



Underneath It All

Bethany Bazile

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Avery was unexpected but exactly what I needed. She gave me hope again, made me feel things I thought died over a decade ago.

I was reverting back to the man I used to be. The man who destroyed lives to keep the one person who meant everything to him.

My secrets were piling up. I didn't know how long I'd be able to maintain it all.

But I knew I'd do anything to keep her.

There was only one way to hold on to her. I had to let her see who I was underneath it all.

Warning: This is an erotic serial and contains explicit sexual content and language. This is Part Two.

Insomnia, Sexual Misconduct Volume I, must be read first.

Underneath It All Details

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From Reader Review Underneath It All for online ebook

AerinLuvs says

4 ★★★★

The second installment after Insomnia begins right where Vol. 1 ended!

So, this one is all about lies. We've found out a big lie about Xander, and he's determined to keep Avery Shaw, M.D., and his increasingly obsessive relationship with her. She isn't just a random Fuck. Xander makes the leap and reveals what causes his nightmares to Avery. It's pretty serious and we can understand why he's sober now.

In this one, we don't find out much more about Avery, other than the fact that she is not very good at keeping her boundaries with Xander.

Then near the end, we find out a big key to Avery's past, and also Xander's past, and how their pasts are tied together!

Marcus and Ian have more of a role in this installment, and both men are attractive and tall with blond somewhat messy hair.

Xander and Avery are falling hard for each other and are basically inseparable and Xander brings her with him to the Academy Awards in L.A.

I would have given this 4.5 stars, but I found a few editing errors in my retail copy of this book. "Were" should have been "we're", and there was a totally new word, realist, which should have been "more real" or even "real-est"...the word "realist" completely changed the intended meaning of the sentence.

Stephanie Marshall says

The cliffhanger in book one left us holding our breath as to what is going to happen now that Xander and Ellie have met and there is more to their history than meets the eye. In this book we are also given more insight into Xander's past, his relationship with his brother and his history with Jessica, his ex-wife. Avery made a trip to L.A with Xander for an awards show, where she met Marcus and also was thrown into the world of paparazzi and fame.

After returning home after the LA trip Avery felt that something was off, that something had occurred when Xander met with Marcus. But she wasn't going to push him; she would wait until he was ready to share.

The chemistry was still very present between Avery and Xander, it was HOT!!!! The tension between Ellie and Xander added an increased stressor for Xander to deal with. When more information about the past is revealed, Xander has to decide when is it ok to lie and when do you need to put it all on the line. This book was WONDERFUL; it is a short and quick read with SO MUCH passion, intrigue and suspense it keeps you on your toes. I can't wait to see what happens in the third installment in the series.

Kirsten says

4 1/2 stars

Thuan says

Too much soap opera drama and sexfest. Not enough story. Very disappointed. Final straw was the "let's heal everyone even though they don't deserve it" bullshit. Please don't start going all hippy.

Future Slayer Girl says

The second installment of The Sexual Misconduct series has finally come! I have to say I am very on the fence about this series. For one, EVERYTHING about Xander's behavior towards Avery is, well, unhealthy. I was so hoping that her skills as a doctor would help him, but she appears to be just laughing it off and enjoying his chest pounding and random screaming fits if another man so much as blinks at her.

I feel like, she would be more willing to help him through that part of himself rather than see how many times they can get the hump on, while in Cali. Although, hot, for me it's not proving love to me. I love Avery as a character, I think she is level headed, and realistically charmed by this dude. I would be also--when I was 17 - 20 years old though lol

As a whole the series isn't terrible. Where characters in other books display possessive behavior towards their women, they don't get as shouty and angry as Xander does. They approach it in a way where any rational male that is in love would.

I know that this series is pretty much written. Based on the revelation in this series, I can't help but feel she should either say, "BUBYE!" or offer to actually help him through his issues with anger and work the relationship out. Neither are conducive to a romance serial series so I'm pretty sure a whole lot of drama is gonna spill out before this series is over!

