



## Secret Agent Secretary

*Melissa Cutler*

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Tops on Avery Meadows's bucket list is assisting in the capture of an international criminal mastermind...from the safety of her desk as an ICE Agency secretary. But when fate catapults her into the arms of sexy, brooding Ryan Reitano — an undercover ICE agent with dangerous secrets and a past he's desperate to hide — Avery's dream of saving the world takes on a whole new twist...

## **Secret Agent Secretary Details**

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## **From Reader Review Secret Agent Secretary for online ebook**

### **Kimberly Rocha~ Book Obsessed Chicks says**

ICE secretary, Avery Meadows is obsessed with all things in the cloak and dagger world of spying. The daughter of pacifists dreams of spy gadgets and guns even having cats named Aston and Martin after James Bond's famous choice of cars. She dreams of taking part in helping solve an international crime and bring down the bad guy, but while her role as a secretary for ICE brings her the knowledge of some of those crimes, it doesn't get her into the action. That is until she answers the phone late on New Year's Eve.

There is much more than meets the eye to Agent Ryan Reitano. His obsession with bringing crime lord, Enzo Chiara down is the one thing that has kept him going. After placing a phone call to ICE headquarters and asking secretary, Avery a favor, he is confused to find the beauty at the center of the action. Could Avery be a spy? Or is she just in the wrong place at the wrong time? Correction... Is Avery Meadows in the right place at the right time for Ryan Reitano?

Once the lines are drawn, Ryan realizes that he needs to protect Avery with all he has. The secretary with the photographic memory and the spunk to face any danger thrust in her direction has Agent Reitano in awe, but will that be all that is necessary to save them both from Chiara and the double-agent vying to bring the good guys down? Ryan's budding attraction for the sexy contradiction named Avery will either fizzle or ignite and Ryan isn't sure which way he should go. So much is at stake when Chiara gets too close for comfort and Ryan decides that he's rather die than let him get his evil hands on anyone in his family or the sparkling Avery.

**SECRET AGENT SECRETARY** by Melissa Cutler is the fabulous follow-up to **TEMPTED INTO DANGER**. The action begins on page one and continues to the very end of this high charged tale of espionage. The attraction between the hero and heroine sizzles from the get-go and the waiting for that climactic moment is part of the excitement. Melissa Cutler has another winner.

~KIMBERLY~

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### **Ramblings From A Chaotic Mind says**

Secret Agent Secretary is Melissa Cutler's second book in her ICE: Black Ops Defender series and also the second book I've read from her as well. When I looked back at my review of book one to refresh myself I noticed a sticking point with me was the lack of romance in it. While I don't think that has really necessarily changed, the constant action, flirting and slow warm up to the eventual sex at the end of the book made this a page turner. In fact I read this over the course of two sittings only because my family wouldn't leave me alone. This could have easily been a one sitting read had I had the opportunity to do so.

Avery has been working at the ICE, San Deigo office as a secretary for a few years and she's damn good at her job. Though this is certainly not what she dreams of doing, she's content enough to stay on the fringes of the action instead of getting into the mix. When the elusive Agent Reitano calls her on New Years Eve to email him a highly classified file and keep quiet about it, she's curious as to why but her instincts tell her to

help him. Unfortunately his computer isn't working and the paper file is missing so the only way to get him the information is by telling him about her photographic memory and recite him the information. When she arrives at the hotel he's supposedly doing surveillance at she unwillingly gets thrown into a action packed battle for her life as bad guys emerge from every dark corner to take them down.

Agent Ryan Reitano has much more at stake in his search for the sole remaining brother of a criminal empire. Nothing he can share with the curvy, surprisingly agile, secretary who may be a double agent but as they run through the streets of San Deigo he begrudgingly admits she has some skills he didn't see coming. When it becomes clear she's not behind the leak of information in the office she becomes an integral part in helping Ryan turn the tables on everyone involved.

