



## Countermeasure

*Chris Almeida , Cecilia Aubrey*

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**Countermeasure** Chris Almeida , Cecilia Aubrey

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Suspicious and determined never to fall into the love trap, security specialist Cassandra James takes on a chase to recover files stolen right out from under her nose. In an effort to prove to her father—also her boss—that she is a capable woman, she follows the digital trail—a trail that leads her directly into the arms of Trevor Bauer, an NSA analyst who appears to have more secrets than she has scars...

Haunted by the mystery surrounding his parents' disappearance, Trevor Bauer's dreams for his own life have been put on hold. But being confronted by Cassandra James derails every one of his best laid plans to avoid a relationship until he can find the closure he desperately seeks. When he accepts her request for help in recovering the files she's hunting, they embark on an adventure that takes them across the ocean and into a world of intrigue and violence. As things between them begin to heat up, Trevor realizes that, if he is ever to win Cassandra's heart and the future he craves, he has no choice but to reveal all his secrets.

## Countermeasure Details

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## From Reader Review Countermeasure for online ebook

### Candy says

Cassandra James, an ex CIA agent and now a security specialist at her father's firm, is assigned the task of guarding a new pharmaceutical trial for a client. When those files are stolen right out from under her, Cassandra takes it personally. After doing some investigating, Cassandra comes across information that leads her to Trevor Bauer, a NSA geek. Immediately, the sparks fly between the two as they set out to get back the stolen files. Filled with tons of suspense, action, and romance, the couple find the missing files and love. Perhaps the best thing about Countermeasure is how real the characters of Cassandra and Trevor are. Almeida and Aubrey have created these characters with such depth that you feel like you know Cassandra and Trevor. These are people you would meet on the street and become friends with. You care about these characters and when they finally get their HEA, you know it's meant to be.

The overall story is extremely intriguing and moves at a fast past. There is never a dull moment. Even when the authors delve into more technical aspects of corporate espionage, they do so carefully and give enough information so you don't feel lost.

I am definitely looking forward to the next book in this series, To Russia With Love!

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### Terri ♥ (aka Mrs. Christian Grey) says

Quick review:

**Cover:** Nice

**Rating:** NC-17

**Steaminess** Hot!

**Thumbs Up:** 4

**Overall:** I was really impressed with this one.

**Characters:** Solid

**Plot:** A plot that keeps moving and me interested.

**Page Turner:** Yes.

**Series Cont.?** Yes

**Recommend:** Yes

**Book Boyfriend:** Ye

### SUMMARY (50 words or less)

This story is well crafted and took me by storm. I was sucked in and really enjoyed this one. The mystery was solid, the romance was sweet, the sex was hot and yeah. For those of you who like mystery and crime solving novels, check this one out.

To see my full review and yummy pic, check out my blog post below.

<http://passionatebookdivas.com/?p=2780>

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## Maria Mercedes The Oracle Reviews says

Countermeasure (Countermeasure Series)

by Chris Almeida (Goodreads Author), Cecilia Aubrey (Goodreads Author)

4.90 · rating details · 10 ratings · 4 reviews

In the first novel of the COUNTERMEASURE SERIES, Trevor Bauer is haunted by the mystery surrounding his parents' disappearance. His dreams for his own life have been put on hold. While searching for clues about them, he crosses paths with Cassandra James, a tough ex-CIA agent who derails every one of his best laid plans to avoid a relationship until he can find the closure he desperately seeks.

Suspicious and determined never to fall into the love trap, security specialist Cassandra James takes on a chase to recover files stolen right out from under her nose. In an effort to prove to her father--also her boss--that she is a capable woman, she follows the digital trail--a trail that leads her directly into the arms of Trevor Bauer, an NSA analyst who appears to have more secrets than she has scars...

When he accepts her request for help in recovering the files she's hunting, they embark on an adventure that takes them across the ocean and into a world of intrigue and violence. As things between them begin to heat up, Trevor realizes that, if he is ever to win Cassandra's heart and the future he craves, he has no choice but to reveal all his secrets.

