



## Wounded Courage

*S.M. Butler*

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# **Wounded Courage**

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**Wounded Courage** S.M. Butler

**\*\*A SERIES OF NEW ADULT MILITARY ROMANCES FROM S.M. BUTLER\*\***

Navy SEAL Eamon Murphy regrets never kissing his best friend's sister at graduation. Addison kept him twisted in knots growing up, with her vivacious smile and her gorgeous curves. He thought he was over her. But finding her at the wrong end of his gun three years later is only the beginning, and Murphy just might have to break all his rules to keep her safe.

Addison Hardy enrolled in her university's exchange program to prove she wasn't just the family black sheep. How was she to know her exotic French boyfriend would be the son of an international arms dealer? Or that his murder would land her in the custody of one brooding SEAL with a chip on his shoulder?

Their chemistry is flammable--and potentially explosive--but there are complications, silly little things like Addison being arrested, Murphy's unwavering devotion to duty, and all her dead boyfriend's enemies out to kill her. But the final conflagration might not be at all what they're expecting.

*This New Adult title includes adult situations and language and may not be suitable for readers under 18 years.*

## **Reading order of this series:**

- 1) Killing Honor, #1
- 2) Wounded Courage, #2
- 3) Dying Commitment, #3

## **Wounded Courage Details**

Date : Published June 2nd 2014 by Soaring Phoenix Press

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Author : S.M. Butler

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## From Reader Review Wounded Courage for online ebook

### Twin Sisters Rockin' Book Reviews says

Overall Rating: 4 Rockin' ★★★★

Addison Hardy had always felt like the black sheep of the family so for the last three years she had kept herself separated from her family. While at school in Paris she had met and fell for Alex and did not know that he was a member of one of the most deadly mob families in the world. For the last year she had been helping Alex find a way to leave his family behind and live a life free from crime. Their plan was almost complete when his brother discovers what they are planning and murders Alex then tries to kill Addison. Addison is saved by Seal Team Thirteen and taken into their custody.

Murphy and Chris are members of the seal team that rescues Addison the only problem is that Chris is her twin and Murphy is the man that she has loved all her life. She had cut herself off from her past because she knew that Murphy would never see her as a woman he could love. Finding herself in the middle of an on-going investigation into the crime family that she was now a part of put not only herself in danger but also the family that she was trying to protect. With her brother and Murphy trying to keep her safe and out of prison for treason, Addison must find a way to make things right.

Everything that Murphy has tried not to feel for Addison surfaces as they work together and try to stay alive while they find a way to bring down the Giroux Mob Family. This family has worldwide power and contacts that will be hunting Addison. Will Murphy be able to keep Addison safe? Or will the military imprison her for her involvement with the Giroux Family? Can they find the love that was meant to be?

Hero –Eamon Murphy: 4 stars

Heroine –Addison Hardy: 4 stars

Steam: 4 stars

Plot: 4 stars

Cliffhanger: No

Would I recommend this book: Yes! If you're into great stories that involve our military and the fight for justice this book is for you. It has everything you could want in a book. Love, lust and hunky SEALS fighting for life, liberty and the American way of life are all in this book.

Would I read other books by this author: Yes! Really enjoyed my first experience with this author and would like to read more. Great storyteller!

\*\*\*Received an ARC of this book from the Publisher in exchange for an honest review\*\*\*

Wounded Courage

S.M. Butler

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### Dawn Parker says

This read picks up right where the first book left off with the spotlight on Addison and Murphy. Of course,

there is bickering between her twin, that is a SEAL, whom she hasn't spoken to nor seen in years. Chris didn't understand how his sister got mixed up with this master mind criminal. Murphy is caught between a rock and a hard place. He is there for his best friend, Chris, but Addison is the girl he has always loved and would protect from anyone. Hearing them argue was tearing him apart.

Addison is deeply scared over Alex's father, Simon. She knows that he is looking for her as well as his enemies. With Alex's death, she is the target. Murphy knew he needed to protect Addison at all costs regardless of what happened to his heart. He lost her once and didn't want to lose her again.