There is so much action in this I basically sped through the book at break neck speed. It moved the plot along really well and gave Avery multiple opportunities to shine as she worked side by side with Ryan. The peppered in comedy was a breath of fresh air and it definitely gave the characters a more human quality and kept me chuckling throughout. Avery loves gadgets and to actually see them in the hands of a hot secret agent has her melting all over herself. I loved how Ryan never exactly smiled at Avery's retorts but his lips twitched an awful lot and his emotions shone clear in his eyes.

The constant flirting made the lack of sex in this one acceptable to me. Though Avery and Ryan don't actually get together until very, VERY, late in the book, the gun fondling, body fondling and back and forth banter gave this book a very sexy feel...without the actual....uhhh....penetration. The few alpha personality moments Ryan had made me swooning with glee.

I will be looking forward to the next book in this series! Cutler is definitely on my radar now and I have a feeling she has some staying power. The action combined with heat make Secret Agent Secretary a book I can wholeheartedly recommend!

I give Secret Agent Secretary by Melissa Cutler 4.25 stars!

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### **Amelia says**

If adventure is what you crave in a story and also want lots of sexual tension, then the ICE: Black Ops Defenders miniseries by the very talented Melissa Cutler will satisfy both requirements. The first book in the miniseries remains one of my all-time favorites, and SECRET AGENT SECRETARY is definitely added to the list. From high-speed car chases to ruthless thugs with guns, the danger is never-ending plus almost always physically threatening and not knowing the outcome always upped my fear for the main couple. What split-second decisions these two frequently made could mean either living or dying, and I so hoped they would make the right choice as I truly loved Ryan and Avery. Melissa Cutler ingeniously brings a suspenseful book about spies and romance to life with riveting cleverness.

Since Avery Meadows works as a secretary for Immigration and Customs Enforcement in San Diego, she has reached one of her goals. Although she is not out in the field, working at the ICE office does let her assist national security. A current case involves an international criminal, and she would love to actively aid in catching him yet knows that possibility is near zero. Before leaving the office late on New Year's Eve, she receives a phone call from their newest agent, Ryan Reitano. To get the requested information to him, she must go to the location where he is undercover.

When Ryan sees Avery, he cannot help but wonder if she is the person who compromised his mission to find Chiara. Before he can even question her, they are shot at and have to flee. Avery never thought her quest to experience the adventuresome side of ICE would ever come true. Now she is right in the middle of gun battles and is running for her life with a very tempting man. Ryan is completely stunned as to how competent Avery turns out to be, whether confronting hit men or just using her quick mind. He is very determined to stop Chiara from ever hurting anyone else, but it looks like he will have extra help in the form of one very knowledgeable secretary.

The scenes featuring the unique heroine in **SECRET AGENT SECRETARY** are constantly entertaining because of her independent way of thinking. Avery is also exceptionally intelligent, and watching her shrewdly implement any plan was often very impressive. I certainly could never have come up with many of her ideas, and the way in which she carried out a number of them had me cheering her on. She is not someone who just stands back and watches, but repeatedly jumps into the situation and does anything to turn the circumstances in the favor of the good guys. Her responses to genuine weapons caused me to smile, and all her real life links to spies is really fascinating.

From the instant Avery and Ryan team up, the story becomes doubly enthralling. Though he is more reserved as he keeps many secrets from her at first, he is certainly intriguing and his inner thoughts let the reader know many of his true intentions. One of his motivations is kept hidden for much of the book, and its disclosure is absolutely unforeseen and made things very dicey near the end. Although plenty of risky incidents keep cropping up, there are still times when sharp-witted comments are made and cause the moment to be a little more lighthearted. Melissa Cutler has a knack for creating cunning retorts, and I chuckled loudly over what either Ryan or Avery said on several occasions. While they may have been on the run for most of the book, they did find time to explore the sexual attraction between them and the encounter is sensually intense. A few characters from the first book make an appearance, and they are just as likable once again. There is another upcoming book in the ICE: Black Ops Defenders miniseries and I am so thankful. **SECRET AGENT SECRETARY** has perilous danger, unanticipated intrigue, fervent passion and amusing humor.

CataRomance Review

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### **Saly says**

I really like the way this author writes and in the second book of this series which is of course Ryan's the action never stops and the heroine Avery is awesome, smart, funny, resourceful, kick-ass, there aren't enough adjectives to describe her, her cats, her car, hell even her dresses are killer..literally!

