



Bound to Serve

Julie Castle

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Condor earned his reputation by being Delta Star's ultimate secret agent. He's untouchable, unstoppable, and he always nails his targets. But no matter how many times he's saved the world, he's a ghost who will never take credit. He works best alone, and to continue to protect his country, he'll stay alone.

New Delta Star field agent Bridget Jamison is obsessed with capturing Simon Perez, the elusive terrorist responsible for her ex-fiancé's death. When the Delta Star director hands the case over to Condor, a mesmerizing ghost agent who has the power to make her weak in the knees with one intense look, Bridget agrees to be Condor's partner so that she's not dropped from the case and her chance for justice.

Now they're on a mission to infiltrate a dangerous criminal organization and capture Perez. It's up to Condor to keep this beautiful, determined agent out of harm's way, and to keep their explosive passion contained long enough not to risk their cover...and their lives.

Bound to Serve Details

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Author : Julie Castle

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From Reader Review Bound to Serve for online ebook

Laura says

ARC Provided by the Publisher and NetGalley

When you read a book titled "Bound to Serve" you know what you are getting. At least you should. And what you get from this is exactly what you are expecting...and maybe a little more, as the writing and the characters are also engaging, the setting is amusing, and Bridget and her inability to be a "good" submissive is hilarious.

Condor is likeable, Bridget is fun. Both are capable agents, and this adds an enjoyable element to it, as neither of them is in over their heads, although Bridget is not as experienced.

The writing is fun and engaging, the story is enjoyable, and you like the characters. Really, what more could you want?

It is BDSM light, with some elements of the lifestyle encountered and discussed, but nothing too dark, so it should be fine for all readers.

The idea of "Mission Magic" is something that you are just going to have to read the book to understand.

Lucia says

Bound To Serve is a well written romantic action suspense with a unique plot that ends with a HEA and a slight cliffhanger!

I'm new to Julie Castle's books so going into Bound To Serve I had no idea what to expect and I admit this book ended up being so much more than I expected from the blurb. Bound To Serve is a well written romantic action suspense with a plot that definitely takes on a unique perspective; I honestly thought it would just be another typical special ops type action romance but it was so much more than that. From the beginning I was drawn in to this book and eager to figure out where it was going to lead, although, be warned, not all issues are answered in this book, leaving readers on a slight cliffhanger to set up the next book despite what appears to be a HEA.

Bound To Serve is told from both Condor and Bridget's perspectives, giving a wider understanding of both characters and their thoughts. From the moment these two likeable characters are introduced, there is a clear chemistry between the pair, albeit a bit feisty with their strong opinions on a mission they both are working on from different angles. Bridget is a strong female, witty and a more than capable agent with her intelligence, whilst, Condor is a dominant alpha male that also had a caring and strong protective side that clearly shows as the story progresses. Both characters were well developed and evolved over the course of the book, especially with having to figure out the lines of reality and simulated moments for their mission. What worked well throughout in showcasing the developing relationship Bridget and Condor built up, despite being over a short period of time, was the contrast of their tender moments and when both tried to focus on the mission at hand and the roles they should be playing.

The book has a good writing style and flow with a steady yet fast pace throughout with the majority of Bound To Serve set over only a couple of days. There are some predictable parts to the plot and some twists thrown in that I didn't fully expect, adding to the well thought-out plot. I personally found that the author managed to get a good natural balance with the romance and the suspense, especially with moving along the relationship between the couple in a way that fit with the storyline perfectly. Also, the vivid descriptions allowed the reader to be engaged and picture the scenes that were playing out clearly. Bound To Serve has some very hot and steamy sexual scenes that also incorporate some dominating/BDSM elements but nothing hardcore that most erotic romance readers won't have read before. The only reason I didn't rate this any higher was because there were a few little missing words/grammar errors etc throughout. It wasn't enough to put me off the book but enough to be noticed here and there.

Overall, if you enjoy a good romantic suspense, definitely don't hesitate to give this book a read! I can't wait to read the next book in the series and find out what will happen!

*I received a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review from NetGalley. I was not compensated for my review, and I was not required to write a positive review. The opinion expressed here is my own.

Sparkymom says

Wow!!! This was nothing like what I expected. When the description said undercover, it really meant it in more ways than one. Be forewarned that this book is seriously hot and sexy with pervasive BDSM elements. The chemistry was off the charts, and despite the heavy sexual content, it had a well thought out plot and plenty of suspense since Bridget wasn't very good at following orders and was forever getting in trouble. Condor was older, set in his ways and seriously alpha. The two of them made an interesting team and an even better couple.