This read was a little frustrating in the beginning and wanted to yell through the pages at the siblings. The read did get better as they were able to work through their sibling rivalry. I will say I wanted more in the end from the couple. It was a really good connection and story that having more would have been nice.

\*\*This is my honest opinion based on ARC.

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### **Paula says**

Wounded Courage, the second book in the Lucky 13 Series is a dramatic reminder of those who put their lives on the line every day. The author does a wonderful job portraying the responsibilities on these 20's something adults' shoulders, along with the crack decision-making skills needed and the camaraderie among the unit. In addition, by using the POVs of Murphy and Addison, you are feeling the emotions of each character and seeing into their hearts in ways that their actions are unable to show. This story is realistic, gritty without being gory or too predictable.

While this is the first book, I have read by S.M. Butler I have already bought the SEALS in Summer Anthology, which includes the first book in this series, Killing Honor. I will be reading it soon because I got the feeling that Wounded Courage is a continuation of the first book. However, other than what exactly happened with Devyn and Brody, which is unclear at the beginning I really feel Wounded Courage could be considered a stand-alone. I read a lot of military-romance suspense and am delighted to find this author.

Copy provided by NetGalley for an honest review.

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### **Linda says**

The last book ended with Addison being found in the wrong place at the wrong time by her twin brother Chris and their old friend Eamon.

Addison was mixed with the wrong people and now Chris and Eamon's CO wants what she knows.. Being held for questioning was not what Addison wanted. But what does Eamon want now that he finally has her within reaching distance.

Military, action and smutty fluff in a great combo.

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### **Sophia says**

Okay, I tried, I really did. I was so eager to read this book because of the blurb and I love military romances, but man...there's only so much I could take with this heroine and the improbable plot that surrounds her.

I pushed through to chapter eight which is about one-third of the way and had to give it up. I was getting too angry and disgusted to bother even if the heroine pulled off a massive turn around after that. I am definitely in the mood to feel sorry for her love interest who has been nothing but solicitous, patient, kind and honest in the face of her lying, brattiness, petulance and foolish assumption that she can do alone the work of a trained Navy SEAL team against not one, but two mob factions.

The heroine struck me as a selfish, obnoxious and spoiled. As the story progressed this conviction really grew as she kept flipping the blame for her choices on others and justifying her silence which was endangering everyone around her, wrongly assuming that everyone thinks she's a screw up so why bother (her actions by her own admittance prove that the label would be deserved), and acting pretty immature in regard to the guy she's attracted to. I just couldn't see heroine material here even if a distant part of me could admire her desire to take down the mob.

So because I didn't see the heroine pulling off a big game changer in my opinion of her and I honestly wouldn't wish her on poor Murphy, I'll just chalk this one up to this not being the story for me.

It is a New Adult level Romantic Suspense that has a good overall premise and shows some good plot points. The camaraderie of the SEAL team is great so others might want to give this one a go.

My thanks to Net Galley for the opportunity to read this book in exchange for my honest review thoughts.

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### **Julie says**

I thoroughly enjoyed this exciting and suspenseful, romance story. This book is part of a series but it is very easy to read with out having read any of the previous novels in the series, it is a stand alone book.

There are three main characters, Addison, her twin brother Chris, a Navy Seal and his friend, fellow Seal Morgan.

Addison has been involved with the son of the leader of the shady Giroux family.

When he is killed, Addison needs protection from the family.

The intrigue and suspense in the story is very good and a very intense romantic relationship between Morgan and Addison heats up the pages as the attraction between them can't be denied anymore.

This novel has a great story line, if you want action, thrills, intrigue and romance, it's all here. I highly recommend this book.