The Summery of the novel tells it all. I start this review with a bit of truth. I have known the authors for a while now, having roleplayed with them. We met through FB, and I must admit to having enjoyed working with them. They have what all roleplayers dream of... a spectacular working relationship, this novel is proof of it.

Despite the fact that I know them, I feel that I can give an honest non biased review. I was, at first afraid to read it and not like it, so I delayed a bit. I regret having done that, now I find myself looking forward to the next book in this series, which is due out sometime in June. There is a lot of suspense, intrigue, romance, and technology in this, the first of the series, to entertain everyone. If you just cringed at the word technology...don't. It's all simply woven into the novel, so it doesn't sound like a manual, and is essential to be able to tell the story. They took their time researching the stage and making things pop out and not just the scenery. These aren't just words on paper being thrown at you, they are 3-D places being brought to life. Chris and Cecilia are most defiantly artist painting scenes for us to enjoy. Follow me into their world, which takes two normal sedate lives on a rollercoaster; twisting and turning until their work brings them together in the final crash of love.

Chris and Cecilia are an inspiration to any who want to make their dreams come true. Congrats on a job well done! This is most definitely a GOODREAD!!! \*\*\*\*\*

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## Vânia Nunes says

Cassandra James, former CIA, after having gone through a difficult mission when she was betrayed by one of her partners, decided it was time to leave that job and began working in her father's company, Robert James, James Security Agency.

She didn't have a good relationship with her father. Ex-SEAL after losing his wife and stay with a daughter, turned out to educate the girl alone as educates a soldier. Instead of playing with Barbies, Cassandra was trained in self-defense and survival techniques. She sought to be the best at her post, but everytime she needed to report to her father, she always felt like a little girl who sought his approval... and that didn't seem to come ever.

As one of her missions in the security company just showing problem of infiltration, Robert took the case from her hands and gave it to Jeff. It shook Cassandra's confidence, but gave her more determination to continue researching how an exemplary employee of Bristol Lab managed to gain access to a high-security area, which wasn't her area and simply vanish in the air with a copied file of a revolutionary new drug.

At the same time, this drug, code-named Morrigan, was linked to Trevor Bauer's father, the great scientist Conor Brennan, whose disappearance with his wife when they were on the yacht, was still a huge mystery in Trevor's life.

Trevor and Cassandra end up meeting and although they have different goals, they began working together to find out why the drug file had been copied and for whom it would be directed.

Throughout history much mystery comes up.

The plot is interesting and well described. The characters, all well trained in their duties, involve the reader in relation to the suspense.

On the romantic part of the book, I thought that the couple took a long time to meet each other (8 chapters!), and even from the very first moment they have met there was chemistry, at first I didn't feel that chemistry with them, except in the last chapter. But perhaps this was the authors' main point, prioritize action to romance.

No cliffhanger but still hung in the air a major issue to be resolved.

The place where the story takes place also leaves the common place (the famous NY-London axis), taking place in Maryland and Dublin.

A series directed to readers who expect more than just an in love nerd couple. Lots of action, suspense and a good reason to think.

## 4 stars

*E-book provided in exchange of an honest review*

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## Becky Condit says

5+ stars! A recommended book!

Excerpt from my complete review, to be posted at <http://mrsconditreadsbooks.com/index....> March 14, 2012:

When computer files are stolen we find out quickly who the thief is and the motives but things do not go to plan after that. The plot is a series of twists, turns, red herrings, double and triple cross, that take Cassandra and Trevor all over Europe. You never know what will happen next until it does, and even then it may not be what you thought was coming. As our hero and heroine work together their antagonism turns to friendship and then to much, much more. Turn on a fan and find a private place to read when these two finally talk each other into bed. Mmm mmm.

