



False Security

Angie Martin

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Rachel Thomas longs for normalcy, but if she stops running she could die...or worse. Chased by a past that wishes to imprison her, haunted by dreams that seek to destroy her, Rachel finds solace in a love she could not predict. A love she cannot deter.

Mark Jacobson is the man who never needed love. He has his bookstore, his bachelorhood, and his freedom. In the moment he meets Rachel Thomas, he is swept into a world he never knew existed. One filled with the purest of love. One filled with betrayal, lies, and murder.

Now Rachel and Mark are forced to face her past. The truth may kill them both.

False Security Details

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From Reader Review False Security for online ebook

Sahara Foley says

This story is written in three parts. In the first part, we're introduced to Rachel who has a secret and mysterious past. Who is she running from? Against her better judgment and all her fears, she starts a romance with Mark, a man who always thought of himself as a bachelor.

I won't go into the other parts of the story, as that's for you to discover. Even though the first part doesn't have much action in it, as we're discovering who Rachel and Mark are, the story is so well-written time passes by quickly as you read along. Angie Martin gives just enough clues in the first part to keep you turning the pages, wanting to know more. And there is an explosive revelation at the end of part one. One that Mark wasn't prepared for.

As I read through parts two and three and learned about Donovan and his character, I kept thinking, what was it that turned him from the benevolent person to the abuser he ended up? Was the abuser always there, but he was able to curtail it by never letting himself become vulnerable by loving someone else? So this story is also about abusive relationships and the denial of their partners.

I really enjoyed this story, and Martin did a fabulous job getting me to feel her characters. I can't wait to read the sequel. I highly recommend this story and give it 5 feathers.

Leslie Georgeson says

Wow! Talk about creep factor. A possessive older man and a beautiful, much younger woman...you think you know where this is headed, but you really don't. I had a hard time putting this one down. I love to read suspense novels because I like to be on the edge of my seat. This one certainly didn't disappoint! Can't wait to read Ms. Martin's next novel.

Nicole says

I received this book from the author and the Indie Author Central group in exchange for a honest review.

NOTE: Review contains some spoilers!!!!!!

I really liked this book. The author definitely kept me guessing. I liked how the author went into the past to explain how the heroine turned into what she was.

Main Characters:

1. Mark (the hero) - He is described as a playboy with a different woman every week. When he meets the heroine for the first time, he gives all of that up. He was a considerate and caring person toward the heroine. He never pushed past the boundaries she put on their relationship. I loved how he was steadfast in his love for her even after finding out all of her secrets.

2. Rachel(the heroine) - I can understand how she evolved into the person she became. From the age of 10 when she went to live with her Uncle Paul, she was isolated and secluded from the outside world. She was

definitely indoctrinated by Donovan. Donovan was an expert manipulator of people. Rachel and Donovan's relationship was Stockholm syndrome like to me. Rachel is so damaged emotionally that after Donovan recaptures her she convinces herself that she can re-fall in love with him and make their relationship work. She is resigned to her fate.

3. Donovan (abusive ex-boyfriend) - He owns a security company, but it is just a front for his criminal activities. He was a typical abuser. He hits her and then profusely apologizes. At the beginning of their relationship, he was kind and attentive. But once he had her in his clutches, he turned into a possessive and violent jerk.

4. Uncle Paul - He took Rachel in after her parent's death. He was Donovan's chief of security at his estate. I could not reconcile myself to like him. In one part of the book, he is taking care of her after she is whipped and he does not try to help her escape. I also did not like how he killed Jonathon Thomas. He could have just gone to his house and ran away with him. Jonathan was the only person at the time who helped Rachel escape Donovan.

The story is broken up into 3 parts:

Part 1 - Rachel has been on the run for 3 years from Donovan. She meets Mark at the bookstore he operates with his brother. He asks her out and eventually she accepts. They date for several months. Mark knows she is hiding something from him and he starts pressing her for answers. On the night she is going to tell him all, Donovan's thugs find her.

Part 2 - Starts back when Rachel first came to live with her Uncle Paul. It explains how she became a master criminal and her escape from Donovan.