In the last book Ryan's team disbanded because of betrayal but Ryan is still on the hunt for the remaining Chiara brother as it has been his mission for the past decade and he is now working undercover in the ICE office where Avery is the secretary. Avery secretly digs everything related to spies, be it gadgets or more and when Ryan asks her for a file and she can't find it, she decides to use her photographic memory and visit Ryan at the hotel he is running surveillance at. However, things explode there, Ryan was setup and he thinks for a few seconds that Avery might be the mole he is searching for at ICE but soon comes to realize that isn't the case.

He thinks he has lost his man-card because for the past six months he didn't notice Avery. Then danger comes calling and Avery is kick-ass,making good use of a paper-clip and her stilettos and later even pepper

spray. I loved, loved her obsession with James Bond and her penchant for calling stuff gadgets and the way she caresses Ryan's gun was wooh!!

Avery was raised by pacifist parents so she has been suppressing what she wants but her small adventure makes her realise she is meant for bigger things. The characters had great chemistry and one of the things one finds in suspense books is that characters get physical at very critical moments that makes you go huh! However this doesn't happen in this book and the things happen between these two at the very end, though deeper feelings develop much earlier. All in all I didn't want the book to end and wanted an epilogue.

Alice's book is next!

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### **Kim Reads (Read Your Writes Book Reviews) says**

Reviewed by Kim  
for Read Your Writes Book Reviews

Secret Agent Secretary is a standalone book. However, it does contain small spoilers from the first book, Tempted Into Danger.

Agent Ryan Reitano is back in Melissa Cutler's latest ICE: Black Ops Defenders book, Secret Agent Secretary. This time, Ryan is solo and working in the San Diego office of ICE, trying to figure out who the mole in ICE is. He's also still trying to catch his archenemy, Vincenzo Chiara.

Avery Meadows has been an ICE Secretary for the last six years. Avery is a MAJOR spy movie/book fan. I'm talking she has a crazy obsession. In fact, she took the job at ICE to help live out some of her bucket list fantasies. However, this occupation is one she keeps from her pacifist family.

For the past six months, Avery has been admiring Ryan from afar. This New Year's Eve, things are going to change. Trying to help Ryan out, Avery stumbles into an ambush where Ryan is the target. With shots being fired and bad guys dropping dead, Avery rises to the challenge to be the partner Ryan needs, in more ways than one.

While I LOVE this book, it does have a different feel from the first book in the series. This is a romantic suspense, but it's more heart and suspense than steamy romance. In fact, you don't get to the steamy romance part until about 90% into the book. When I say "heart" I don't mean romance or "heart" as in willing to die for your mission or objective. But "heart" in that Ryan has a secret, which he has been hiding for the past ten years. A secret that could get him, his family and now Avery all killed. When it comes down to it, Ryan will do whatever is necessary to keep those he loves safe, even if it means going against orders, facing life in prison, or even death.

In addition to Ryan's secret, there's a little nice surprise to the book that I didn't initially see coming. Secret Agent Secretary will take you on an intense journey through San Diego with some laughable yet thrilling moments. You'll fall in love with a hero and heroine who will do anything for each other. You'll see the lengths others will go to in order to do what they perceive is for the greater good.

Source: Author

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## **Christi Snow says**

### **My Review:**

There was one thing about this book that made this book an absolute winner to me...Avery, the heroine. OMG, she is such an awesome and likable character. She's normal...a girl with a bucket list full of secret fantasies. See, Avery's kink is secret agents. When she went to work as a secretary at ICE, it was her attempt to satisfy just a snippet of those fantasies. But you know....she's a secretary. There's not too much that's very exciting or adventurous about that until Agent Ryan calls for help on New Year's Eve...and suddenly Avery is living her fantasies and is surprisingly adept at this whole secret agent thing.