I received a FREE copy via The Book Enthusiast Promotions

Brittany L. says**Four Stars for the Cliffhanger Queen**

oh my gosh. The way this series kept me on the edge of my seat, practically begging for another chapter,

never wanting the page turning to end, is simply amazing

Seriously, I cannot wait until the conclusion of this series, I honestly have the same questions as Xander.. and even though I am totally 100% team Xander, I don't think it's looking too good for him right now. FINGERS CROSSED FOR XANDER!

Susan Boyd says

Cliffhangers are good.

I have not been able to put this series down. It is captivating. I'm anxious to see how it all ends. I'm rooting for Xander.

Michelle Cage says

OMG totally amazing short read, just when I thought the first installment was amazing here comes the second. The cliffhangers are great, they keep you on the edge of your seat just waiting for the next installment of the series to come out.

Denisha Applewhaite says

Love it

This book is 6 stars not even 5. I'm going straight into book 3. Can't put it down. To be continued

Rachel says

SAME REVIEW FOR ALL BOOKS IN SERIES

Sexy actor and shrink have chemistry

I actually liked this mini series. Sexy scenes and good underlying secrets that expose themselves in last installment. Would have liked to see different cover model, this one didn't live up to my vision of Xan. Also would love to see more after issues were resolved in ending.

Monica Cullip says

Underneath It All

Bethany Bazile

This story was given to me in exchange for an honest review and is the second installment in the Misconduct Series.

The first segment left on with a bit of a cliffhanger as we realize that Gabriella the stripper, that Xander was sleeping with at the start of story one, the one who gave him the business card for Avery is actually her roommate, little innocent Ellie. Wow, what a secret these two have to keep now. Avery will be devastated to know the truth. But it does provide for some very awkward situations when Xander and Ellie are in the same room.

Avery and Xander continue to get close to one another, physically and emotionally. She is able to get him to open up to her and explain the reasons behind the nightmares. She is understanding him a little bit more now knowing the reason for his demons and works to help him work through the guilt that he is feeling.

These feelings for one another deepen and they are soon exchanging “I love You’s” They are quickly becoming the centre of each other’s lives. Their love is deep and all consuming. The sex between them is frequent and very hot as their deep commitment to one another is shown in their lovemaking.

But all is not as quiet and calm as it appears. Best friend Marcus has been digging into the past of our favourite Dr Avery and what he finds will blow the lid wide open on their relationship. It might be the end. It just might be something that neither one of them can find the courage to get past.

Rebecca says

Lie to protect.

Lie not to destroy.

Lie to keep Avery happy.

This is Xander’s reasoning when he starts on his slippery slope of falsity. In Underneath It All, volume 2 of Bethany Bazile’s Sexual Misconduct serial, Xander’s secrets are slowly being revealed: some to Avery and all to readers, and we are also starting to see the man underneath the Hollywood star and tortured soul. He’s in deep with Avery, and all of his illogical tendencies are manifesting. The Xander of 12 years ago is controlling and manipulative, and when he feels like things are slipping from his grasp...things he wants, he takes desperate measures to hold on. But what happens when Avery learns all of his secrets? She may be just as desperate as he is to be together as a couple, but she’s a black and white person who knows the difference between right and wrong. She’s trained to help others, but how can she help herself if she doesn’t try to see underneath the man she knows she loves? Secrets and lies always surface regardless of how much people try to bury them, so it’s only a matter of time before Xander’s life, once again, spirals out of control, and when

that happens, Xander and Avery will never be the same.

In volume 2, readers are given more insights into what happened to cause Xander's insomnia. He wants to show Avery that he trusts her to know who he really is, so he provides her with the details from twelve years ago, but there's more to tell. Xander's not ready or willing to unload all of his truths, which is causing him to go off kilter a bit in terms of his obsessive tendencies. The hot sex between Xander and Avery continues, but Xander is using it as a way to avoid his deeper issues, and Avery is allowing him to do so.