The authors are very adept at description and dialog, bringing the reader into the story powerfully. As Cassandra and Trevor get closer and closer to their goal of rescuing the stolen goods and finding out who is behind the shenanigans, the story moves as fast as the bullet train they travel on between Monte Carlo and France. These two incredible writers know the power of the written word and have done their homework to set up a story that is electrifying from start to finish. To quote one of their characters, Mr. Almeida and Ms. Aubrey have "mad skills."

The separate mystery that begins the book remains unsolved at the end, which means a spine-tingling sequel can't be far behind. I can hardly wait for **FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE**, book 2 in the **COUNTERMEASURES** series, promised at the end of book 1. Bring it on, Mr. Almeida and Ms. Aubrey! Just... bring it.

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### **Alana ~ The Book Pimp says**

Alrighty, I think I should do a quick disclaimer here- originally I read this in 2012 - I received that eBook in exchange for a honest review. BUT - this is the audiobook, which I did NOT get for free. So this is a cat of a different color.

First off - props need to be given to the narrator. Just a touch of Irish brogue and an overall delicious accent and he didn't even half bad with the female voices. Probably the one main issue I had was it being a little odd a few times when an 'American' character would be speaking but I still was hearing Irish brogue.

Secondly - I like that the characters are flawed. You've got Cassandra: ex-CIA, stubborn, tenacious, and emotionally frigid. She totally makes mistakes but it's an endearing quality (for me at least.) And Trevor... lovely, geeky, Irish brogue NSA agent with hidden skeletons in his closet and a computer named Jack. He's the 'McHotpants' version of your average computer geek, but I'm not complaining about that at all. Though it all takes place over the time frame of a few weeks, the relationship development I thought was very realistic.

Why, you may ask, am I only giving this 4 stars instead of 5? It's a two part answer here... repetition - which I hadn't noticed as much in eBook form, but hearing it spoken in my ear really highlighted it. It's not a huge thing, just a minor irritation at times that make me want to quickly wave my hand in a movement of, "Yeah, yeah, we got that bit already - move on!" Even the high action scenes were almost so eager to give both sides of the events that I'd hear about the exact same action from two POV back-to-back, it seemed. Again, I really must stress how minor this was, but I had to mention it. Second part (I mentioned it was a two part answer) that was somewhat lacking for me was the descriptiveness of the various European locales. There are times where we get wondrous description (Monte Carlo comes to mind) but they spent at least a week or two in Paris and I never really felt I got a 'flavor' of the location in the writing. I must again stress how this is a

'small fries' issue in relation to the greater happy meal of the book. It just bothered me enough to drop a star.

Overall, if you're a fan of romantic suspense/thriller with some geeky overtones and a variety of locales, then I'd recommend giving this a try. I know I'm putting other books in this series on my TBR list and will happily continue.

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### **Adela Cacovean says**

First of all, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the authors, who have granted me free access to the Kindle edition of this book, in order for me to review it.

More importantly, this book was so much better than I expected, that I won't even hesitate in giving it the maximum rating of 5 stars, and I would gladly add more to it if I could.

Cassandra James was by far the character that I loved most during the time that I have read this amazing book. She is a very confident, strong woman, who never gives up on anything at all, no matter how difficult or dangerous things might get for her. She is assigned by her father (also her boss at James Security) to be the lead of the project of securing a Pharmaceutical Company's files for a revolutionary new medicine. However, while protecting the database from external attacks (like hackers), the formula is copied on a hard drive by one of the employees - Allison. Her father, a very tough man, gives the case to another of his employees, giving Cassandra a "vacation". However, Cassandra does not give up, and she starts working on her own at the case. She soon discovers that someone from NSA had infiltrated in the servers and she takes Nathan (a former colleague of hers, from the time when she was working for CIA) with her to the NSA headquarters to find out why. She then meets Trevor Bauer, and they fall in love at first sight. She realises he is hiding something, but that it has nothing to do with the theft of the formula. So, after escorting Nathan to the airport, she goes at Trevor's place and she asks for his help on the case.