Part 3 - Starts where part 1 left off. Mark and Rachel eventually have their HEA after traversing many hurdles and finally getting rid of Donovan.

Overall, a great suspenseful contemporary romance with a damaged heroine and a hero who will not give up on their love.

Jodi says

This review was originally posted at

Angie Martin says

This book has truly been a labor of love for me. Originally published in print form in 2004, the book was heavily revised and re-released in Sept 2013. It's quite a journey, crossing several genres, but residing mostly in suspense with a strong love story. I hope you enjoy the book as much as I enjoyed writing it - twice! :)

You can also get the sequel to False Security - False Hope is the final chapter in Rachel Thomas's story.

Tnt Reviews says

I received a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

The Jacobson brothers, Mark and Gregg, had an emotionally absent father growing up, so Gregg being 10 years older took on the role after Mark's birth. They own a bookstorethat's it I'm in love, it's official I'm hooked!

Gregg is married and their first child is on the way, whereas Mark is a bachelor and a little more guarded when it comes to matters of the heart, that is until Rachel moves into the neighborhood and visits the bookstore almost daily!

There's a spark between them initially which intensifies each time Rachel is in the bookstore....can't wait to see how this pans out and Rachel has secrets ...

Rachel and her friend/roommate volunteer at a shelter for battered women, and I think a lot of its got to do with their past. Poor Rachel is haunted by nightmares that wake her up screaming :O

Her past is lurking in the shadows waiting to pounce! I wish she'd tell Mark, he already senses she's hiding something and he'll protect her, she just needs to trust ♥

Things are starting to heat up! Mark and Rachel reached a milestone in their relationship and truths are starting to surface. Trouble is on its way to Kansas Rachel's dark past

Slowly little pieces of the puzzle are falling into place. I think its time Rachel starts talking, people are starting to make assumptions which can have some dire effects. I appreciate that James is looking out for Mark but honestly its between him and Rachel, and he shouldn't go into a situation with preconceived ideas. Anyhow, Rachel is going to tell Mark about her past, and he seems prepared to stick with her and love her through her nightmares and healing process. As fate would have it "they" get to him first to get to Rachel :(

I nearly fell off my chair, these guys are BAD ASS! I'm not sure if we're allowed to cuss, but Donovan is one sick #\$\$@*!!!! A psychopath with gentleman tendencies, my skin crawls at the thought of what he has in store for Mark and Rachel!

Poor Mark wakes up in unfamiliar surroundings, bruised and battered and recovering from a drug hangover! So he's imprisoned by people that are beyond frightening, with no idea who, what, where, or why. He's just seen somebody being killed in cold blood and where's Rachel?! The suspense has me walking on a tight rope ...eeeeek! Fortunately, one of these douche bags have a conscience and is on Mark's side and is devising a plan to save their lives!

Mini cliff hanger as Paul is about to reveal all to Mark we hit rewind to 16 years earlier and I'm like???? Oh well no place to start like the beginning

16 years ago

My heart breaks for Rachel the little girl, sitting at school, crying and orphaned :(all I want to do is pick her up and cuddle her and tell her it will be alright. After the funeral she moves to California with her uncle Paul. I fell in love with the estate as soon as I was introduced to the library (what a surprise that these philistines have some culture) just listen to this " bookshelves built into the walls. ...several leather reading

chairs....wooden ladders set on railsslim spiral staircase reached for the second floor" I think I've died and gone to heaven lol. I still despise Donovan, but I love his library♥its only now that I realize Donovan is older than Rachel. I thought they were the same age. Warning bells are going off when she's not allowed to return to mainstream school, she doesn't even leave the estate, she's being isolated!

As she grows older her real education starts, a frightening one at that! She goes on a very important job for Donovan, but it feels like she's walking into the lions den!

So the cycle of abuse starts. ... a back hand, justification, remorse, and guilt . Donovan is extremely possessive and to him, Rachel is a trophy, he owns her. This girl has officially started the dance with death.