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### **Heather andrews says**

\*Sighs\* Murphy I loved you, "his head rested against the space between my shoulder and my neck, but other than that, his body remained impassive. His voice caressed me like a cool feather. "I will not hurt you. I will protect you." I loved how hands on he was with Addison, "he growled low again, and grabbed my a\*\*,

squeezing the soft flesh as he raised as he raised me up into his arms. I wrapped my legs around his hips, hooking them together as his a\*\*. Murphy grinned, and it sent a thrill through my body, because it was quite possibly the most dangerous expression and the sexiest I'd ever seen." I loved the conversations Addison and Murphy had:

We fell into a silence, his fingers gently stroking along my skin. He found the edge of my shirt and slid his hands along my hip. "You're not wearing underwear."

"Nope. I just had fantastic sex with a gorgeous guy."

He growled, and suddenly, I found myself underneath his big powerful body, getting kissed like he was about to stop breathing altogether. His hard length grew along my thigh."

When he is with Addison he's so damn playful, "for what? You were like a blanket...a warm, sexy, feminine blanket." I grinned, and nipped at her ear for the fun of it. She giggled and pushed herself up into a sitting position." I love the men in this series and I can't wait to see whose up next.

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## **Hot Stuff Book Reviews says**

Find more on the blog: <https://hotstuffbookreviews.wordpress...>

2.5 to 3 stars for the effort.

I received this book via Netgalley for an honest review.

Wounded Courage is the second book in the series, but it can be read as a standalone considering that the main characters in this book are different from the first one.

What caught my attention when I saw this book on Netgalley is the fact that it's supposed to be a NA Contemporary Romance novel, but with a lot of action and mysteries like a thriller. While there are a lot of action and "mysteries" in this book, I can't see why this book is a NA novel.

While the plot itself could have been interesting, I wasn't fully won over. Is it because I haven't read the first book in the series? Is it because the plot lacks surprising twists and other fake leads? I don't know, but I do think that the plot isn't tight enough to truly work as it should. I wasn't out of breath while reading this book and I even sighed a few times.

Also, the connection between Murphy and Addison is pretty much boring. I couldn't see it fully, couldn't feel the fact that they've known each other for years, that they've always been attracted by each other. Seriously, I couldn't see anything. Even the emotions didn't seem true. I had a feeling that it was forced and I had a hard time enjoying their time together.

Some of the things in Addison's behavior really bothered me. Some things are very repetitive, the tension with her family told several times, but actually never showed and it's pretty much overlooked. I couldn't understand her or her emotions.

Murphy is interesting, but in a way I had a hard time connecting with him. I don't know if it's because his characterization isn't deep and thorough enough, but in the end he's not a character I'll remember.

The whole story isn't that interesting when there's everything to make it brilliant and thrilling. In the end,

I'm left with a "meh" feeling that doesn't sit well with me.

Some dialogues were not that well introduced and many internal musings broke the rhythm of the story and dialogue. That didn't help either.

I don't know if I'll read another book in this series, but maybe I'm too harsh because I'm more used to that type of story being more tight with several fake leads, many insane twists with some very bad consequences.

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### **Monica Cardoza says**

To trust or not to trust that is the question that Addison continues to ask herself.

This suspense love story is enthralling and interesting from the beginning. If you have not read the first book in this series, *Killing Honor*, then it's not a must but you will be able to read about Addison. I loved that this story was longer than the first book. I do have to say that there were some boobooos but hey for me it was like nothing, it did not take away from the storyline. I was completely taken by Addison, Murphy but also her brother Chris. I was saddened with what happened to him in the end, I was really really hoping for him to get his own book. Now let's get into some good stuff and entice you to pick up this book.

The Giroux Family is being investigated by the government and in the first book I knew that it was not over. So when Addison Hardy ends up in the bad guy's mansion and her brother and Eamon Murphy find her there I know that she is in big trouble. Her brother could not believe that she was Alex Giroux's girlfriend, how could she. She was hanging out with arm dealers that had just kidnapped one of their SEAL brothers and his wife. Now they needed to interrogate her but she was not just going to take it. She was a very stubborn woman.

