



Secret Admirer

Susan Napier

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Grace under pressure

Running into a potential business partner late at night in a broken elevator - when one was wearing a glamorous fur with nothing on underneath - was awkward, but Grace Blair was cool enough to handle a hot situation.

Her poised, controlled demeanor belied the insecurity she felt taking over her late husband's business empire, but Scott Gregory was able with one caressing glance to strip away all her pretenses. Especially since the handsome New Zealander had made it clear from their first inauspicious meeting that in business, knowledge was power - and that he knew exactly what he wanted.

A YEAR DOWN UNDER

Secret Admirer Details

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From Reader Review Secret Admirer for online ebook

RLA says

The heroine Grace is struggling to cope after her husband's death with both her loneliness and the demands of the business he left her in charge of. This is made worse when she meets with a potential business rival, who turns out to be the man she met a little while back when stuck in a lift in a rather embarrassing situation. The hero Scott hasn't forgotten Grace since the incident in the lift and pursues both her and a business relationship. Grace is nervous and rather intimidated by Scott's ruthless pursuit of her, however he also helps her with her business studies and learning to run the business. As they get to know one another they get closer and closer, but Grace is worried about getting hurt and Scott has secrets behind his ruthlessness.

This is such an amazing book, so daring in it's originality and beautifully crafted by Susan Napier. The characters are really well developed, I liked them both instantly. There is a twist to this story that is a stroke of genius, and even though I already knew about it before reading, when it was revealed even I was shocked by the events! This twist is so unusual (in the romance genre) but wonderfully done by the author, you would never guess it and the reasons behind it are handled really well. I know I'm being cryptic but I don't want to spoil it!

At times the story is fun and light and other it's very emotional and deep, which really makes it a very powerful read. And, considering this book was published in 1992 I think it holds up really well to modern standards.

Recommended.

Originally posted at <http://everyday-is-the-same.blogspot....>

MBR says

With my second book by the author, Susan Napier has landed in my list of favorite Harlequin romance authors. Even with the 2 books that I have read, I have come to identify with the fact that her books have those elements that continually surprises the reader, which is no mean feat when someone like myself who has read and loved 1000's of romances can pick up a novel and be drawn into the story because of the opening chapter itself.

Secret Admirer kick starts with seven month widower Grace Blair being caught in an elevator with the man who turns her orderly and well controlled life around. Grace cannot help but be equal parts horrified and fascinated with the turn of events that takes place in the elevator, nor can she forget the heat that had blazed into life in the stranger's eyes, who continues to haunt and taunt her in vivid dreams of the erotic variety.

When Scott Gregory walks into her life as a potential business partner, Grace cannot believe her eyes nor her luck in meeting the man who keeps popping into her thoughts and dreams at the most inopportune moments. But years of practice and teachings that had been ingrained into her from her childhood itself lets Grace handle the meeting in her usual icy and reserved manner, or so she thinks until she realizes the ease with which Scott invades her life, turning her whole world upside down and making her face the inevitable truth of her changing feelings towards him.

Scott Gregory, hands down, was the best thing about this story. His passion for anything and everything to do with Grace, his utter focus and zeal when seducing Grace and of course the way his senses clamor for Grace's touch and the desire that he so evidently feels for Grace was such a beautiful part of the story. Scott has a few surprises in store for Grace, one that leaves her reeling, with feelings of possessiveness streaking through her very core. The fact that Scott gives her the one thing that he has been holding off from giving to any other woman should have convinced Grace of his much deeper feelings for her, but Grace continually thwarts Scott's efforts until towards the very end which pissed me off for a bit when it came to Grace. But nevertheless, the passion, the chase and the ultimate surrender of Grace proved to make this a titillating read that held my undivided attention all throughout.

Highly recommended!

Rating=4.5/5

Original review published on MBR's Realm of Romance

Quotes included below!

Dinjolina says

Wow!

This is a book about a stalker-y scary dude turning out very sexy.

Feminista says

Rating: 10 out of 5...

:O

Many know that I am not a big fan of the older harlequin romances. I find titles like The Tycoon's Baby Mother or The Millionaire's Mistress a huge turn off, let alone their plot lines which make my feminist ideals sizzle in anger.

This book caught me completely off-guard.

I was casually scrolling through my iPhone's Goodread app where there is an Explore button. Having pressed that, I came upon a list called virgin heroes.