I received an ARC from Net Galley for review.

Wednesday Stanley says

I first want to say I love finding new author's and this was the first time I have read anything from Mrs. Castle. The description of this book is what really caught my attention and made me want to read it.

I loved Condor or 'The Ghost' as he goes by. I thought he was mysterious, dominate, possessive, sweet, caring and kind. He was definitely a guy that took his undercover work seriously. Though I have to say I wish we could have gotten to know him better. I felt like we didn't really get to 'know' his character. We just kind of got to know what he was into.

I found Bridget a mixture between likable and a bit annoying. You're either going to really like her or you're just not going to like her at all. Bridget is trying to avenge her ex-fiance's death, by taking down the man she's convinced is responsible for her ex's death. I found Bridget a bit hard headed and stubborn at times, she definitely didn't seem to follow order's easily (she seemed to want to be in charge at all times). I think towards the end of it you might soften towards her a bit if you haven't already.

Now that being said I kind of found the first part of the book to be a bit boring and a little bit repetitive. It wasn't really until about half way through that the story seemed to pick up the pace and really catch my attention. It was then that I really started to enjoy it. There were aspects of undercover and espionage, some action, and a few little twists thrown in that I didn't see. I thought all together that this was an enjoyable book.

I'm giving this book 3.5 Stars (probably on the higher side of 3.5, since you can't really do 3.75) to 4 Stars.

I received an arc of this book from the author and or the publisher for my honest review

Melanie says

Let me just start off by saying, be ready for some hot romance in this one that will leave you fanning yourself!! I was not prepared for the intensity of romance that we got in this story but I thought that Julie Castle did very well with it all. Just the right amount of romance and suspense with an Alpha male that will leave you drooling.

Bridget is out to get revenge on Perez, the person she thinks is responsible for killing her ex-fiance. When Bridget is called in to her supervisor's office one day, she has a strange feeling that she is being taken off the case so that someone else can be out on it. When Bridget sees Condor in the office, she knows that something is going on. Condor is one of the best secret agents they have and is known as "The Ghost" because he is so good at keeping his cover when on cases. Bridget has a wild idea that the two of them can team up and get the case solved together but one look at Condor and she knows that there is going to be more going on than just work. She knows that Condor is not the type to settle down because of how he is always on the move, but she is willing to chance that to experiment with this Alpha male that makes her cringe all over.

The romance between Condor and Bridget will throw you for a loop. I don't want to give anything away but what they have with each other will definitely be a surprise for you. I loved that Julie Castle threw this in there as an added bonus for us readers. So, will Condor and Bridget get off track with their investigation on Perez due to the steamy romance they have with each other? This is a good short story that you will not want to put down but will need water to cool yourself off with. Just be prepared!!

Angela says

When I read the description for Julie Castle's *Bound to Serve*, it instantly caught my interest. Bridget is out to capture the man who killed her fiancé but Condor a ghost secret agent at Delta Star is about to take her assignment. Bridget will have none of that, the assignment is hers and she won't let anyone tell her differently. The novel was unfortunately a bit of a disappointment because it was a slow build. It didn't capture my attention and hold on to it very well. It was a good story just not a favorite of mine. I personally probably won't be reading anymore from the series but it could just be me. I would give this novel 2.5 stars.

(ARC provided by Entangled Publishing in exchanged for an honest review)

Elaine says

This definitely wasn't what I expected but that certainly doesn't mean I didn't find it an intriguing read. Packed with spy/thriller action is what I'd anticipated. What I hadn't anticipated is that most of the mission takes place on a specialist island holiday resort - one which caters for guests who wish to participate in BDSM type sexual activities, one where the partners/sex slaves are meant to go around naked all the time.

Now I admit that had I read that in the synopsis I wouldn't have requested the book in the first place but I have to say I'd have missed out on a well written suspense with plenty of criminal action as well as steamy encounters. It is also laugh out loud funny at times as the leading lady, Bridget Jamison, is definitely not used to acting as a submissive and really finds it difficult to maintain the role. She gets into all sorts of bother because of this, especially with the 'manageress' of the resort and one particular male holiday maker! So, be prepared for very hot, Dom/Sub steamy encounters as part of an enthralling secret service, action packed, suspense and romance! Just to show how good it must be, I actually want to know what happens in the rest of the series asap please!