Addison is a spitfire and she is not going to just sit there and let them bully her around. Only that she is injured but she knows that she needs the SEAL's to protect her because soon very soon she is going to be a wanted woman. Addison and Alex had a plan but something happened and now she was it. Not only would his father, Simon Giroux, be looking for her but also their enemies. Addison knew that she needed to trust Murphy in order for her to be safe. Now that she is close to him, can feel him she thought that she was in love with Alex but now she knows that he was only a substitute.

From the moment that Chris yelled at him to put his gun down that the woman in front of them was Addison he could not believe it. What in the world was she doing in the enemy's home? They knew that once the Lieutenant found out that they had Addison and she was linked to the Giroux Family he was going to lock her up. Murphy had not seen or talked to her since graduation and now that he had her in front of him something in him fluttered. He tried keeping away from her but it was not working. From the moment that he held her and kissed her he needed her. He knew from long ago that he loved her but he didn't want to acknowledge it back then but now it was different. How was he going to tell Chris his best friend that he was in love with his twin sister?

From the moment that they leave the underground facility and fly back to the United States trouble starts. She needs to trust Murphy with everything or else the enemies of the Giroux Family will kill her or Simon or Jean Giroux will kidnap her. They need her alive if they want to get what she has. If only Alex was still with her then their plan of getting married and flee would still be in her plans. Only now seeing Murphy again who knows if she would be able to leave him. He was the one she loved.

Wounded Courage was an excellent read. The amount of twists and turns had me reading this story non stop. It was a fast paced exiting romance read with plenty of suspense on many levels. The characters are very well defined and I loved them all. I love military reads because I never know what may take place. I love the alpha males and especially if they are dressed in uniform or camouflages. The chemistry between Addison and Eamon is explosive and they were meant to be together. From the moment that they touched each other, from the moment that their lips meet it was like they were finally home.

I totally recommend this read and if you have not read Killing Honor I recommend you read that one too. This story is a stand alone but you will be able to read about the characters to come. This has been the second story that I have read by Ms. Butler and I have to say that I will continue seeking more of her books. I can't wait for Dylan's story. Enjoy the story of Addison and Murphy I know that I did.

ARC received from NetGalley for an Honest Review

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### **Tamra LeValley says**

NetGalley Free Book

Addison always had a crush on her twin brothers best friend Murphy. Now Murphy and her brother are in the Seals and have discovered her in one of their special missions. Her boyfriend is from a family of international drug ring lords. When they busted into his home they found Addison had shot one man and was shot in the leg herself. Now they have to hide her until they can find out what she had gotten herself into. Murphy has to learn to keep his hands to himself and not get involved with his best friends sister. Or will he?

This was a bit of a disappointment to me. I tried really hard to like Addison but she was belligerent and rude. She treated her brother like he was the enemy, as well as his entire team. When the Commander of the unit finally tried to talk to her she was beyond inconsiderate. Yet they all fell for her and treated her like she some tender female. This would never happen in real life. It was so far fetched that I had a hard time continuing to read it. I wanted to stop.

The plot was good and the author did a really good job with the writing. Whenever the book took you from chapter to chapter it was a smooth transition. The sex scenes were pretty hot also. It was over predictable however.

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### **AlligatorSmith loves to read says**

S. M. Butler continues the Lucky 13 series (which was started in the Seals of Summer book set/bundle in Killing Honor) with Addison Hardy and Eamon Murphy's story. Actually, near the end of the previous book in this series (Killing Honor), we see Addison captured in the Lucky 13 raid on one of the Giroux (mafia) residences. Eamon (Murphy) and Addison's twin brother Chris are stunned to find her there, and Wounded Courage takes off as she is being interrogated in one of their special operative compounds.

The last time either Chris or Eamon saw Addison was at her high school graduation three years before the start of the book. Addison always had a thing for Eamon, and apparently he has always had one for her too.

But time and his job has separated them. When he finds out that Addison has put herself in the middle of a mafia organization helping her fiancé (Alex) work his way out of his family's operations, Murphy is taken aback by the mess she has found herself in.