"People say the eyes are the windows to the soul. Looking into the window of his eyes, she could only find a deep sense of honor, respect, and integrity shining through. It was a huge risk, but she was willing to take it. If he agreed to help her, she would still keep her guard up, her eyes trained on his every move. She wouldn't be making any more mistakes."

I forgot to mention that I hate this Nathan, with whom Cassandra makes the awful mistake of sleeping with, even though she doesn't love him in that way. But that you will discover yourselves if you read the novel (and I highly recommend you to do so).

Anyway, Trevor and his friend, George, find out that Allison is in Paris. Cassandra is determined to recover the hard drive from her, but she has to take Trevor with her (the price that she promised to pay for the help he gave her). There, things start to get crazy, but I can't exactly tell you why without ruining the book's charm. All I can say is that, apart from the case, Cassandra and Trevor are going to discover that they are made for each other. And there is a specific chapter that will make you blush, and smile and cheer the characters up in your mind.

"You were right. I was scared, but not anymore. I love you Trevor. Believe it or not, I've loved you since the first shite you said in front of me."

Trevor is also a very interesting character. He is from an Irish family, so imagining his accent while I was reading his lines was simply... delicious. As geek as he is, I found him lovely, not to mention funny.

What I liked most about this book was the vivid description of the characters' feelings, and the RPG style was definitely a bonus, as I got to know the story from different characters' point of view. Every chapter had a twist and turn of events, which made everything more interesting and, more importantly, it made me read pages after pages, without breathing at times. The end was a total cake for my soul, as I hadn't expected that to happen so soon, but I loved it all, from the first page, to the last words. So I look forward to reading the second novel. It's a mystery for me why this book isn't popular, as it is by far better than anything I have recently read. So I urge you to stop hesitating and read it!

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În primul rând, a? vrea s?-mi exprim mul?umirea autorilor, care mi-au oferit acces gratuit la edi?ia pentru Kindle a acestei c?r?i, pentru ca eu s? îi fac recenzie.

Dar mai important de atât, aceast? carte a fost cu mult mai bun? decât m? a?teptam, astfel încât nu voi ezita nicio clip? în a-i da un rating maxim de cinci stelu?e, ba i-a? da ?i mai mult dac? a? putea.

Cassandra James e de departe personajul pe care l-am îndr?git cel mai mult în timpul pe care l-am petrecut citind aceast? carte. E o femeie foarte puternic? ?i sigur? pe ea, care nu renun?? niciodat? la nimic, oricât de dificil? sau periculoas? ar putea deveni situa?ia. Tat?l ei (de asemenea, ?eful ei la firma de securitate James Security) o face liderul proiectului de securizare a fi?ierelor unei companii farmaceutice, care a descoperit un medicament revolu?ionar. Îns?, de?i a protejat baza de date de atacurile externe (ale hackerilor, de exemplu), formula e copiat? pe un hard drive de unul dintre angaja?i - Allison. Tat?l ei, un b?rbat foarte dur, îi d? cazul unui alt angajat, dându-i Cassandra?i „o vacan??”. Dar Cassandra nu renun?? ?i începe s? lucreze de una singur? la caz. Curând descoper? c? cineva de la NSA s-a infiltrat în servere ?i îl ia cu ea pe Nathan (un fost coleg de-al ei, de pe vremea când lucra pentru CIA) la sediul central NSA ca s? afle de ce. A?a îl întâlne?te pe Trevor Bauer, iar cei doi se îndr?gostesc la prima vedere. Ea î?i d? seama c? el ascunde ceva, dar c? nu are de-a face cu furtul formulei. A?a c? dup? ce îl conduce pe Nathan la aeroport, ea merge acas? la Trevor ?i îi cere ajutorul la caz.