The last few chapters are suspense filled and nail biting!

All in all a good read. Violent ,dark and frightening at times!

★★★★

4-Bombs

Reviewed by Heidi

Roberta Pearce says

One of my favourite things about this novel was how unique the h – Rachel – was in her experiences [no, I will not give details/spoilers], not merely in the things done to her, but the things she has done herself. Very refreshing. Also, the novel is structured in an unusual way, with flashbacks and flash-forwards, making the reading of it intriguing.

The tautness of the thriller would have been well served by more severe editing, IMO. I found the pacing slow. However, considering that I have Ms. Martin's next novel – Conduit – on my TBR, my opinion seems moot . . . even to myself.

For my random thoughts on writing, visit my blog.

Marisa Oldham says

I had a vision in my mind of what this book would be about once I read the prologue. I couldn't have been more wrong and more pleasantly surprised! False Security is the debut novel by author Angie Martin, but you would never know it was a debut when reading it. The writing is masterful and the way Martin weaves her tale is not only thrilling but also rich!

One thing I loved is how you think you're reading the story and you know the way it's going and then mid book she changes everything up and you're hit with a whole new version of the story. Very creative!

I found the story to be unique in every way. From the characters to why they are the way they are. Each of the characters, down to ones you may only see for a very short portion of the story, has depth. Not only is this a suspense novel, but the romance aspects of it are fantastically written in a subtle yet enticing way. It really adds to the experience of reading this book.

For me, one of the most emotional parts of this story is Paul's recollection of the past. Of course, along with Rachel's ordeal as well.

I HIGHLY recommend this book if you like suspense and surprises.

Martin is a master at her craft and I cannot WAIT to read her next novel!

Sherry says

I received a copy from the author in exchange for a review.

I enjoyed this book. The author did a great job of building suspense especially in the beginning. I was wondering what was Rachel's secret. This was one the reasons why this book was a page-turner. The main characters and the plot were also well-developed.

I was a little thrown off with Part 2 since it was back in the past, but I understood the style after I finished reading it. The details all fit together nicely with just the right amount of background information. Since the book was well-written, I was still turning pages to the end.

Overall, this book have great suspense and wonderful characters.

Jana Petken says

This book has it all from start to finish. It has questions to be answered, secrets to be uncovered, and in the mix, characters to protect and be protected from. The suspense was there throughout the book, which was very well written in an engaging tone throughout never left my hands until the last page. Thoughtful and descriptive story. I loved it.

Jalpa Williby says

I was given a copy of False Security by this author for an honest review.

First of all, let me start out saying that this book has an intriguing story. The author throws a lot of surprises along the way and keeps you guessing.

What I liked about this story:

-I enjoyed the author's writing- I didn't notice any grammatical errors. Kudos to the author for doing it right!

-I also enjoyed the way the author told the story. She had three different "parts" in the book, which came together nicely.

-The two characters I really was drawn to were Danielle and Jonathan. I know they were side characters, but they were my favorite.

-I liked how the author kept you guessing and at the edge of your seat- honestly, a lot happens in the book that I never saw coming. The author was able to bring out emotions out of me- actually, I found myself in tears at one particular part of the story.

-I enjoyed how the author indirectly brings psychology into this story. (for example, how helpless and

battered you feel when you're physically and mentally abused) There were times when I found myself analyzing the main character's actions and choices to try to understand them.

What I didn't like about the story:

- There were things that happened in the story that were too dark for me. It just wasn't my thing. I didn't enjoy that Rachel wasn't strong enough to follow her values and her beliefs- to do the right thing.
- The ending was too quick for me. I'm not sure if there's going to be a sequel?

So what's my overall take? I definitely recommend reading it. Like I say, it's a unique and intriguing story. Also, it's refreshing to read a well-written novel. Great job! And I strongly encourage a sequel to this story! If there's a sequel, I think a lot of things could be tied together. :)

Kristine (A Cozy Booknook) says

This is a captivating story that I did not want to put down. The author quickly drew me into this deftly woven story and had me staying up way too late to finish. I don't want to give anything away so hesitate to say much. There is plenty of suspense, an unexpected romance, and moments of fear and terror that pour off the page. A well crafted story that is well worth reading.