The entire book takes place over New Year's Eve and New Year's Day, but whoa those two days are FULL of sexy adventure and action. It never lets up and kept the pace of this book to where I couldn't stop reading. But even with all the adrenaline fueled action, the book is totally fun. Avery is smart and creative and is so different from anything Ryan ever imagined. I loved how much she surprised him and how much he admires her audacity and spunk. She's a natural at this secret agent thing and infuses him with a much-needed breath of fresh air. He's been living this high stress life for so long, he's feeling a bit drained and just tired of it all. She helps to excite him about what they are doing.

It really was just a great book. I was completely shocked when the secret was revealed about exactly why Ryan is so determined to nail this bad guy. I NEVER saw that coming and it was a great twist. I loved how excited Avery got about the guns and the gadgets...seriously, this is this girl's kink and it was so fun to watch her reactions. One of the best things was Ryan began to introduce her to things knowing it was going to get her engine revved....awesome and sexy fun. For someone who grew up, like Avery, with James Bond and Bourne, I loved this book and her enthusiasm for all things spy-centric.

A GREAT read. I highly recommend!!

I received this book as a gift from the author.

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## **GraceMyBookSnack says**

### **Feel the RUSH!!!**

I love reading romantic suspense. I love the feel of being on the edge as the plot moves at a quick pace. I love the build-up of the romance and tension and wondering if the couple will survive in the next moment. I love how the description of a deadly weapon can be so sensual. Secret Agent Secretary made me feel all this and more!

Avery Meadows feels so fortunate to have her job as a secretary for the ICE Agency. She has a huge fondness for anything related to secret agents, spying, and gadgets. Her job is likely the closest thing to getting things checked off her bucket list even if she doesn't really see any action as an office secretary. At least she can admire her office crush, Agent Ryan Reitano, from afar...le sigh! Then one evening Ryan asks for her help. Oh, boy, what happens next turns into one of the BEST thrill rides I've ever been on. What an adrenaline rush!!!

I was first introduced to Ryan in the previous book, Tempted into Danger. In that book you meet all the members of his Black Ops team. Now, Secret Agent Secretary has details on what became of that team, so if you don't want to know, then I suggest reading that book first. The previous book also made me quite interested in Ryan's character. He's very much into taking down international criminal Vincenzo Chiara and in this book you'll find out why. With Avery by his side, his lifelong quest to getting this particular bad guy could very well happen.

***“Number one rule of being a secret agent—there’s a time to kick butt and a time to stay cool. Recognizing which is which can mean the difference between life and death—or worse.”***

I absolutely adored Ryan and Avery! I loved how Avery kept surprising Ryan at every turn. She sure is not any ordinary secretary. I love the kind of heroine that can hold her own, and Avery sure does kick some major butt! There's a scene with paper clips, and...well...let me tell you that I will now be carrying paper clips in my purse in case I need them in that way. And don't get me started on what she named her car. Yep, I'm sort of a fan of Avery, LOL! Ahh, but then there's Ryan, and when you finally learn all his secrets, your heart will just widen for him, too! I loved how these two challenged each other. Then there's this scene with a weapon that was off-the-charts sensual. Oh, my! Can you tell that I freakin' LOVED this book? I can go on and on, but I won't. You'll have to discover how awesome this book and this series is for yourself.

Secret Agent Secretary has everything for romantic suspense fans. It has secrets, car chases, really bad guys, guns, gadgets, double-crossing, and a likeable hero and heroine. There's plenty of action and danger. The story takes place over only a few days, so the plot is very fast-moving. There are lovely twists and turns including a huge my-eyes-totally-bugged-out moment that I didn't see coming!

I enjoy Melissa Cutler's writing very much. I thought it was so clever of her to incorporate the names of well-known fictional secret agents in the story. She sure knows how to draw out the tension between two people while creating a story that finds the right balance of emotion, suspense, intrigue and romance. I really did not want this story to end. I felt like I was part of the adventure the entire time! I'm already bouncing in my seat for the next book!