Yes, I know, most of you who know me are probably rolling your eyes right now. But I can honestly tell you that even if that little bit of information was incorrect (and I certainly thought it was, for the better part of the story), I still would have loved this book as much. I mightn't have started reading it if it wasn't on that list, but if I had somehow stumbled upon this book and read the blurb I would have given it a chance. Because even by just reading the blurb, I knew this book was going to be different from the other Harlequin novels.

Surprising right?

Well let's start with the story.

The story starts off with Grace Blair, a recent widow, stumbling into a lift wearing nothing but a fur coat. With her on the lift was a handsome man and his companion. Things happen that ensure that her clothing failure is no longer a secret. This was a first meeting never to be forgotten. But what she doesn't realise, is that she set off a hunt where she will be the eventual prey.

What was surprising was that the heroine was a strong cool-headed intelligent heroine who was also passionate and loving.

What was even more surprising was that the hero was a beautiful mixture of alpha and strong who could also be sweet and loving.

I possibly couldn't write more without ruining the beautiful surprises that this book contains.

This book is a definite re-read for me and I would recommend it to all romance lovers.

boogenhagen says

Re Secret Admirer - Susan Napier does a true unicorn event in HPlania with a stalkery stalkerific H and a nice but not very knowledgeable widowed h who needs some fast lessons in running her dead hubby's company.

This story starts with one of the most interesting H/h meetings in all of HPlania. The h is wearing nothing but full length mink and some white cotton undies with little rosebuds when she rushes into the elevator that contains the H and his Lady Mucky Muck date for the evening.

(She had accepted an offer of a swimsuit modeling shoot and the photographer, whom she knew and trusted, tried a very clumsy pass and took her clothes and locked them in the bathroom. While he was getting drinks, the h grabbed the closest covering she could find-the fur coat- and ran for it.)

The lift gets stuck and Lady Mucky Muck, who is in head to toe designer couture and dripping with diamonds, proceeds to give a loud and long lecture to the h about the horridness of wearing ranch raised fur.

(Now I laughed a bit here at the irony. Here is a woman probably wearing clothes made in some third world sweat shop and dripping in diamonds that were probably sold as blood/conflict diamonds or that some rampaging ancestor looted and she is going on very shrilly and extensively about ranch raised mink fur. I vote for organic hand woven cotton lace HP fashionistas, lovingly gathered by self sustaining farmers and blended with hand raised silk bought in an organized co-op that is true eco-supportive clothing perfect for all HP high society occasions.)

Anyhows, it gets really hot in the lift and the h is feeling a bit woozy but won't release the death grip she has on the fastenings of the coat. The H, who is pretty much a contemptuous sneering mysogynist, gets exasperated and remarks how women can't do anything sensible and tries to take the coat off. He gets a great view of what the h isn't wearing, tho the rosebuds are adorable, and then the lights go out as the H is refastening the coat. The lift starts working when the lights come back on and the mortified h rushes off into the night.

The h is 26 and used to be a model with a domineering show business mother. She married her older husband when he was around 34 and it was a big love match. Her first hubby owns an electronics firm and did not want the h to work, they were in love, they wanted kids and the first hubby was very much about taking care of his little lady h. Then when first hubby hit 40, he died from a heart issue. The h has now been widowed eight months and has gotten thrown into the deep end on salvaging first hubby's firm.

It is good the h has a lot of practice posing, cause the well-dressed haughty bored look works a treat when coupled with non verbal accountant side kick cues when the h has to ward off other business threats to the company from various competitors and corporate raiders. Then news comes that a big corporate raider shark has the h's company in his sights.

The h is trying to learn the basics of business as fast as she can, but she has never been in control of her own finances in her life - first her mother scooped her modeling earnings and first hubby did not want the h to worry her pretty head about things. The h only recently learned to balance her own checkbook, but she is taking evening classes and the helpful company accountant is doing his best to punt her through.

It is very frustrating and hard for the h tho, because her stage mother yanked her out of school early to start earning in a modeling career and some days the h's only sense of hope comes from a weekly mysterious flower delivery from a seekrit admirer.

These aren't romantic rose type deliveries either, they are cheery little poseys like violets and chrysanthemums and little bouquets designed to give weary spirits a lift. The h's secretary wants to discover the source of the weekly blooms of delight, but the h is pretty happy just getting them and feeling the happy bouquet joy, so she isn't too serious about pursuing it.

So the big corporate raider makes an appointment to come see the h, but first he sends a news clipping of the couple that the h got stuck in the lift with in her unfortunate fur coat incident. The h is shocked, because she knows that the misogynist who got an eyeful of rosebuds is also the 29 yr old raider that holds the keys to a necessary component contract required for the h's business.

