



## Alpha One

*Cynthia Eden*

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## **Alpha One** Cynthia Eden

*Read New York Times bestselling author Cynthia Eden's classic Harlequin Intrigue, where this undercover agent has one shot at a second chance.*

The minute he gets the message, undercover agent Logan Quinn springs into action. Getting Juliana James out of Mexico alive is the Elite Ops covert agent's only priority. But Logan has a second mission in mind with the senator's daughter: to get another chance with the woman he can't lose again.

Juliana has never forgotten the day, ten years ago, when Logan left her heart in pieces. Now he's back in her life, sworn to protect her from the ruthless weapons dealer who wants her dead. As passion blindsides her—and she is once again thrust into danger—Julie realizes how much she'll risk for one more day in Logan's arms.

Originally published in 2013.

## **Alpha One Details**

Date : Published June 1st 2017 by Harlequin Special Releases (first published January 1st 2013)

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Author : Cynthia Eden

Format : Kindle Edition 224 pages

Genre : Romance, Romantic Suspense, Suspense, Contemporary, Contemporary Romance

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## From Reader Review Alpha One for online ebook

### Dina says

4 1/2 stars

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### Kelli C ~ Jack Sawyer's Heart says

Love Cynthia Eden! Havent read much of her stuff i dont like, but honestly this is my favorite genre. Great series starter!!! Loved the action, romance, suspense and definitely the Alpha male! Looking forward to more from the EOD!!!!

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### Lillie says

Juliana is in hell. Her father, the senator, has double crossed criminal mastermind Guerrero, who has kidnapped Juliana in order to get the evidence her father is holding. Her only companion in this hell is John, another captive who she shares the details of her life with in the darkness. When rescue arrives in the form of her ex-lover, Logan, Juliana is shocked. She hasn't seen him since she was twenty. She loved him and believed him when he said they would run away and have a beautiful life together. Until he left her standing in a bus station with no explanation.

Now Logan is all that is standing between her and Guerrero. Her father couldn't live with what he'd done and committed suicide after saying he left the evidence on Guerrero with Juliana. And her friend "John" is really Guerrero himself, making her the only person that has seen and can identify him. With law enforcement personnel and members of her father's staff being on Guerrero's payroll, Juliana has no choice but to trust the man that broke her heart all those years ago.

I struggled a bit with this one. It's a solid story but there was nothing special to make this stand out from any other Harlequin Intrigue I've read. It's missing that magic touch I've come to expect from Cynthia Eden's books. The bad guys and two secondary characters were fleshed out and so interesting to read. Their pasts were detailed, the emotions rich, and I was fully invested in their scenes. Unfortunately, Logan and Juliana felt flat to me. The book turned around in the last 20% and I adored the ending but it was a long and sometimes boring journey to get there.

I'll be looking for the next book in this series because I think the two secondary characters I enjoyed are up next but ALPHA ONE will not be making it to my keeper shelf.

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### Jonetta says

#### The Set Up

Juliana James, estranged daughter of U.S. Senator Aaron James, was abducted by Diego Guerrero, head of a powerful and deadly Mexican drug and gun running cartel. She's at a location in Mexico and the covert Elite

Operations Division (EOD) has been engaged to extract her. Logan Quinn, the team leader for the mission, has a history with Juliana and it was pure coincidence that he was selected for this operation.

### **The Issues**

Logan was involved with Juliana ten years ago when she was 20 and he 22. She hasn't seen him since he abandoned her and he's got some pretty big secrets that might turn her away from him forever. And, he's not being completely honest with her about her role in tracking Guerrero and bringing him down. The Senator has evidence against Guerrero that would destroy him and Juliana plays a part in that and continues to be in danger.

### **What Works**

The action starts from the first sentence as the book opens with Juliana in captivity. It's almost non-stop excitement as Guerrero is so powerful he has a long reach, wreaking havoc as the team tries to protect Juliana. The romance is still at the forefront even as they hardly have time to breathe before the next threat is on them. The other members of the team (Jasper, Gunner and Sydney) are really interesting characters and the teasers about their backstories hooked me. The climax was pretty tense, exciting and well done.

### **What Didn't Work**

Because there was so much action and so many secrets, it was difficult for the romance to bloom until near the end. Also, the team was really getting their butts handed to them a lot! It probably was realistic but it made the EOD look a little weak.

### **Bottom Line**

I liked the story, the action, the characters and the concept of the Elite Operations Division. If this book is any indication, their assignments are going to be pretty rough and exciting. Tweak the romance a bit and this series will be at the top of my list for the genre.

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### **Larena says**

Logan Quinn is a covert agent for an Elite Ops agency. Logan gets a message that Juliana James is missing and his new mission is to get her back and bring her home safely to their Mississippi hometown. Logan is determined to not only keep Julie safe and alive but also to get another chance with her because he is finding that he cannot lose her again.