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

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### **Poison Rose says**

ICE Secretary Avery Meadows has had her eyes on the office's newest agent....Ryan Reitano, but every time she tries to talk to him she seems to run into closed ended responses or none at all. She tries not to let it get to her, but she has to wonder why he's so closed off from her. That all changes on NYE (New Years Eve) when she's STILL in the ICE office late, as in after 9:00pm late. She's trying to get into her slinky HOT PINK dress, which cost her a mint, but can't quite get the zipper up! Leave it to resourceful Avery to make a paperclip chain hooked up to the zipper to save the night! A sudden call to her office phone direct from HIS cell phone changes EVERYTHING for her!

After receiving the call, she has to wonder why him, and why from his personal cell phone, not his agent phone? He wants a very classified file E-mailed to him right away. Well after that things only get more complicated for Avery. Nothing is going right, Agent Reitano's computer is on the fritz, the paper file is completely MIA and to top it off...she KNOWS exactly what's in the file he needs. How to get him the information he seeks??? Oh, why not hand delivery it to him at his location – a simple surveillance mission

at a nearby hotel.

When Ryan is on his “surveillance mission” things start to go wrong starting with the arrival of the goons at his hideout, then the arrival of a sexy blonde in a hot pink dress, but wait that can’t be the demure, and reserved ICE secretary...but it certainly is. Why is she there? Is she the double agent in the ICE office, or clueless about what’s going on?? He approaches her and drags her away from her drink and the festivities only to have shots fired right at them! The hired goons are on their tail. Trouble only seems to be after them, but when Ryan gets into trouble, Avery has a new side to her Ryan never knew about that gets him out of trouble, but gets Avery all mixed up in his affairs and his investigation. Not to mention that if the goons boss identifies her and start to go after her, she’d be as good as dead. Ryan takes it upon himself to safeguard her and get her away from trouble.

Avery is much sharper than Ryan ever knew, even from his transfer to the ICE office and some intel about his previous ICE mission what wasn’t even explicitly detailed in the case file. Some of his answers don’t add up for her, and when she finally gets here chance to grill him, she has to wonder what’s really going on? When things take on even a more dangerous spin, she has to start making decisions she knows may cost her everything. But without Ryan she’d never have realized that she’s not fulfilling her bucket list or her desires. The rest only balloons from here. She finds herself running from the goons in her prized possession a black Porsche 911 Carrera!

Yummy Car!

When her baby takes a beating, but still keeps going she turns into a Dannika Patrick of ICE and drives like a pro, saving her and Ryan from trouble again! Ryan starts to see the many delicate layers to Avery and why she’s shied away from love after being hurt. But they’re not out of trouble yet! It seems to follow them everywhere they go, even when it drags Ryan’s family into danger, and into hiding it doesn’t escape. It leaves Ryan with no choice but to call in his old ICE team – Diego and Alicia to help take his family and Avery to safety so he can complete HIS life mission.

Will he send her away because he cares for her, and knows he can’t be the man she needs, even when their chemistry is screaming at them to be together? Can Ryan get Avery to go with Diego and Alicia, and will he go against his commanders orders to complete his mission? Or does she have enough to trust her to help him fulfill his mission and get them together? To find out you’ll have to read the book!

I love Melissa’s writing style. With this being a romantic suspense series you know the pressure builds for the first 4/5ths of the book before it goes...BOOM! and everything comes full turn. She doesn’t disappoint in the second story of her series and I found I fell in love with Avery and Ryan more than I did with Diego and Vanessa! Avery is such a strong heroine, but didn’t know she was missing out on what makes her career fulfilling until it involved her. When she has to be brave, she doesn’t hesitate to use her resources and help out any way she can. And with Ryan she’s seeing what the life of an ICE agent is all about. Ryan is a strong and focused hero, he’s lived his life surrounded by nothing but work to keep him going. It wasn’t until Avery shot holes in his plans, and shattered his defenses around his heart, that he sees what’s right in front of him, and Avery is exactly what he needed to have the fun put back into his work and his personal life. Throw them together, or in this case force them into close encounters and everything around them erupts, in sparks and explosions...both the good and bad kind, but working together is like adding fuel to the fire and you get bigger, better and HOTTER explosions of epic proportions! Phew!

This was a perfect story to start off 2014 with, but if you haven’t read Book 1, Tempted Into Danger, I suggest either reading that first or read my review so you know the backstory about Ryan’s previous mission

with Diego and their team as the main plot involves the bad guys from this book.

