



Guarded

Alisa Woods

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New Adult Paranormal Romance serial

THIS IS THE SECOND EPISODE OF SIX in the True Alpha serial.

Shifters live in the shadows of Seattle, just under the skin of the alpha male, dot-com entrepreneurs who are building a new Silicon Valley in the Emerald City.

As Lucas fights his instinctual attraction to Mia, focusing instead on guarding her and keeping her safe from the Red pack, Mia tries to discover the truth about Lucas's dead mate.

Guarded (True Alpha 2) is 70 pages or 17,000 words. It's the second of six episodes in the True Alpha serial.

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Adult content. Ages 18+.

RELEASE SCHEDULE - 2014

9/2 - Desired (True Alpha 1)
9/2 - Guarded (True Alpha 2)
9/16 - Hunted (True Alpha 3)
9/30 - Captured (True Alpha 4)
10/14 - Sacrificed (True Alpha 5)
10/21 - Claimed (True Alpha 6)
10/28 - Box Set (True Alpha 1-6)

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Guarded Details

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From Reader Review Guarded for online ebook

Nancy♥The♥Bookaholic says

~~3.75 HEARTS~~

ARC PROVIDED BY AUTHOR IN EXCHANGE FOR AN HONEST REVIEW

So *Guarded* is the second episode of the True Alpha series. This picks up right where *Desired* left off. Lucas is still trying to resist the pull towards Mia. He promised to never mate again with the memories of what happened to his last mate fresh on his memory. Mia is an intern at SparkTech and can't resist the attraction she has with her boss, Lucas. Lucas promises to protect and guard Mia from the Red Wolf pack but will never claim another. Mia finds out that there's a whole different world out there that she knew nothing about. I'm getting addicted to Lucas & Mia. I want the next episode now.

"I will guard you, Mia. But I will never claim you, or anyone, ever again."

Erica says

Definate 4.5 Stars

The continuance of the True Alpha serial has just brought the fun in!!!!

If you liked the first installment then you are going to LOVE this one.

I love how the story picks up right where the last installment left off no back tracking and no recapping
BRILLIANT!!!!!!

I love Lucas and Mia they really have a strong connection both of wolf and human and I really cant wait to read more and see their relationship grow further.

I really enjoyed Mia's boldness it is refreshing and mischievous. Her growing affection for Lucas is evident and I really enjoy their time together. Even though her age would make her quite young she really is quite mature.

Jupiter Mia's roommate is a blast she has some crazy get up though.

Lucas' attempts at keeping his distance from Mia is downright comical especially when he is so adamant at keeping her safe and I find it endearing that he feels he has to. Lucas' reveals from his past is really interesting and traumatic and opens up the world of magic.

I loved how Lucas explains the whole how to be a wolf to Mia especially the mating ritual which I loved. I enjoy how Mia takes the whole wolf thing quite well and eagerly soaks up the knowledge.

I love how the story draws you in so much you feel a part of it. Little twists and turns and a number of laughs make for a more enjoyable read, I can't wait to find out what happens next. I will **MOST DEFINITELY** be continuing on with this series.

Pam says

3.5 stars

If she was on Facebook, their relationship status would definitely be it's complicated.

Guarded, I am interpreting it as the calm before the storm, while there were revelations made, pleasures that were given and taken, it was just all a build up of what was to come next. Lucas is a powerful man, a true alpha, but is so bound by his guilt he can not see past his own issues. For him it was all about honor and responsibility, and here is Mia who is challenging his control. Mia is a virgin of all things wolf and now with Lucas as her mentor, she wants to understand more about herself and him so that she can help him somehow.

"But no more sex? she asked.

His arms locked up again. "No."

"How about kissing?" she asked lightly.

He cocked his head to one side. "This isn't a negotiation."

"No kissing then," she said. "What about fondling? Over or under clothes? How about straight up groping?"

He gritted his teeth. "Mia," he growled through them.

"I'm just saying... She pushed her chair. "If I accidentally brush up against you in the elevator, don't be surprised if some part of your body gets squeezed."

It is taking all of her patience with this man to understand why they can't continue on enjoying each other's bodies. Having moved out of her dorm, away from her friend, she is finally in a place where she feels like she belongs. With the Red pack wants the LoopSource deal and the only way they will ever have a chance is if Lucas backs down, using Mia as leverage to make sure he behaves.

I enjoyed reading on about Lucas and Mia, at least we know where his misguided guilt is coming from. As strong as Lucas is, you almost want to shake him to get him to realize that it wasn't his fault but people have to come to their own conclusions. I'm curious to see where their story is headed, I see a whole lot of pissed off Alpha coming up.