Juliana James is a senator's daughter that a ruthless weapons dealer wants dead. Julie never expected to see Logan again after he left her heart in pieces ten years ago. But now he is back in her life and is determined to protect her from the man that wants her dead.

Now as Logan and Julie are both blindsided by the passion that is still there between them they find that they will do anything for another chance at a future together. First they are going to have to defeat the weapons dealer so that they can stay alive and so they can enjoy that future.

This is a story that starts off fast and never slows its pace. It is action packed as Julie and Logan try and figure out just what is going on and exactly who knows what. If they are not careful and trust the wrong person it just might cost them their lives. The characters are well written and the reader will find they are

very able to relate to them. For readers then enjoy action with their romance this is one to read as the action never stops and the passion between the characters sets the pages on fire.

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### **Susan says**

Excellent book. The action started on the first page and never let up. Julie had been taken hostage to try to force her father to turn over information about Mexican arms dealer Guerrero. Logan and his black ops team were sent in to rescue her. Julie hadn't seen Logan in ten years, ever since he had left her and broken her heart. Now he swore to protect her from Guerrero. Julie wasn't sure that she wanted Logan back in her life but she did know that she could trust him to keep her safe. What she didn't know was that the team was also using her for bait to draw Guerrero out. She was furious when she found out but was also determined not to be a victim any longer. I really liked the strength of will that she developed during the book. The difference between the Julie of the start of the book and the one at the end was significant. Especially once she found out why he had left her and decided to fight for what she wanted. Logan had left Julie all those years ago because he never felt that he was good enough for her. There were things in his past that he was sure she would never forgive him for. He had also never forgotten her and when he was sent to rescue her he knew he wanted a second chance with her. Logan was caught between a rock and a hard place as he wanted to keep her safe while he found out who all was behind the attacks. He also was still afraid of what she would think of what he had become. I loved the ending and the way they were able to move on with their future. The suspense in this book was also very well done. Each step moved on logically to the next keeping me guessing as to who was really behind some of the events. There were a couple surprises that I didn't see coming. I also liked the supporting characters and how well they were all portrayed. I am really looking forward to the rest of the series.

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### **Imane Ouadi says**

Sorry but no , maybe because this was written a long time ago and I can tell from her more recent books say Killer Instincts series that she improved so much , this was just okay.

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### **Karla says**

#### **3 Barely There Stars!! 3 for the story and 2.5 for the audiobook narration. Nothing special!**

The audio version of this book had a tinny quality to it, and the plot and featured characters were somewhat of a disappointment. After reading Cynthia Eden's *Deadly* series, which I absolutely loved, I had high hopes that this would give me the same zing that those books did. More like a pffffft! Okay, it wasn't that bad and maybe the less than inspiring narration and my love for the other series played into my overall dismal rating, but I know this author can do better and I'm holding out hope for the next book!

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## **Laura the Highland Hussy says**

Review posted on Demon Lover's Books & More

I love betrayal plots where the hero and heroine have history and something breaks them up, and they meet up again later. I mean seriously, I am such a sucker for those tropes. This book made my inner self so happy!

So we begin this story with Juliana being held captive in Mexico by a very bad man. El Diablo has kidnapped Juliana to get information from her father, a US Senator. Juliana lost her blenders years ago and was never under any impressions that her dad was a good man, but this seemed pretty bad even by his standards.

But as soon as we see Juliana being dragged away to be “questioned,” we see a special ops team going in for her. This is an off-the-books type of team comprised of former Special Forces team members, and they are very good at what they do. Their team leader Alpha One is Logan Quinn, Juliana’s first love, and the man who broke her heart.

Once they save Juliana, she thinks the danger will be over as soon as she’s back on American soil, but boy is she wrong. The danger is just beginning.

Logan has so many secrets he’s kept from Juliana, and now that he’s back in her life, he has to lie to her some more. His team is going to use her as bait to bring down El Diablo, and while their priority is to take him down, his priority is to keep Julie alive.

What I loved about this book is that Logan betrays Juliana but he earns his way back into her trust. Not right away of course, but when he finally tells her what he’s been hiding all these years (and wow! I never would have guessed!), she sees that he really has loved her all these years.

**A sexy and exciting romantic suspense, Alpha One had me glued to the pages.**

\*\*\*ARC courtesy of Harlequin and netgalley

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## **Rachel- Goodbye Borders says**

Juliana is a senator's daughter. Her dear old dad isn't a good person and has done things. Things of a criminal nature. Logan went into the military. His dad was a drunk driver who killed someone (and himself). This had good suspense, with some TSTL moments, but nothing bad. I liked finding out what Julie and Logan's history was. Logan does get overbearing at times, but Julie holds her own.