A solid 5 stars to Melissa on this story!

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### **Cherise says**

Avery works for ICE, a group of super agents, as a secretary. But as she types up notes and answers phones, she dreams of becoming the next secret agent. Ryan is closer than he has ever been to his enemy, but he is convinced someone inside of ICE is tipping off the bad guys. When all hell breaks loose, Avery is the last person he expects to rescue him, but suddenly it's like he is seeing the secretary for the first time.

This book made me giggle. Avery is so into the gadgets and spy life, it's like she has a whole other life in her head. She's like Walter Mitty! I like how amused Ryan was with her antics – it was like he was constantly smirking and grinning whenever she opened her mouth. From the names of her cats to the name of her car, she has immersed herself in the spy life... from a distance. She gets the crash course on New Year's Eve. From day dreaming to reality, boom!

While this is book 2 in a series, it could easily be read as a standalone and you wouldn't feel lost. Though the previous book's characters are mentioned and some even appear, the author does a great job of catching the readers up so a newbie reader would feel right in step with us veterans. This book had just the right mix of action, mystery, romance, heat and humor. I loved Ryan and Avery and wouldn't have complained a bit had Ms. Cutler added 100 or so more pages... their chemistry was intoxicating. So far this has been a fun series. The stories are fast paced and hard to put down and with less than 300 pages, hard not to devour in one sitting.

Cherise Everhard, December 2013

Book provided by the author in exchange for an honest review

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### **Paula Legate says**

I loved this book. It was one of the Best books that I have had the opportunity to read, in awhile. The action, suspense and plot was Awesome. The characters Avery, and Ryan were really great too. Avery was the best heroine ever. She was funny, and smart. Avery was a secretary for ICE. She loved anything spy. I loved Avery's bucket list. It was New Year's eve, and Avery vowed to start crossing things off her bucket list. When Ryan called the office, Avery saw her chance to start living out a few of her fantasies. She jumped into action, and Helped Ryan fight against a international criminal mastermind. Avery was in stilettos, and wearing her new years Eve pink dress. Who said a girl can't kick some butt while wearing stilettos? I loved the chemistry between Avery, and Ryan. They had worked in the same office for 6 months, but never really had the chance to talk until New Years eve. I loved Avery's description of Ryan as the newest tall, dark and droolworthy agent. New Years eve the chemistry between the two really sizzled, and sparked. The banter between the two was really entertaining and fun. Avery and Ryan worked really good together. They took turns being dominate, which was refreshing. In most of the action/ romance books I read the guy is always the dominate one. Avery and Ryan really worked as partners, and friends, Pulling from the others strengths.

Here are a few samples of this book:

Sample from chapter 2 - In time with the pounding bass from the ballroom, a booming shot rang out nearby and a piece of wood splintered from the doorway above Ryan's head.

Sample from chapter 5 - Ryan made a fist, then flexed his hand. "Okay, yeah. This is one of those butt kicking times." "You're not going to need my help, are you? Because I'm fresh out of paper clips and stilettos."

Sample from chapter 12 - She reached the driver's side at the same time as him and poked him in the chest. "Listen, Mr. secret agent. You need your hands free to shoot or lob grenade at them. I drive - you shoot. That's the way this works.

Sample from chapter 13 - Standing there with her like that, their bodies and souls wrapping around each other for comfort, he was floored by the most powerful sensation. He couldn't even put a name on it because he'd never experienced anything like it before. He closed his eyes and wallowed in it, drinking in the scent of her hair and her skin, the feel of her soft lips against his hand.

Another sample from chapter 13 - He felt like he could hang in that moment with her forever, hip to hip, nose to nose, getting high off the knowledge that they were going to put their mouths on each other and it was going to be fireworks. With Avery, everything was fireworks.

Loved this book. It is added to my favorite list. I will re read this book another time.

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### **Angela Carr (Under the Covers Book Blog) says**

Agent Ryan Reitano continues his quest to capture the last of the Chiara Brothers. Unfortunately, he is on his own on this mission as his team had broken up. He is now working with the ICE team in San Diego where he will be in the mercy of one very hot secretary.