Melanie S says

Heart-pounding, stupefying horror in a psychological thriller

That Does it. Angie Martin has just hit the top of my list with False Security. I have never read a thriller that was more moving, more enthralling, more horrifying, or more realistic. No paranormal elements, no special ops hero interventions, nothing but an ordinary young man, Mark, who falls for a quiet and very reclusive young woman, Rachel. It takes nearly the full length of the novel to unravel who Rachel is, and exactly the same timespan to grasp WHY, and that's where the horror lies. I don't do spoilers, and there is no element of Martin's exquisitely plotted novel that isn't a spoiler. I can say only that if close encounters of the criminal kind fascinate you, if the persistent threat of unimaginable evil enthralls you, if shock and suspense keep you glued to your e-reader, False Security will blow your mind. With its near-photographic clarity and relentless detail, Martin's brilliant tale of love and evil will haunt you long after you finish reading. My thanks to Booksprout for the ARC, and this is my voluntary, independent and uncompensated opinion.

Susan Anderson says

False Security by Angie Martin is the kind of book I just couldn't stop reading. It's the haunting love story by Angie Martin, and this author knows how to get me hooked into a tale from the first page.

False Security is a haunting love story, but it is more than that—it is a story of compulsion, domination and battering.

The story begins with Rachel's dream of running. The dream recurs at key points in the story and is emblematic of the book's meaning. For Rachel Thomas, the main character, has been in the thrall of evil

minds and doing her best to escape for most of her life.

At the book's start, Rachel and her best friend Danielle are living in Wichita, Kansas where they teach martial arts to battered women. Her life begins to change, we think, when, reluctantly, Rachel agrees to a first date with an attractive man, Mark Jacobson. But we soon learn that Rachel has more than an ordinary dose of fear.

As the plot unfolds, it keeps us in its grip. We realize that Rachel and Danielle have been abruptly leaving towns for a long time. Rachel is adept at disguise and taking leave. As she weaves a life, trying to elude who or what or why becomes increasingly unclear. But soon the mystery surrounding her past unravels and along with Mark, we find ourselves in the center of a deadly front. The title, False Security, gives a clue.

Moving from town to town doesn't rid Rachel of her recurring dream. If anything, it heightens her fear, certainly the fear we feel. To disclose more of the plot would spoil it, I'm afraid. But there are plenty of twists and turns, sudden violence and deadly surprises in this tightly woven plot. Rachel Thomas can't seem to feel safe.

There are moments of terror, moments of beauty, quiet moments of love, and seething times of terror. But in the end, False Security is a beautiful love story that you will not want to miss.

Melissa (Mel's Bookshelf) says

I enjoyed this one. It was a good romantic suspense with a solid story line and good characters.

Rachel Thomas is running from her past. When she meets the handsome Mark, she wonders if she will be able to take a chance on a relationship with him. However her past is quickly catching up with her, and it is deadly.

This book is set out into three parts. Part one is the present, part two goes back in time to when Rachel was a child and growing into a woman, and part three is the present again. I found part one a bit slow. I felt that suddenly all these characters were introduced and it was almost as though we were expected to know them already. The romance started off sweetly but seemed to fizzle. However, it totally picked up when it entered part two. Things started to make a lot more sense and almost magically came together, and I really started to get into it and enjoyed it.

I liked that the book addressed the issue of domestic violence, and there was a lot of action and suspense. The romance aspect was cute and I enjoyed listening to how her life developed and how she got into her situation. I really loved the characters, especially the nasty ones.

The audio book was good. I enjoyed the narrator, however I didn't like her portrayal of the male characters. They all sounded robotic and it was hard to tell them apart at times.

Would I recommend False Security?

If you are a fan of romantic suspense you will enjoy this book. It had some slower parts, but overall it was a solid, enjoyable story.

Many thanks to Cherry Hill Publishing for an audio version of False Security in exchange for an honest

review.

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