The accountant warns that this could be a hostile takeover attempt or a test of the h to try her business mettle and maybe get a share of her privately held company. Either way the h needs to be on guard and ready for anything. So enters the H, and he is pretty pushy when he hands the h a tape and claims it is he and her dead husband discussing a partnership project.

The h does her best, but the H is pretty bullying and since he has studied a lot of business psychology, is a recognized ruthless alpha raider and the h is a minnow in the deep ocean, he pretty much walks all over her and her rosebud undies. Technically, the h isn't obligated to the H for anything, the company is private, the shares are all hers and yes, there is a tape discussing a potential partnership project, but ultimately the h doesn't have to follow through on a discussion.

However this H is relentless in his business goals and relentless in his pursuit of the h. He hounds her all around, showing up as a guest lecturer at her night class, threatening to reveal the lift incident unless she dines with him and lets him tutor her and then moving next door after he buys her older apartment building-- which was kinda strange as he has a very nice pricey estate of his own.

He forces his way into her home and her life and then after a really weird pelvic grinding session when he has the h backed against the wall and she torn between terror and lust, he changes tactics and tries to woo her. He also freaks out and has a major fit when the h tells him about her seekrit admirer flowers and it

doesn't take a whole lot brain power to see that the H's overreaction about stalkers and obsession is really him revealing his feelings about the h - hence the wall almost banging experience.

As this is a romance in HPlania, we can take SN's word for it that this guy isn't a serial killer with ritualistic stalking behavior, and the h eventually succumbs to the H's home cooked food and business tutorials interspersed with a lot of personal charm. Tho the h has some uneasy moments with the way the H goes around just arranging things for her, maneuvering and manipulating her and always seeming to link them together publicly.

Then the H drops the bombshell that all his business goals are directed at one thing, revenge on his now deceased father. When the H's mother refused to be manipulated by the H's electronic magnate father or marry him when he deliberately got her preggers, the sewer slurper became enraged that a mere woman was denying him his legacy. He walked out of the H's mother's life and refused to pay any kind of support unless the H's mother bowed to his dictates.

The mother refused and brought up the H herself, until she couldn't afford a lifesaving operation and asked the H's father for help and he refused and let the H's mother die. He tried taking over the H, but the H has keen sense of revenge and changed his name back to his mum's and walked out. Now the H makes all his moves based on the fact that he wants to topple his father's empire that was left in the care of the man's wife and more recently he has a side focus of obsessing about the h.

The h reveals that her own mother was an unwed single parent too. She wasn't able to become a model as she wished, so when the h turned into such a beauty, the h's mother commandeered her into a full fledged career and then berated and taunted the h when she met her hubby and fled that life. The h's mother was incredibly bitter about men and even more bitter that her own legacy via the h was being denied and she could not longer vicariously live the life she always wanted.

The h isn't bitter about things tho, she has the great good sense to understand that people just do things and really the only thing you can do is either react or move on. The h is great at moving on and yet she misses the normal things she never got to have.

The h also warns the H that revenge is a double edged sword and that the H should proceed in his grand plan o'vengance with extreme caution. After all look at what happened to Oedipus, who was destroyed and blinded and exiled by his own unwitting hand when he struck out in fury and killed his father.

The h is also concerned that the H is putting major mojo moves on her, she wants a child desperately, had longed for one for her entire marriage and it was big disappointment to herself and her first hubby that she couldn't seem to get preggers. (The she knew her first hubby felt really badly that he couldn't seem to get her up the duff, so she spent a large part of her marriage hiding her deep sadness over the lack.)

The H even offers himself up as a stud, if the h wants a baby so badly. The h is attracted to the H and reconsidering what she really wants out of life, but the H's continual manipulations - to the point where he is sneakily trying to control what she drinks at social occasions is really starting to grate.

The h is tired of people manipulating and trying to control her, so she takes matters into her own hands and pretends to get royally intoxicated at a business dinner with the H. The h makes smart snarky comments to the women who continually approach her about the H and his unattainable heart and fortune and then does a full blown femme fatale act on the H that spectacularly misfires. The H drags her out of the dinner and takes her to his scarcely furnished palatial home and then chase her around like a deranged stalker in the dark.

It all ends in a big purple passion lurve mojo force moment and the h is ravished almost as much as the H is. Then the next morning the H casually drops the bombshell explosion that the h was his very first lurve club experience ever and the h is completely stunned - tho honestly she wasn't very far off unicorn petting status herself and now she just ran into a real one.