Many thanks to Entangled for gifting me an ARC of this via NetGalley in exchange for my honest review.

Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews says

Kitty's review posted at Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews

Well, wasn't this an interesting story. A little bit of mystery, a little bit of fun, a little bit of BDSM and a whole lot of Condor.

I'll be totally honest with you ... I'm still not sure if I truly like Bridget. She's a woman with a chip in her shoulder, didn't know how to take orders and definitely topped from the bottom. Now, there are times I enjoy reading about Brats but it seemed out of place in this story. She demanded to be part of the team to take down Perez but then sabotaged the mission every chance she got. If she listened to what Condor told her to do, she wouldn't have put the mission in jeopardy. But, she did. And, then she really enjoyed the punishment that was bestowed on her by the one man who finally showed her what sex was all about.

Condor was interesting, sexy, dominant and powerful. He was the epitome of what you would think a dominant male would be. And, he really enjoyed the punishments he gave Bridget. There was a part of him that even enjoyed her brattiness at times. What he didn't like was the way she disobeyed him around every turn regarding Perez. He was also a little bit insecure when he found out her thought-to-be-dead ex-fiancé was alive. He knew that what was between him and Bridget was getting real and didn't know how she was going to take the news. Would she run back to him and switch sides like he did or would she see what was in front of her and embrace both him and her submissive side?

As for the mission and the storyline ... it was really interesting. It kind of reminded me about stories I heard about an island in the Caribbean that held private parties called "Hedonism" and, from what I am told (no, I didn't experience it myself), anything and everything was fair game. The only difference between this island and Hedonism was that there were no terrorists showing up for a good time.

I really enjoyed reading *Bound to Serve* and Julie Castle did a really good job of keeping me interested in how the story would turn out. Now, complete honesty here, I was not thrilled with the way the mission on the island ended. But, it's a series so I guess we'll have to wait and see what really did happen with Perez. I loved that, in the end, Bridget came to her senses and realized what she really wanted and went after it. It was actually the first time in the book that I really liked her.

Review copy provided for an honest review.

Becky says

I really struggled with this one--I wanted to like it; the premise was so close to some of my favorite undercover spy-type plots (ie all the episodes of *Scarecrow* and *Mrs. King* when they went undercover and had to pretend to be a couple) but I just had a really hard time taking the main characters seriously. Neither one of them acted like seasoned agents (and okay, Bridget wasn't, exactly, but she was supposed to be a professional in the field at least) but instead were moody, hormone-soaked teenagers for most of the book. How did they expect to get any work done? DNF at 75%.

Elizabeth Neal says

Bridget, a new Delta Star field agent, is determined to capture a known terrorist. A terrorist responsible for her ex-fiancé's death years ago. Yes, she may have had some not so nice thoughts about James due to his lying and cheating on her, but she never wanted him dead. Upon being summoned to the Director's office she meets the legendary agent known as Condor.

Ross, aka Condor, is the agent called in when everything else has failed. He's an iceman and always accomplishes his missions. Yet, there's something about Bridget that sets him on fire. When she pushes to be the junior agent to go undercover with him, and he finally accepts, as his submissive, things go from a simmer to explosive very quickly.

As they're going undercover at a resort, a resort which caters to the kink the terrorist they're after likes, Condor will be doing what comes natural to him...being a Dom. However, Bridget isn't naturally a submissive, or is she? Condor must quickly train her in what will be expected of her. While as is Condor's rule, all sexual situations required for missions are simulated, as in faked. But what will they do with the very real attraction burning between them?

Can Condor and Bridget maintain their covers and complete their mission? Will they explore the connection between them after their assignment is over? If so, what about the strict no fraternization rule for Delta Star employees? What happens when Bridget comes face to face with her past? Will Condor and Bridget get their HEA? Or did their time together always have a deadline?

One-click now to find out. This story had an interesting premise and gave quite a twist on how the main characters got together. It's full of suspense, sexy times, betrayal, and a love that could last forever.