ARC kindly provided by the author, in exchange for an honest review.

***Quotes above are taken from the ARC version of the book and may differ upon publication.

Lita Acevedo says

I'm really enjoying this series but this would be better as one whole book. This is the second novella. Things are heating up between Mia and her hot boss.

Charlie Gray says

This book begins where Book One, "Desired" ends. And, OH MY...the story-line got even BETTER!

Really?..you say... YES REALLY!! .. lol..

I thought that Desired was an AMAZING book.. well it was, but damn that book was more of a piece of the cake then the whole damn cake.. lol.. If you get my drift..I have no idea how this author does it. She is really amazing and what she does.. You get to know both characters in this book. You also get to see how Lucas reacts to the big news at the end of book one how he found out that Mia was a shifter/wolf as well... You will also find out what happened to Lucas' mate, and why he is so upset about it.

Do you think he really killed his mate?

or ...

Do you think that he thinks he killed his mate in his mind, but really didn't??

Oh you will find out either way, so read the book because man it is a MUST READ in my opinion...

My thing is now, that I have to wait for book three to come out..It comes out TODAY!!! I just can't wait until it actually pops up so I can finally buy it!!

This whole series is a story that I need to read because if I don't I will definitely REGRET it!! So will you!! Lucas and Mia's story is still not over, and I need to find out what happens next in their journey together... Will he stay by her side? Will he designate a body guard?? What happens??

I rate this book 5 mugs because it is just so damn good that it deserves it.. Need I say more??

Mary Winstead says

Mia is falling hard for Lucas till he tells her he could never mate again she thinks he playing hard to get and

he'll come around till he tells her the real reason how he killed his mate. Can't wait to read the entire series.

Sabrina says

Wow...talk about grieving alpha males! To the next one!!!!

Caroline Barker says

Whereas book one was a very intense and hot read, *Guarded* (True Alpha #2) focuses on the emotional tension between Mia and Lucas. After a passionate night with Lucas, Mia's inner wolf knows that he is right for her and that she belongs with him but Lucas is still in a great deal of heartache and pain from the death of his mate. The reader remains gripped to these characters and will question whether Mia will ever be able to help him come to terms with his deceased mate and allow her to belong with him.

Lucas battles his feelings for Mia, knowing that he can't go there again. He can never be as close to anyone as he was with his mate. And, as much as he will protect and guard Mia from the Red Pack, he will not take her again or even come close. *Guarded* actually breaks down these two great characters where the reader will see Lucas' more darker, serious side, his sorrow and pain, as well as his desire to keep Mia from this.

As a result he puts his defences up and distances himself. This makes him a little cold and impersonal with her at times, although it is also clear that he doesn't want her to think bad of him. This in turn makes it more difficult for Mia to be with him and know how to respond. Book 2 certainly holds more emotional tension as opposed to sexual tension.

The reader can certainly empathise with both characters, making it unpredictable on the outcome of these two. There are twists and turns, a strong attraction, and danger from the Red Pack, as they will do anything to keep business going their way. (The Red Pack own a rival company to that of Lucas', and threatening Mia may seem like a good idea to them – especially as they sense the connection between Mia and Lucas and his need to protect her.)

Mia's character is strong as she feels that if she can help Lucas to open up and face what happened then she is in with a chance. She has much to understand about packs, mates as she has never been raised by one. At times this can make her seem a little naïve to Lucas. This makes the reader just long for Lucas to take Mia under his wing and teach her all he knows, guard her, protect her and love her! But will it all be too much for Lucas to bear?

Lucas' dad has a strong impact on Mia as he is accepting, gentle and protective – all the things that a father should be that she has missed out on not having her own around. This scene was relatively small and yet had such a deep meaning, especially for Mia. I would like to read a little more about these two in the subsequent books.

The reader doesn't miss a thing as *Guarded* (True Alpha #2) picks up where we left off in *Desired* (True Alpha #1). There are reminders of what happened previously, allowing the reader to easily remember and continue the story without having to keep checking back to the last episode. I cannot wait for the third

instalment, Hunted. This series is a strong one for many a paranormal fan to follow. You will not be disappointed with the power and depth that these short stories provide!

Guarded (True Alpha #2) was provided by the author in return for an honest and fair review.

Linda ❤️? Sassy, Classy && a Little Bit of Nasty says

ARC provided by Author in exchange for an honest review.

With the ending from **Desired** , I could not pass up this next installment.

Lucas and Mia finally let their inner wolves take over and have some wall action. After he gets a few *scratches* from Mia, Lucas finds out that Mia is a half-breed wolf and cuts off that sexual tie with her. He can't claim a mate anymore. He *won't* claim a mate anymore. His only mate was killed. And he believes it to be his fault.