There is a definite conflict of interest in Avery's decision to remain Xander's therapist as well as his lover, and when she takes on another client who can share insights into Xander's situation, Xander's paranoia increases. And then there's the bomb that's dropped at the end of the text and Xander's decision of what to do with the information. All of this sets the stage for the resolution in *Lie to Me*.

It will be interesting to see how everything plays out in the final installment. Avery's reaction will either be Xander's undoing or his redemption, and at this point, knowing the type of person Avery is, I don't see it ending well for him at all.

A complimentary copy was provided in exchange for an honest review.

4 poison apples (The Fairest of All Book Reviews)

Laurie H says

4 stars out of 5 because it was too damn short!! Only 84 pages. A quick read but my, Oh my, what an enjoyable one. And then.....there's another cliffhanger!!!

We now know what Xander's secrets are and why his mother acted so oddly when she and Avery met. We still have a lot of unanswered questions that will hopefully be answered in installment number 3.

Xander and Avery have a very hot and steamy romance going on but also a little unhealthy. When Xander is upset, angry, jealous, paranoid, etc he does the only thing he knows to do to cope.....have sex. The "L" word is now out in the open with those two so what will they do with it?

I will read Volume III to see where this thing goes.

Philomena Callan Cheekypee says

This is the second part of a three part series. First two books ending in a cliffhanger.

Really enjoyed this book. Was so glad Xanders secret from his past was revealed and my heart went out to him. Love Avery although I think she should give him a kick in the behind for his behaviour!! Loved the chemistry between these two characters.

Looking forward to part three. I wonder how this relationship will progress and if Xander will be truthful with Avery.

Angie says

I struggled as to what I should rate this, and I'm comfortable saying I'd give this solid three stars (even 3.5) for I "liked it." I did enjoy the overall trilogy and am glad I read all three books back to back. I received a complimentary copy of the first book, *Insomnia*, through NetGalley from the publisher/author for an honest review. I was relieved the next two books were already published so I could get the full story rather than in delayed pieces. I'm not absolutely sure I would have continued after the first book, but am glad I hung in there.

I had a hard time connecting with Avery and Xander at the beginning. I'm not opposed to insta-love stories, but I was super surprised to realize three months went by and felt I missed their real emotional depth/connection beyond their physical relationship. Sometimes it felt like that was all there was between them. BUT there are no complaints about their chemistry. The author did a great job crafting a connection between the two that left me with no doubt about their uncontrolled passion for each other.

Once we learned more about Xander, his abrasive and in your face behavior lessened. Of the two main characters, I really liked him the most and felt like we get a full picture of him emotionally. Avery continued to be a struggle and I felt like there was a depth of emotion missing about her past in the foster homes and her painful struggles after her parent's death. Panic attacks were mentioned briefly once, but I wanted more to understand how she dealt with the life she was handed. We knew how her past shaped her to be the adult she became, but it felt like several times we were on the emotional cusp of getting down what makes her tick.

Hands down I know what bothered me the most was Ian and his intrusion into Avery's life to get at his brother. And maybe this is why I struggled with Avery. Ian's jealousy and spitefulness for Xander climaxes in the third book and I kept shaking my head wondering how Avery could let him manipulate her by being her "friend." Why did she hug him or let him comfort her?? We saw these moments through Xander's point of view, and wonder if we'd had hers it would make more sense as to why. I never felt Ian's sincerity even to the end.

There are multiple things I liked about these books. The writing was very well done. This was my first book/series by the author and it won't be my last. Xander's character really developed over the books and there's no doubt the chemistry between him and Avery was explosive. We had short glimpses into the side characters; enough that made me want to learn more about Ellie, Marcus, and yes - even Ian because I want him to redeem himself. I hope we get more about each of those characters, and in the process see Xander and Avery's relationship progress.