However, I will say this, as for my own personal preference, even though it was part of the cover the main characters had to play, I really could've done without each of them having to cozy up to another person,

including each of them having to kiss, and act like they enjoyed it, said other person. I do not care to read about the main characters with anyone beside each other, especially after they've been together and they both know there's something between them. It was done throughout the whole book and honestly, it lessened the connection we're supposed to envision the main characters having. Also, I didn't like the fact that it's pointed out that Condor has trained submissives before for missions. Yes, I know he's a Dom and that's what they do, however, it instantly made me, and I'm still wondering as I type my review, what all that training entailed. I know he had a rule about sexual situations only being fake, and he never wavered on that until Bridget, but I still can't help but wonder exactly how they were simulated, and that curiosity again lessened the connection between the couple for me. Also, towards the beginning before starting the assignment, Condor orders "the usual" from a store that caters to sexual preferences. However, I do like that he orders new accessories for each situation. Again, this makes me wonder about the previous times and seems to make Bridget no different than anyone else before her. I know she does become more, but I at no point what the woman I know will become the love of his life to appear to be like every other woman in his past. While I did like the book, I definitely would've enjoyed it more without the circumstances I previously mentioned. I need to feel, and believe whole heartedly in, the connection between the main couple and unfortunately, here I did not. But again, that could just be me. I recommend that anyone interested give this book a try as it's highly likely they'll love it. However, if your tastes run similar to mine in the "I prefer not to read that about that" category, please be warned.

I received a copy of this book from Entangled Publishing via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

Dawn says

Agents go undercover as dom/submissive to bring down a terrorist. This book was a surprise. The characters were great and well described, the action was there, just not always where we thought it would be. This book is very erotic and has graphic sex scenes. I gave it a four because it had purpose, good characters and a good plot. There was love and action.

Feisty, red head Bridget fights to get paired up with ghost operative, Condor, on the mission that she has worked on for three long years. To get the man that killed her ex in a bombing.

When she finds out she will have to play the part of a submissive in order to stay on the case, she has to prove to Condor that she can do it. He doesn't think she can but hopes she will. He throws out a challenge right there in the office that she will have to enter the compound naked. So Bridget decides to start to strip right there to prove him wrong. He gives the OK and they leave immediately.

Condor is six foot five and a fine specimen of a man. So much so that they talk about him in her department and have nick named him Dino the dinosaur. Partly because they would all like to be with him and partly because he is old school and works with no one. He is going to take Bridget on this mission but he knows she is going to be trouble and he looks forward to it. Her training starts now.

After they board the plane he has left a test to see if she will obey his orders, she fails. So before they are even in the air she gets her first spanking. She is turned on and shocked by this.

This will be a trying, yet very important mission for them all, they both hope that things will be okay. It turns out that they learn to appreciate the others talents and Bridget and Condor having an awakening of sorts.

Now, will they survive long enough to figure out what is happening between them?

You'll have to read it. I received this ARC in exchange for an honest review.

Denise Van plew says

First off this might look and sound like it is just a action romance with a bit of heat but make sure you are wearing flame resistance material in clothing. Some scenes will be so hot that some might have combustion problems. This agency also will be very intriguing especially if Bridget and Condor are examples of the agents they have in Delta Star. They do not take on any wimpy missions either, they are filled with danger but at times quite colorful. Ghost agents add pizzazz to a story with this one taking a chance on Bridget but their chemistry adds the fuel. They also will come across a ghost agent that comes as a surprise but he will also be showing his true colors. This one actually flew by in reading that surprised me that it turned out that way. Humor will find its way in also thanks to Bridget and her spunk. I think this one will be well liked by most especially as I have said much dynamite beneath this cover.

Maria Rose says

Bound to Serve is a story with an interesting plot - Condor, a ghost agent is tasked to bring down the bad guy Perez, by infiltrating his BDSM resort. As such, he needs a 'slave' to go with him, and Bridget convinces her boss to let her be the one, because Perez is responsible for the death of her ex. (They'd broken up because he'd cheated on her, but she still feels responsible for his death). The story blends action with some super sexy scenes as Condor and Bridget track the killer. Bridget fails miserably at being a slave to her 'master' - she's far too opinionated and defiant, but can't deny that pretending with him does turn her on. Having read several BDSM books, I found this one to be fairly stereotypical, lots of spanking scenes and other light bondage, but not always following the 'rules' of real BDSM relationships. (Perhaps it suffers from a bit of 50 Shades-itis?) It's an insta-love story too, both Condor and Bridget admitting they love each other while barely having spent any time together. There are some good twists and turns to the story though, and the action scenes are okay. Its got a happy for now ending, and gives the impression that there is more to tell in their story. Overall, an okay read with a sometimes eyebrow raising plot. 3 stars.