(As an aside, this H is NOT the first virginal H in HPlania - that honor belongs to the H in Daphne Clair's *Take Hold of Tomorrow* - which this book strongly resembles in many ways outside the stalkerific H - and the second honor goes to *Waking Up* by Amanda Carpenter. But this H is pretty much the most notorious heart breaker Alpha Male H in HPlania who never got a mojo moment until he met the h. Definitely a unicorn in camouflage.)

So the h doesn't really believe she was the H's very first, but she likes him and loves the passion and feels alive after some considerable grief, so she is fine with a bonnet over the windmill fling. Then we meet the H's dead father's wife - who is clubbing with a 16 year old boy and the H reveals that his father's wife is a teen boy predator and a pedophile.

She tried it on with the H at fifteen and his father walked in and the disgusting slag lied and said the H was trying to rape her pregger self and later she miscarried. The H's father beat him and then sent him to wealthy student version of reform school. The H stuck it out like purgatory, focused on getting revenge and shunned all forms of physical contact. The women he met reminded him of his father's wife and he despised them - tho he took a lot of them out until he met the h.

The h is horrified and does her best to reassure him and put the blame firmly where it belongs. However when the H confesses that he loves her, the h panics. She thinks it is just because she is his first lover and she is caught between not wanting to ruin his first physical affair but also not really wanting to be in a committed relationship again either.

For the first time in her life, the h has some independence and she likes it. However she is also aware that the H is sorta vulnerable and she can't in good conscience use his confessions or his fragile new awakening against him and the H pushes hard for the h to commit to him.

Things take a serious nose dive when the h believes that the H was the one sending her the weekly flowers and the H doesn't deny it. The h is softening her stance on commitment to the H when the company accountant tells her that it was actually a secret codicil to the h's dead hubby's will that the h get a weekly delivery of flowers, to help find some cheering moments in the aftermath of grief.

The h is furious and goes to the H's apartment to wait for him for a big confrontation. The H gets home a little tipsy from his male club dinner and the h explodes. Then the H has big ranty moment back and calls the h's first hubby's flower delivering a creepy way to control her from the grave when he left her near penniless and that the h's first relationship was nothing more than an older man's obsession and that it was all designed to keep the h permanently on ice. So the H knew about the will codicil and used it to win over the h and now he wants it all.

The h agrees to give him her company and move in with him. She believes him about the dead hubby bit and after some back and forth at the company share sign over, the H tells the h that they will split everything fifty/fifty from now on, he and the h will marry and have that baby as he figures living well is the best revenge. The h is overwhelmed and tries to explain that she only wants him, but the H is all share and share alike partners forever as he whiskers her off to the company's private lift to reenact their first meeting for the big HEA.

This is a well written book with a ton of drama. But this H kinda freaked me out a bit and the whole abuse thing, while incredibly sad and horrible, only served to convince me that had this not been HPlania, we would be looking at an h in a well and passing notes up in a bucket.

I also did not like the H's take on the flower delivery from the first husband. I thought the H was the obsessed one, he certainly tends to run that way and that whole H melt down ranty moment after the h confronts him was the H describing himself.

If the flowers had been the romantic bouquet that lovers send, I would have rethought that, but really the types of flowers are just exactly what a caring friend would send to perk up someone's day when they are going through a rough time. Since the h had no idea who was responsible, it certainly did not seem like some older man's obsession, more an act of kindness from a man who really loved his wife, knew her likes well and wanted to see her happy even in her solitude.

Yes, the first hubby did leave her in a financial mess, but it was made clear that the first hubby's death was very unexpected and that he had been actively working to resolve the situation. It was actually the H who really needed the h's company for his plans to topple his father's empire and so his motives are much more suspect and since he manipulates the h for his own ends anyways, he certainly did not lose by winning his key revenge tool without having to do much for it.

Overall this book gets really high marks and it is on the HP required reading list. I have many reservations about it, mostly with the manner and the motivations of the H, but it is a very engrossing read and I recommend it for a most unusual HPlania outing.

Vintage says

I am beginning to have a great fondness for Susan Napier.

Despite the old school me-man, you-woman interaction, she created a nice surprise with this story. Well worth a few hours of time.

Old reviewers, please go back and put spoiler alerts in.

***MariaA* says**

Wow!! This book was written back in 1992 and I guess our current popular writers have gotten their inspiration for stalker-ish, domineering heroes from these oldies!!