Murphy is devoted to his job, but as past feelings surface, and their relationship heats up, he has to decide whether he will risk all to help Addison. And it seems one of the stumbling blocks might be Addison's twin brother who is devoted to his military career.

The chemistry between Murphy and Addison is hotter than hot but also sweet at times. A strong alpha military man always does it for me, and Murphy is no exception. Addison at times seems bright (since she did help Alex put together a plan to beat the Mafia), but she's also a bit naïve. She hasn't seen the strategic fighting that Murphy and her brother have seen, so the question is whether she will wise up or not and let Murphy both love her and help her.

This is a new adult (NA) novel with the leads and major side characters in their 20s. The angst and internal dialog that is common to NA books is definitely here, but since this is a NA military romance, S.M. Butler has effectively opened this story up to a much wider audience. I enjoyed the group of hot alpha military guys (who I'm sure will all be getting their own stories soon) and the heat between the two leads.

Thanks for reading!

\*\*Thanks to the publisher/author/netgalley for a review copy of this book - in exchange, this is my honest opinion about the book\*\*

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### **Cheryl Sanders says**

Navy SEAL Eamon Murphy has been in love with Addison Hardy forever but she has always been out of reach. She's Murphy's best friend's sister.

As a 2 year mission comes to an end, SEAL team 13 invades crime lord, Simon Giroux's compound, only to find out that Addison lives there with her boyfriend, Alex Giroux. SURPRISE!!!

Fantastic story! This is the second book in the Lucky Thirteen series. I'm addicted! In my opinion certain things in this book are easier to understand if you have read book one. This book takes off where book one left off. S.M. Butler knows how to write a Navy SEAL! Sizzling chemistry between Murphy and Addison. My favorite thing about reading military romance is that sense of family. The fact that your brothers-in-arms will do ANYTHING for you. I can't wait to read book three in this amazing series.

Received a copy in exchange for an honest review.

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### **Laylaw says**

2- I really wanted to like it Stars.... Wounded Courage is book two in the Lucky Thirteen Series which follows a group of Navy Seals. This book picks up right after book 1, where we have Addison Hardy who was just rescued from her boyfriend's house where he was an internationally known bad guy, but for all

intents and purposes was trying to free himself from his family's life of crime.

Addison is saved on the mission by her twin brother and his sealmate, Eamon Murphy. Eamon has had feelings for Addison for years but never wanted to step between his feelings for her and his best friend, her brother. The story line while good, really took forever to get off and moving. It seemed like there was so much build up, bickering, and back and forth with Addison and her feelings and involvement that I felt we could have eliminated that whole portion from the book.

Addison came off whiny, ungrateful, and down right spoiled. She had lost her "boyfriend" who she lived with for over a year in a bloody battle with his own brother and two days later she is whining in Seal protection that they do not have Netflix and her life now is a huge adjustment because she used to have a huge expense account, big house, etc.

Addison's behavior and back and forth over Eamon and her set up with Alex was a total fail for me. I was very sad about this, because in the end- Eamon was a hit for me. I kept reading hoping for Addison's behavior to improve and we do see her come around but it takes a large portion of the book for that to take place- but once she gets there, the plot thickens and we finally have a better story line. Too much time was wasted on the build up and not the final ending, which I loved the twist at the end.

Now- that being said, would I read more books in this series? Yes, because one character does not make a series a total fail and each book in this series follows other team members and the next book looks great. I am also looking forward to Addison's brother's story as that looks like the setup for this part of the series could play out very well with events that took place in this book.

\*This honest review was done in exchange for an ARC through Netgalley from Soaring Phoenix Press- thank you.\*

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### **Lauren Harrell says**

I received this book through Net Galley in turn for an honest review.

