellas.

Avery Scot has the opportunity of a lifetime or at least of her career. While she is deemed "America's Sweetheart" she finally has a chance to bust out of that image and do a film that could literally make or break her. Only while doing research, her assistant went missing and Avery is unsure what to do. No one believes her. So she heads to Aegis Security and discovers way more than a lost friend. It seems the only man who ever broke her heart will be her partner in this investigation. An investigation where they will have to go undercover at a swingers club.. Is Avery that good of an actress? Is anyone?

Cade Blackwell, did the right thing. Or at least he thought he did. He walked away from the woman he loved, left her to return to her life and maybe make something of herself. What he didn't realize was that he walked away from his heart and nothing would ever really be the same. Now he has a chance to either end it finally or rebuild what they had. Either way this is way more than just a job.

Swingers Club in the Caribbean no less, guess Club Med got bored.. Avery and Cade are a mix and match couple if ever there was one. They have chemistry up the whoo ha but Ms. Naughton does not rely on sex. Pretty funny cuz she could have but nope. She works the emotions in and tears down walls. This is an intense little novella and emotions really do run high. Had I not already been in love with this series, I would have certainly been engaged by this book. It was well worth going back to the beginning and reading it now.

Give yourself a treat and read this book.

Shauni