Whether he likes it or not, Avery Meadows will come to his rescue. Ryan and Avery will be in a dangerous situation where anyone can be the mole and or suspect. They will need to trust and work together to get out of this bind.

Avery reminded of the Girl from Legally Blonde. Of course she is no dumb blonde. But a very girly girl and so desperately want to get out of her skin to be someone else. This sexy secretary has always dreamed of being an agent herself. To prove it, she has a gadget belt, crime fighting wear and a car that will out run any villain's getaway car. She totally made me laugh, and her bravery surprised me. I thought she was genuine, smart, and very witty.

Ryan also found her fascinating. After all the years of exposure to violence, he found her most definitely out of his elements. I love that he was enthralled by her innocence and cuteness of wanting to be an agent. It made me laugh when Avery did things that shocked the hell out of Ryan. Like finding out what kind of car she drives. I think that's when he realized, Avery is serious when it comes to spy wear and accessories. I

think considering Ryan's past; it was appropriate that he was attracted to a girl like Avery. She really just lightened his life from the moment they met. I like Ryan, he was confident, sexy, and he knew exactly what to do at every given moment.

There was a little less banter with the boys in this novel which I missed as I enjoyed it from the last installment, Tempted into Danger. Well, less because Ryan was working alone, but you will see some characters from the previous book. Of course, I enjoyed that. Overall, another great read.

Ms. Cutler did such a great job in making this romantic suspense light-hearted and cute but not anywhere close to being cheesy. I haven't read a book written by Ms. Cutler that I didn't enjoy. I can't wait to read more of her work.

Review copy provided by author.

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### **Pam says**

This is another wonderful Black Ops Defender book and it is a great addition to the series. The characters, plot and romance are so entertaining I kept turning the pages until the conclusion.

Avery has been a secretary for the ICE agency for six years; she is fascinated with everything having to do with spying, agents, espionage and gadgets. She recently broke up with her loser boyfriend Zach and is ready to move on with plans to go out with friends on New Year's Eve to celebrate. Unfortunately as she is getting ready to leave, one of the agents calls the office phone asking for her help, well, she can't say no because for one reason he is an agent and for another it might turn out to be exciting.

Ryan has been working at this ICE agency for several months; most of the others at the office believe he is just a normal agent, but he is also working for Internal Affairs on something bigger. He has been after the dangerous Chiara for several years, watching for his chance to arrest him and he is getting close. When he asks a favor from the secretary at the office, little does he know that she will go out of her way to help, but also runs right into trouble bringing him along.

Secret Agent Secretary is filled with non-stop action from start to finish; I had a hard time putting it down as I wanted to know what was going to happen next. Ms Cutler fills her stories with intrigue, humor and of course romance.

I love Avery, she had my attention from the beginning, not only because I enjoy reading about smart heroines but also because she was so cute with her love of everything about spies, her love of gadgets killed me and made me laugh, and let's not forget about Nikita. Ryan is a great hero, I like how he is a bit put off by her because she is always watching him at the office, I think that would scare anyone, but he quickly gets past that as they run from danger and his appreciation of her gadget love is endearing. The two are a good match and the chemistry between them sparks as they get closer.

The pace of the story is fast and furious, as we watch the two run from one scrape to another, there is the danger of Chiara but also the added danger of the fact that someone is leaking information and Ryan seems to be hiding something very important. The secondary characters are engaging and I like that Alicia and John will get their story next, I am excited to see what happens. All in all a wonderful book that I recommend for those that love romance with all the excitement they can handle.

Copy from author for an honest review

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### **Jae says**

Great story and funny characters. I enjoyed the dynamics and camaraderie between Ryan and Avery. I loved Avery's silly antics. And her smart mouth.

**4 STARS** (should've been a fiver) because of the rushed ending.

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### **Snigdha Prakash says**

**3.5....**

Somehow I can never get enough of the stories of these kind.

I absolutely adore romantic suspense.

Especially with kickass heroines and badass/alpha/secret-agent kind of hero.

Damn.