But this dude is great..really adored, loved Scott here AND there's a surprise as well!!

I'll definitely be checking out other of Susan Napier's works!

"Now there's no way you can back out. If you ever try to leave me we'll be tied up in the courts together for decades, trying to sort out the legal tangle. Come on. We have places to go, things to do."

bookjunkie says

[namely, the Hero being a virgin and the heroine not (hide spoiler)]

Aoi says

Where has this book been all this time!!?

I was a bit leery reading something from so far back, given the trend of cloyingly dominating men and rape-y romances, but this is as far from the convention as you get.

Our heroine, Grace boards an elevator in a fur coat and nothing else underneath it. Unfortunately, the lift breaks down and it gets warm and suffocating.. Just as she's feeling a bit faint, a handsome stranger tries to help her out...

The hero was pretty much the typical-90s alpha and dominant type; but he knew to respect Grace's intelligence and opinions. I really really want to list the squee-points of this, but there are TONS of pleasant surprises in store.

Definitely recommended to everyone.

Megzy says

It was very easy to guess who the actual secret admirer was right from the start.

The characters were not flawless but that's what I liked about this book. I didn't read the reviews before hand, a very good thing, so I was surprised by something in the plot and was able to enjoy the book the way it was meant to be. I wanted to kill the step mother.

EeeJay says

Full review at: Secret Admirer (Paperback)
by Susan Napier

Chitra *CJ* says

"Secret Admirer" is the story of Grace and Scott.

The story begins in an elevator. The heroine is dressed in a mink coat, trapped in the elevator with a stranger

and his date. When it malfunctions, they are stuck for a while. Consequently, the heroine gets dizzy, only for the hero to unwillingly strip her and witness her birthday suit..

Months later, we are reintroduced to the heroine who has been a grieving widow, trying to keep her husband's sinking company afloat with the help of his partner. Things change when his old business associate shows up, and it is none other than the stranger!

Hence begins a extremely passionate but slow burn romance- with a relentlessly persuasive and determined hero, a cautious heroine, steaming kisses and beautiful lovemaking. There is some stalker drama and an extremely tragic past (view spoiler)both of which are handled by the author with sensitivity.

'But of course I was forgetting that caring for you is taboo. I'm permitted to do everything except love you-that would be indecent. I get to bed you, entertain you, feed you, advise you, send you a few token flowers-----'

It was refreshing to see the heroine acting like a dick to a lovestruck hero for once.

'You've been a part of my life for months, even though I didn't realise it. You've waited for me that long. And you didn't pressure me, not when you knew I wasn't ready for it, you just gave without expecting anything in return...and then I-I was such a bitch to you...'

And I love me a good grovel!

There is some "revelation" drama towards the end, but it cannot be a HQN romance with the hero or heroine acting like an a\$\$. I feel the last three chapters kind of soured the otherwise perfect book for me, and the shrew should have been tamed faster.

That being said, I adored how he cared for her feelings and gave her time, pampered, trained and protected her, and even though this book has one of my biggest pet peeves (view spoiler), it is SO well done that I didn't mind it.

'This is a beginning for us, Grace, not an end. You can't stop this happening any more than you can stop the sun shining or the rain falling. This is our time. You love me, Grace, I can feel it in every breath and sigh and bitter word...'

Loved it.

Safe

4.5/5

Dianna says

Review Secret Admirer by Susan Napier

Ex-model and recent widow Grace gets stuck in a lift with Scott and Scott's old lady date. Grace is wearing a long mink coat and Scott's lady is making comments about fur and Grace wishes that she would just shut up. She's really feeling very warm wrapped in the coat, and it's not hers, and she doesn't care about animal skins at the moment, she's got bigger problems.

And Scott's about to find out what one of those bigger problems is. He gets insistent that Grace take the coat

off before she falls over with heat exhaustion ... and then discovers that she's not wearing much underneath. Rosebud panties. She's wearing rosebud panties. He's hooked.

Really embarrassed, Grace manages to get away, but a few months later she gets advanced warning that Scott's found her. See, Grace has already been through one Mills & Boon, just not a published one. She was a model and at 18 she married a rich older man. He died from a heart attack at 40. I'm always surprised that this doesn't happen more often in the romance world, given the age gaps and the stressful lives the men have been living. I'm sure keeping it up for such a young thing also contributes some strain... Ok, I'm not surprised, because obviously everyone is happy and lovely after the end of their books and live into their eighties and have a thousand grandchildren. But I do occasionally think: just wait ten years, missy, and you could be doing all this falling in love stuff again. It's mean, but I can't help it.