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## **Tina says**

Just what the reading doctor ordered: a romantic suspense filled with in your face danger, a lover from the past, seal/agents, edge of your seat suspense. This basically sums up this story for me. As much as I love Cynthia Eden for her paranormal storytelling, I love her even more for her ability to keep you on the edge of

your seat with very bad characters and hot heroes who goes all in to protect their lady. This story was just what I expect from the author- I thoroughly enjoyed it. I gave it 4 stars because the heroine was not my favorite-she did not distract from the story and I connected with her but I did have some "get over yourself" moments.

I am looking forward to the next book from Cynthia Eden in this Harlequin Intrigue line.

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### **Lily (Night Owl Book Cafe) says**

Courtesy of Harlequin through Netgalley in exchange of an honest review.

Alpha One, is the first novel in the suspenseful Shadow Agents series. When Juliana James gets kidnapped, her father hires Logan Quinn and the Shadow Agents to rescue his daughter. Getting Juliana out of Mexico alive didn't prove to be easy, especially not when the leader of the group has very strong emotional ties to the woman.

Juliana had not forgotten Logan. How could she forget the man she loved and who broke her heart ten years ago. Now with Logan back in her life and her life on the line, it's proving to be very tempting not to give into the desires with her future unknown.

That book was wonderful, it had everything. Suspense, drama, action, a bit of mystery, a hot alpha male and of course a second chance romance. I love second chance romance, especially when there is already a sizzling attraction between the two characters.

So the story is a mess. Juliana's father, a senator, did a big no-no by dealing with a very dangerous man. Now that man thinks that Juliana has the evidence her late father held against the man, so he goes out of his way to try and kill her. Tracking her was easier once he found out that Logan Quinn is the lost love that she revealed while being held captive. Logan does everything in his power to protect Juliana, even if it means lying through his teeth to her. And I must say, there has been A LOT of lying on his part. The mystery of why Logan left ten years ago, was like a ghost in the room between them and made me flip through the pages eagerly awaiting the big reveal.

I loved Logan as much as I enjoyed this book, he was so passionate and the guilt he carries with him make him a lovable character as he tries to stray away from the shadows of his past and the man he thinks he is. Eden has managed to capture the intensity not only of the situation, but of the feelings between Logan and Juliana that keeps pulling them together.

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### **Saly says**

Why did I wait so long to read this book? It was awesome, passionate, great suspense. I feel Cynthia Eden does RS better than PNR. The hero thinks he is a killer and that's all he is good for and ten years ago he walked away from the heroine, not because he didn't love her, but because he did. He joined the SEALS and is now part of an elite team. Heroine's senator dad's dirty dealings have led to the heroine being captured in Mexico and the hero is leading the rescue. He left her but never forgot her.

This is a sexy reunion. The heroine was devastated by his leaving without a word. He was her first in all senses and he just left. So, she is wary of him but he's her best bet for survival after her dad kills himself. The hero has to use her as bait and he feels terrible about it. The book, the characters everything was awesome. And Gunner and Sydney, it's gonna be interesting.

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### **Amy R says**

This is my first romantic suspense book by Cynthia Eden, as most of the books I have read of hers have been in the paranormal romance category. After reading this, I think her suspense books can be termed more thriller than suspense. She always gets my heart pounding with her stories and this one involves a crazy many who likes torture. Luckily there is a Happy Ever After...

Juliana is the daughter of a Senator who is not on the up and up and is working with a weapons dealer (Diego Guerrero). After the Senator lost his wife, he became lost and started dealing in weapons to make some extra cash on the side. Unfortunately he was skimming off the top and gathering evidence against the Guerrero. That didn't make Guerrero happy at all and being the ruthless person he was known as, he wasn't going to stand for it. So, what means the most to the Senator? Juliana. The Senator calls in the Elite Ops Division to rescue her. Little did he know Logan Quinn (someone he did not want in Juliana's life before) was part of the EOD that would be on the mission, but he was desperate to get his daughter back. The adventure begins at the beginning of the book and doesn't end until the last page.

Logan Quinn is a hero with a lot of confidence but also self doubt. It seems from the beginning of the story all he does is lie. Some of it is his choice, some comes from direct orders. Boy does he dig himself a deep hole where Juliana is concerned!

Juliana James doesn't have a good relationship with her father, Senator Aaron James. Not after her mother died and he started dealing in weapons. She has no idea why she is kidnapped because she has no information on her father. She quickly learns why she is the target and does her best to help the EOD protect her and bring Guerrero down.

The plot in this story had the expected twists and turns that Cynthia writes but allows you to keep up and not feel lost. The romance part of this story fit very well. Logan and Juliana were together 10 years prior to this rescue mission so the reunion and time it took for them to be together emotionally again was appropriate and believable. There were a lot of lies between them and they had to get past those first. I enjoyed the supporting characters, specifically Jasper, and look forward to more stories about the EOD. If you are looking for a romantic suspense book, which is heavy on the suspense but would also like a happy ever after and is hard to put down, I highly recommend Alpha One!

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### **Heli - So Many Books - So Little Time says**

3.5 stars

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