So this story was kind of the dream like thing which every girl secretly wants to have.

You cannot help but get so twisted up in the plot and story fast and hard.

No pun intended.

The plot is that of thriller and suspense and keeps you wanting to read more and more and turn the page as fast as you can and savour every word at the same time.

The romance is not over the top nor the book is too devoid of it that you feel...incomplete.

It is just the right amount at just the right parts of the books.

And man, you have got to love the intensity between the protagonists.

Coming to them, I think I love...absolutely love Avery.

A better kickass heroine could not have been written for this book.

And Ryan is absolutely delicious. Gotta love the dude.

I'm glad I got a bit of Diego in this book. I love that guy.

I like how this author treats romance. She does not make her characters absolutely stubborn or ignorant to the fact that they are in love.

She makes them accept it fast and in a good, acceptable manner and rolls with it.

I just wish I could've gotten an epilogue..

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### **Susan says**

Wow. Action packed from the beginning, I couldn't read fast enough to keep up with the action. At the end of Tempted Into Danger, the ICE team had broken up because of the betrayal of one of the members of the team. However, Ryan is still determined to stop the third Chiara brother. He has gone undercover at the San Diego office because Chiara is expected to attempt to steal some jewels that will be on display there. While doing surveillance on New Year's Eve, he needs a file from his computer and calls Avery, the office secretary to email it to him. When she can't get in his computer or find the hard copy, she heads to his location to tell him what's in the file. She has a photographic memory and can use it to help him. When she gets there all hell breaks loose and she and Ryan are on the run trying to escape from Chiara's men. As a

wanna be secret agent, Avery gets the chance to help Ryan nab Chiara while indulging her fantasy. It doesn't hurt that Ryan is pretty fantasy worthy himself.

I loved both Ryan and Avery. Avery has been working as a secretary for ICE for six years. She has been fascinated by anything "secret agent" all of her life, in spite of being raised by pacifist parents. She has also had a major crush on Ryan since he came to work for them. When she can't find the file he needs she takes her photographic memory to him to give him the information he needs. When they are attacked, Avery finds herself in the middle of some intense action. At that point her truly amazing personality comes roaring to the surface. I loved the way that she didn't freak out but stepped up to help Ryan as best she could. Her quick thinking with her shoes and some paper clips get them out of immediate danger. Working with Ryan to stop Chiara is a dream come true for Avery. It gives her a great taste of the operations side of things and makes her realize that she really wants to be able to make a difference. Avery's abilities mesh well with Ryan's. She had a great way of really surprising Ryan with just what she could do. It was so much fun seeing her blow him away with the way she took to using his "gadgets" and his reaction to her car was priceless. I also loved the chemistry between Avery and Ryan. The scene in his "secret lair" was really hot.

Ryan was an awesome hero. He is undercover at the ICE office because he suspects there is a mole there. When Avery first appears at the hotel during his surveillance he wonders if it could be her. It doesn't take him long to decide that she's not as she and her high heels help get them out of trouble. He has been so focused on his mission that he had never really paid much attention to her, but he's looking now. He's fascinated by her combination of innocence and kick-ass attitude. He is constantly surprised by her quick thinking and willingness to take action. After all the time he's spent dealing with violence and betrayal, he's not quite sure what to do with Avery. I loved seeing the way that she broke down some of his barriers, changing him from the brooding loner that he was to someone open to possibilities. I loved Ryan's confidence in himself and his abilities. He always seemed to know just what needed to be done. He wanted to protect Avery but he also admitted that her assistance was crucial to catching the bad guy. It was fun seeing Ryan get so involved with Avery and start thinking of ways that they can be together, especially when it came to their bucket lists.

The entire suspense portion of the book was awesome from start to finish. From the first attack at the hotel to the final showdown the action was nonstop, with car chases, explosions, and shootings. The identity of the mole wasn't obvious and there were some pretty good twists and turns as Ryan and Avery have to stay ahead of him. There was a very interesting plot twist that showed why it was so important to Ryan that Chiara be stopped. The final showdown was fantastic. I hope we get to see some of Ryan and Avery in future books, as I'd like to see how things work out for them.

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