"But no more sex?" she asked. His arms locked up again.

"No."

"How about kissing?" she asked lightly.

He cocked his head to one side. "This isn't a negotiation."

"No kissing then," she said. "What about fondling? Over or under clothes? How about straight-up groping?"

He gritted his teeth. "Mia," he growled through them.

"I'm just saying..." She pushed in her chair. "If I accidentally brush up against you in the elevator, don't be surprised if some part of your body gets squeezed."

Lucas is adamant about keeping Mia at an arm's length. He is tempted by her and he will do anything he can to not make the same mistake of claiming a mate. But he will do everything he can to protect her. Just as long as they keep it platonic.

Mia on the other hand, has other things in mind. She *wants* to be with Lucas. He makes her feel like she **belongs**. All her life, she's been different; she's never felt like she was *a part of the group*. And this is solely because.....*she doesn't*.

After Mia learns Lucas' troubled past, she resolves that she will help him get past his barriers and break the bonds that are holding him hostage. She wants him to move on with her, because she knows he feels the intensity between the two of them as well.

I want to find out what Lucas will do next!

Tammy Choate says

~~~~~May Contain Spoilers~~~~~

So now we are in part 2 of this series! LUCAS LUCAS LUCAS what are we going to do with you? He's so protective of Mia, but he just won't let himself go and claim what his wolf already knows is HIS! He's already lost once and doesn't want to take the chance of losing again. But the chemistry between these two are hot and cold at times well, at least on Lucas's end. Mia on the other hand I think she has come to terms that she's gonna fight for what her and her wolf wants. Secrets are finally revealed in some aspect but still left to question what is Lucas going to do.

Mia needs to be protected against the Red pack at all costs. Mia is learning so much about what being a shifter is, mating, the pull all that. Something she didn't have at all growing up. The Red pack wants her to force SparkTech to give up bidding on a contract and they will do whatever it takes to make sure they get what they want no matter the costs. Lucas is so damn stubborn you can clearly see how he feels but effectively pulls away every time they end up together. His wolf is already wanting to protect, defend, and claim. But Lucas knows if he does how dangerous it can be if he claims Mia.

"I will guard you, Mia. But I will never claim you, or anyone, ever again."

When Lucas tells Mia he 'killed' his wife well Mia doesn't believe it.

"She shook her head, not believing it. Not with the way he looked at her, cared for her, protected her. When all he had to do was walk away. Mia didn't know what dark thing in his past had taken his wife from him, but she knew this much: Lucas Sparks was no killer." When she tells him she doesn't believe him he lets her know real fast: "Do not presume you know anything about me. You don't belong to a pack. You hide your wolf from your family. You know nothing!" So why does he feel this way and blame himself. Nope not gonna tell ya and spoil it.

The next one can't get here fast enough. I'm impatient I can't help it. I want to know what's going to happen between these two. Alisa thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to read this! I loved it and can't wait for the next one!

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## **Crazy for Books (Stephanie) says**

### **3 COMPLICATED MYSTICAL STARS**

Lucas and Mia wake up to very different ideas of what they mean to each other. Mia feels more connected, like she belongs with him. She's determined to make Lucas feel it as well. But the more the day goes on, the more he pulls away. Explaining to her what happened to his first mate and why he will never make her his.

At the same time, Lucas knows Mia needs to move out of the dorm and be somewhere safe in case the Red's come after her again. Jupiter aka "jeeter" doesn't like that her friend is moving out and knows that Mia is keeping something from her, but is a good friend and will be there for her when and if she returns.

I feel for poor Mia. She finally has someone who can teach her about what she is and how she could belong only to have that person pull away from her in every way possible. There's still so much more to learn from this series. On to the next....

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## **Blondies Little Book Life says**

\*This review may contain spoilers\*

I was given ARC for an honest review.

"But no more sex?" she asked. His arms locked up again. "No." "How about kissing?" she asked lightly. He cocked his head to one side. "This isn't a negotiation." "No kissing, then," she said. "What about fondling? Over or under clothes? How about straight-up groping?" He gritted his teeth. "Mia," he growled through them. "I'm just saying..." She pushed in her chair. "If I accidentally brush up against you in the elevator, don't be surprised if some part of your body gets squeezed."