„Se spune c? ochii sunt oglinda sufletului. Privind în oglinda ochilor lui, g?si str?lucirea unui profund sim? al datoriei, respect ?i integritate. Era un risc imens, dar era gata s? ?i-l asume. Dac? el ar fi fost de acord s? o ajute, ?i-ar fi ?inut garda sus ?i ochii aten?i la orice mi?care a lui. Nu ar mai fi f?cut gre?eli.” (Traducere neoficial? a citatului, f?cut? de mine)

Am uitat s? men?ionez c? îl ur?sc pe acest Nathan, cu care Cassandra face oribila gre?eal? de a se culca, de?i nu îl iube?te în acest fel. Dar asta ve?i descoperi voi dac? citi?i romanul (?i v? recomand s? o face?i). În fine, Trevor ?i prietenul lui, George, descoper? c? Allison e în Paris. Cassandra e hot?rât? s? recupereze hard drive-ul, dar e nevoie? s?-l ia pe Trevor cu ea (pre?ul pe care a promis c?-l va pl?ti pentru ajutorul pe care el îl-a dat). Aici, lucrurile încep s? o ia razna, dar nu v? pot spune exact de ce f?r? s? stric farmecul c?r?ii. Tot ce v? pot spune e c?, în afara cazului, Cassandra ?i Trevor vor descoperi c? sunt f?cu?i unul pentru altul. ?i un anume capitol v? va face s? ro?i?i, s? zâmbi?i ?i s? le face?i galerie personajelor în gând.

„Ai avut dreptate. Mi-a fost team?, dar acum nu îmi mai este. Te iubesc, Trevor. Crede-m? sau nu, te-am iubit de la primul „shite” pe care l-ai spus în fa?a mea.” (Traducere neoficial? a citatului, f?cut? de mine)

Trevor este, de asemenea, un personaj foarte interesant. Provine dintr-o familie irlandez?, a?a c? s?-mi imaginez accentul lui în timp ce citeam a fost pur ?i simplu... delicios. A?a tocilar cum e, l-am g?sit simpatic, dar ?i amuzant.

Ceea ce mi-a plăcut cel mai mult la această carte a fost descrierea intensă a sentimentelor personajelor, iar stilul RPG a fost cu siguranță un bonus, pentru că am reușit să aflu povestea din prisma punctelor de vedere ale diferitelor personaje. Fiecare capitol a avut o întorsătură de evenimente, care a făcut totul mai interesant și, mai important, mă făcut pe mine să citesc pagini după pagini, fără să respir în anumite momente. Sfărătul a fost că o prejudecătură pentru sufletul meu, pentru că nu mi-așteptam să se întâmple așa ceva atât de curând, dar am iubit tota cartea, de la prima pagină, la ultimele cuvinte. Așa că de-abia aștept să citesc al doilea volum. E un mister pentru mine de ce cartea asta nu este populară, pentru că este de departe mai bună decât tot ce am citit în ultima vreme. Așa că vă recomand să nu mai ezitați, să să căutați voi!

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### **Roxanne says**

Man! This book made Geeks look sexy! I'm gonna have to find me one now!

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### **Alana ~ The Book Pimp says**

I'd even go as far as 4½♥'s. I received a free ARC eBook in exchange for an honest, unbiased review. My thoughts are my own.

"Someone once joked about what it meant to be an NSA employee: 'You do not exist; you do not have a job. Any questions? Don't ask questions.'"

It was a wonderful 'ride' reading this book! Romance, imperfect characters, Irish brogue, high-tech, espionage thriller... nothing paranormal like my other books except for that almost magical moment of meeting your perfect love.

"Who are you, and where is that mad woman who accosted me yesterday?"

The characters were vivid and endearing, drawing me in with each of their personal pains and making me root for their HEA. Who knew Geek could be SO titillating! Everything felt natural, the dialogue, the mystery, suspense. I was whisked away into the story, cheering the characters along when something went well, and wanting to chide them like a best friend when they were making bad choices. I also like that Cassandra was a strong, capable woman who still made stupid life choices at times. It really brought her character to life and gave such depth that you still can't hold her bad decisions against her.

"His spidey senses were going haywire. If that wasn't a sign, he didn't know what was."