I was really excited for this book. Especially because I read and connected with the first one. I have to say I was a bit let down. I just couldn't connect with Addison and Murphy. I didn't understand why she wouldn't cooperate with the seals. I mean it's not like they were strangers and she wasn't sure of their intentions. It was her brother and their lifelong good friend on the team that rescued her. The fact that she physically tried to fight them off and escape the navy seal compound was a bit laughable and unrealistic. Also the ending was farfetched too. No the book wasn't horribly written. Yes I read it. I wouldn't refer it to anyone or read it again. It didn't change me. I wasn't rooting for the couple. I liked the first book in the series much more. So I'm open to reading another book in the series. I just hope things get back on track.

For more of my reviews..check out my blog!  
[thelatenightlamp.blogspot.com](http://thelatenightlamp.blogspot.com)

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## **Books Movies Fandoms says**

My star rating for 'WOUNDED COURAGE' is 4 out of 5 stars! :)

### **My 'Blogging Reader's Review' after reading 'WOUNDED COURAGE' by Author S.M. BUTLER (via: [Booksmoviesfandoms.wordpress.com](http://Booksmoviesfandoms.wordpress.com)):**

I was thrilled to be invited to get the chance to read and review an ARC early-copy of the sequel novel in the Lucky Thirteen Series titled 'Wounded Courage' by author S.M. Butler. The first novel, 'Killing Honor' followed the story of Brody and Devyn, while this second novel follows Addison Hardy and SEAL Eamon Murphy, which we got slightly familiar with in novel one. You'll be reading 'Wounded Courage' through the two P.O.V.'s(point of views) of Addison and Murphy.

The international crime group, the Giroux family, took a loss in 'Killing Honor' but their story did not end there. SEAL Team Thirteen were sent on a rescue mission but did not expect to rescue someone who was also in the home of Alex Giroux, the son of crime family leader, Simon Giroux. The unexpected rescued-survivor was Addison Hardy, the twin-sister of SEAL Team Thirteen's member, Chris Hardy. Addison was in France for the university exchange program as far as her family knew but they had no idea that Addison had any connection to the Giroux family or that she was dating Alex Giroux.

Addison Hardy has always lived in the shadows of her family's pride and joy twin-brother, Chris Hardy. She took a chance and got tied with a handsome french man who unfortunately was the son of a ruthless man and a part of a criminal family. When she is rescued by her brother, his best friend and the rest of SEAL Team Thirteen, they must find out what she was doing with that group of people. Being held in the custody of SEAL member's Chris Hardy and Eamon Murphy, she has to try her hardest to tell them what she can to keep from being sent to prison but not enough to risk her life. All the while, being reunited with her long time crush, Eamon Murphy who happens to be her brother's longtime best-friend, old feelings resurface in full force once again.

Eamon Murphy did not expect to find Addison with the Giroux family. Seeing her reminded him of the girl who had always been off-limits to him even though he always wanted her. But the only thing that bothered him now besides trying to keep his feelings hidden, was his question of why Addison was in the company of international criminals. He needs to get Addison to trust him enough to tell him what her ties are with The Giroux family. With his devotion to his duty as a Navy SEAL, he is torn between her and that duty.

Simon Giroux knows Addison is out there and he wants to get to her because of what she knows and has. His enemies are also dead-set on getting to her too, if they can. The U.S. Government is determined to find out what Intel she can offer them and plan to keep her in custody to find out. But Addison is undaunted and plans to keep her secrets to herself regardless of everyone seeking to know what she knows. The growing feelings that Eamon Murphy and Addison Hardy feel for each other are hard to ignore as their resolve breaks little by little with each day they spend near each other. Can Murphy protect Addison from everyone, including herself? Will Addison ever trust Murphy and her brother enough to let them know her secrets? This is a fantastic military-romance series and I do recommend it because it not only has hot-romance but also action, mystery and suspense. Can't wait for the next novel in this series!

My Blogging Reader's Star Rating for 'WOUNDED COURAGE' is 4 out of 5 stars! :)

**Visit my Blog and see Memorable quotes and character photos of how I imagined them while reading WOUNDED COURAGE.**

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