I couldn't wait to start this book, after the way Desired ended with those major secrets revealed. I dove right in and couldn't put it down. Yes, it is a short read. But hey, I loved it all the same. This book picks up right after said secrets are revealed. I couldn't wait to see how Lucas reacted to Mia's secret and vice versa. Throughout the book Lucas is very adamant about keeping Mia within an arm's reach, close enough to protect her, but far enough away where he won't be tempted to claim her. After what happened to his wife/mate Tila, how could you blame him?! At the same time I wanted to shake him and just tell him to let it go, the past is the past you can't change it. But being Lucas, that is not how he works. He feels so much hurt and guilt over what happened he tries to fight his feelings for Mia, like his and her life depends on it. Mia on the other hand does the complete opposite. She wants to be with Lucas and she wants him to claim her. The way she feels with Lucas, she has never experienced with anybody else. With Lucas, she feels like she belongs. Even after learning the truth about Tila, she is more determined than ever to help him get past everything that is holding him back from them being together. After a little reluctance, Lucas finally gives in and opens up about what exactly happened to Tila and let me tell you that was a shocker that I was not expecting. This story keeps getting more intriguing and entertaining the more I read. We also get to see little more of Lucas's dad Mr. Sparks. I like his character a lot. He has agreed to pack protection for Mia. He seems like a very strong character that you don't want to mess with. I also am loving Mia's best friend Jupiter. She is spunky and fun, a nice element to Mia's life. I can't say enough about Lucas and Paisley's chemistry. They have some hot, passionate and sexy scenes in this book. They literally can't keep their hands to themselves. Even with all the doubts and questions that still linger between them. They are meant to be. By the end of the book, I was left wanting more. I can't wait to get my hands on Hunted. This is a great story that keeps getting better and better the more I read.

So, if you're looking for a story with the perfect amount of suspense, intrigue, surprises and a hot Alpha male that you will love, this is the story for you. You will definitely love it. I sure did.

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### **Diane Lynch says**

Guarded (True Alpha #2) by Alisa Woods Lucas is fighting his attraction to Mia. This is difficult with his instincts forcing him to protect her from the Red Pack. Meanwhile, Mia wants to discover more about Lucas' departed mate.

I appreciate that Mia is intelligent and strong. She feels at a disadvantage by not understanding pack life. She starts to ask questions, so she can better understand her heritage and her wolf. She handles Lucas' mood swings pretty well considering he is being a serious jerk.

I empathize for Lucas. He feels responsible for his wife's death. He is letting the tragedy affect his future. He recognizes he is being callous to Mia and disgusted with himself for it. I really like Lucas, but I want to shake some sense into him; stubborn male.

I love the length of these books. They are short stories, perfect to fit in when you only have a minimal amount of time to read but are in the mood to complete a story.

I am officially dubbing Alisa Woods the Cliff Hanger Queen. I mean this in a positive way. Her endings leave you wanting more and anxiously awaiting the next book. Not in a negative, I cannot believe the book ended that way, but this story is so wonderful I want more way. If you enjoy contemporary paranormal romance, you will want to try this series.

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### **Ali says**

Ooh, the plot thickens. Where as Desired was more story introduction, Guarded gives us a little more meat on the bone. Lucas' past unravels just a tad and we really get to know Mia's character.

Which, I LOVED. I wasn't quite sure how much I was going to relate to her in the first episode but man, she won me over in this one. Mia is feisty, sexy and smart. She pushes Lucas just enough to keep him intrigued yet not enough to have him completely running for the hills.

Plus, there is some emotional turmoil that shines through from her past. You feel a compassion for the girl she was and it makes me admire the woman she is, even more.

Lucas is a bit of an ass hat, but with cause. He's guarded (hmmm, the title) and unsure of what the right path is.

The sexual tension is explosive, the desire palpable, the sex exciting. The story, in a word...intriguing.

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### **Elizabeth Bennet says**

I got the boxed set rather than buying each book independently. There are six books in the series and each book is a link of a chain to the next book. If you're looking for a steamy paranormal I think you could do worse. I am really curious to see where this will all lead. In this book Lucas explains to Mia the history between him and his dead mate/wife Tila. You need to understand the power and strength shared between a

wolf couple combined with the fact Lucas holds himself responsible. Lucas is still dealing with the death of his wife. That is a turn off for some readers but the length of this book is brief and I think this will work it's way out as you already witness Lucas's passion for Mia.

Mia has kept her being a shifter a secret from her family and so she never benefited from the knowledge and support that a pack can offer. Lucas fills in all the blanks and explains the story behind the bite. I found it interesting and it pulled me in. This book does not offer the excitement the first one did with the Red Wolf Development. It is building things up though. I would recommend buying the boxed set to fill in all the holes and truly the whole boxed set is the same price as each individually. There is some hot, love scenes and this book leaves you with Lucas's declaration of finality. Enjoy!

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