Grace has been left struggling to hold her husband's company together, while corporate sharks like Scott circle and snap at her business.

Grace has perfected the art of smizing. Smizing is a modelling technique that means looking smart and smiling and then getting signals from your accountant so that you don't say anything dumb in meetings. If you have a different definition of what smizing is, that's okay, but this is the New Zealand version.

Scott is a young businessman, he's not even thirty yet. What is it with these young New Zealand heroes? He's got some evidence that he was working with Grace's husband, so Grace is going to have to work with him. And, Grace is going to work intimately with him, because he's also signing up to be her business mentor.

I thought Grace was awesome. She was strong, and was making a go at managing a business, and committing to learn what she needed to know to be successful. She was clearly used to hard work, and she was smart. She was obviously beautiful and pampered and a little spoiled. There's a scene when she comes home a little frazzled because her car broke down on the highway and she had to wait ages for someone to come along and fix it for her, and when he did, the car had the unmitigated gall not to be broken. It's a small scene, but Grace had this unconscious thing where she expected people to do things for her, and I liked that because she was confident and a bitch and she owned it without being made to suffer for it.

Scott falls hard, and he's lovely in being strong, and while he'll take care of her, they had this perfect relationship set up where they would challenge each other and but heads because they would not take any crap.

This was a reread for me. And from a long time ago, because I read a lot of Susan Napier in my teens, and Robyn Donald and Daphne Clair. I could never really get into Australian settings, but I loved New Zealand. The only thing this was missing was the heroine retreating to a bach to hide out and being caught in a terrible storm. There was, however, plenty of other entertaining stuff.

I knew this book from the naked under the mink scene, and I had an interesting time, because I remembered one pivotal plot point very well, but not the other. And without giving it away (there are other spoiler reviews), it's not the more obvious one, but it's the one that has the most emotional resonance. I really look this book, and still think Susan Napier writes some wonderfully strong characters.

Jill says

Though some of my friends have loved this with a 5-star love, I didn't quite get the same love-vibe. I can see and understand *why* this story affected them. There was a lovely and unexpected twist, which I enjoyed. (For those considering reading this book, ***don't*** read the reviews first as some give away this surprise. Grrr!)

This Harley was written twenty-one years ago and though it mostly holds up pretty well, it still feels dated. The twist was really what made this for me. At first I felt it just a little unbelievable. But. The explanation was really well done and quite convincing.

So, overall a good read. I think regular readers of Harleys may appreciate this more than I did. Worth reading if you can get your hands on this book though.

Steam: 2.5

**Thanks for the recommendation, Nab!*

Kay says

After her husband dies suddenly from a heart attack, Grace Blair finds herself struggling to make ends meet and to keep Blair Components afloat. So she turns to her first career, modeling. When her session with the photographer becomes uncomfortable, she finds herself clad only in panties and a full-length fur coat, and sharing an elevator with a snooty woman and an incredibly attractive man. To her mortification the elevator stops and the heat in the tiny space increases. As the others take off their coats, Grace hides further inside her own. Scott Gregory is 29 and very close to achieving all his goals. He's built up Scott Electronics from nothing and has earned a reputation for being ruthless and admired for his genius with business. The woman in the fur coat had to be ready to faint from the stifling heat. In his attempt to relieve her of her coat, he never in his wildest dreams imagined that she was almost naked. Months later, Grace must face a business acquaintance of her husband and deal with promises that had been made. Much to Grace's dismay, the business acquaintance is none other than her elevator companion. It seems that Scott has much more than the business of electronics on his mind. Ever since the elevator, he's been dreaming of Grace, and the achingly erotic dreams have awakened a desire so strong he can't resist.

I learnt of this book from a discussion on the i (heart) presents site about the virgin heroine. This book has a wonderful twist to that theme. Grace's training since childhood as a model, have helped her remain composed and give the impression that she has some business sense. Inside, she's a bundle of nerves and insecurities. Scott is a business genius, and has single-mindedly been driven to succeed. To all appearances he's the charismatic playboy who callously discards his women, which is so very far from the truth! Great twist! Awesome book! Ms. Napier holds no bars in writing scenes that are edgier and creating intense emotion in her characters. I loved how Scott and Grace complemented each other. And how Ms. Napier made Scott's unique situation so believable. Bravo!