The near soul-mate insti-love was handled with just the right amount of the characters fighting against it to stay this side of the line between reality. And in all honesty, I was putty in Trevor's hands at the first "Shite!"

"I've known you forever and love you like a sister. If you think you've met someone - for the record, picture me doing a happy dance - go with the flow."

I am doing my own happy dance right now! Thank you so much for allowing me to read this gem of a book! If you enjoy romantic suspense/thriller, then I would highly recommend giving this series a try. I will most

definitely be looking into book 2 for my next fix of Trevor!

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### **Micquleta says**

Perhaps a gal needs more than a romp with a vampire or a werewolf. Maybe a trip on the geek side is what the doctor ordered.

Imagine my delight in getting my claws on this absolutely brilliant story of a beautiful and alluring woman and a messy haired geek. Cassandra James and Trevor Bauer meet during an investigation of a breach that occurred on Ms James' watch.

The story is engaging and the characters are believable and fun to experience from the first "shite" to final butt kick. I highly recommend this story.

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### **Megan says**

This book... There is no word that can describe how much I enjoyed reading it!

I felt like I was one of the characters. I felt what they felt. In my opinion, a book can be considered well-written and great when you can feel your pulse quicken when things are getting hot and heavy between the characters, when you can feel a pain in your heart when something bad is happening to them, when you feel your heart break thinking they won't be able to be together, when you smile and beam when finally, you know everything is gonna be alright.

Thanks to this book, you feel like you could meet the character in real life (you hope people like that exist!) and you know you would become friends with them.

Cassie is a strong and independent woman. Trevor is a sweet, strong-minded geek, sexy and most importantly Irish (ahaha, that the best part!;))

This book has everything to be perfect.

Romance, Action, Mystery, Love, Friendship, Betrayal... And we have to admit that the sex part is just as great... if not more! (No, I'm not blushing...:D)

I felt like there was some kind of parallel between the chase for the truth, and the chase for love. It was perfect.

I know I will dream of this story for a long time, and I can't wait to read every other book of this serie!

Thank you to the authors, you did a great job at making us dream and smile. Your book is the reason why I love reading so much. Because sometimes, we come across a treasure, and your book is definitely one.

Megan.

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### **Rhayne says**

#### **5 STARS**

If you are looking for a book that will keep you on the edge of your seat and make you feel a part of the action this is a must read. It is beautifully written with the perfect mixture of action and suspense and in the midst of all that there is a beautiful emotional love story entwined.

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Complete review posted here: <http://www.guiltypleasuresbookreviews...>

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### **Karissa says**

Move over, James Bond. The world of today is being saved by Geeks... Well, ok... not the whole world, just this one case. And yes, it is a GEEK that plays a major part in solving it. Despite facing his own demons with the disappearance of his parents, Trevor finds himself intrigued by that fierce beauty of Cassandra James after she found his digital footprint in the trail of missing clinical trial data which she was supposed to protect.

After a bumpy start, courtesy of Cassandra's overprotective friend, the two find themselves in France, trying to recover the data and solving each other's mystery.

The story itself keeps the reader drawn with its twists and turns that could give alpine roads a run for their money. But I also love the attention to detail just as much as the portrayal of the typical Irish charm by Trevor. That geek can save me any day. I am looking forward to the next installment due later this year.

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### **Julianna says**

Lots of adventure as well as some romance, my kind of book. And it says something when i just sat and read the whole thing in one sitting last night:)

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### **Sloane says**

I am normally an avid reader of Paranormal Romance, but Countermeasure has brought me to the other side. The story grabbed me from the beginning and I was unable to put it down. The evolution of Cassandra opening herself up to love grasped my heart. The way Trevor persisted at her and in putting himself on the line was amazing. The twists and turns that their story took were unexpected and exciting. The intensity of the situations Cassandra and Trevor found themselves in was exhilarating. I am both curious and excited to see the next chapter of their lives together and follow them as they move forward.