Note: a copy of this story was provided by the publisher via NetGalley for review.

Donna Repsher says

I received an ARC of this title in exchange for an honest review and here it is: 4 stars.

Bound to Serve is the very promising first book in a new romantic suspense series by what appears to be this author's first novel, and as first novels go, she's certainly off to a good start. For those expecting a typical romantic suspense novel, boy, are you in for a surprise.

Bridget Jamison, was recently promoted to field agent at Delta Star, a black ops agency. Six years earlier, her fiance and fellow agent, James, was killed during an op that went bad and Bridget has been blaming herself for his death ever since. She's soon to be paired with Condor (Ross Longtree), also known at the agency as

The Ghost, and sent on an assignment to catch the man who killed her fiancé, Simon Perez, an international criminal who has been eluding capture for far too long.

Intelligence reports indicate that Perez frequents an exclusive resort, and Bridget and Condor are to infiltrate the resort as a couple, but there's a catch. This is no ordinary resort--this is a BDSM resort for the rich, powerful and sexually kinky. Condor almost always works alone, he's into kink and will have no problem acting as a Dom, but Bridget hasn't a clue. She's a well-trained, spunky agent, and doesn't like taking orders, and so Condor has to train her to believably act as his submissive. This is not an easy task, since Bridget is out to prove herself a valuable asset to the agency, exact revenge for her fiancé's death, and she's no shrinking violet. Delta Star prohibits relationships between its agents, and the sex between agents on an op is all supposed to be simulated, or so Bridget thinks. This is the point at which I need to advise you that this novel is definitely written for the age 18+ reader. The sex between these two is definitely not simulated, and turn up your air conditioning, because as the story plays out in the hunt for Perez, the relationship between Bridget and Condor takes off like a five-alarm fire.

Ms. Castle has written a sizzling hot, fast-paced and suspense-filled thriller of a romance novel, with interesting and well-portrayed characters. I especially liked the touches of humor and sass from Bridget and her inability to follow orders. If I had to choose one thing I'd change about this novel, it's that I would have liked a little more backstory on Condor, who was certainly sexy as all get-out and a very intriguing character. All in all, this is one impressive debut novel, and I'm eager to read the next novels in this series.

Monique says

Ross Longtree, code name Condor. He's Delta Star's cleanup man, the one who succeeds at the spying jobs when others fail, when there's trouble, the Iceman cometh. Delta Star is a secret government agency, and Bridget Jamison was recently promoted from computer analyst to field agent. Her fiancé, James Clayton, another agent was killed on the job, and Bridget holds herself responsible. Nobody knew they were having an affair, and even though he cheated on her, she needs to find the man who was responsible for James' death: Simon Perez, an international terrorist. Bridget has been working the Perez case for three years, she thinks she might have located him, when she is called in the agency director's office. She will have to work with Condor if she is to remain on the Perez case. She doesn't want to share, but it's that or she's taken off the case. Bridget and Condor had crossed each other's path briefly along the years, they're both attracted to each other, but relationships are forbidden at the agency, so neither did anything about it. Bridget is a very assertive woman, Condor is a Dom, which will not be easy to deal with as they are to infiltrate Perez's island compound as a Dom and his submissive.

BOUND TO SERVE starts off really well, I loved the covert atmosphere, however the blurb never mentioned that this was a BDSM romantic suspense; had I known it was BDSM, I would not have opted to read it, as erotica and BDSM are pretty much coming out of my ears these days and I rather dislike so-called alphas, them being all too commonplace as well.

Nevertheless, BOUND TO SERVE is a fast-paced read, well-written, the BDSM and suspense elements are dealt with competently, I was however extremely pleasantly surprised at the romance itself. I loved that Ms.

Castle's characters remained true to themselves throughout, the dynamics never changed: Bridget is definitely not a submissive-type of woman, Condor is absolutely a dominant male, and yet both are open-minded faced with the inevitable, that their attraction is real. I really enjoyed their relationship; obviously there were personality conflicts to begin with, but they were dealt with intelligently by the author. There were none of the issues I expected, and while I felt somewhat dejected at first that Condor was yet again another domineering male, he really grew on me; Bridget, I loved right from the start. The sex scenes are sizzling, respectful and at time, quite playful. So, if you like some spying games with your BDSM and a really nice romance, I do recommend BOUND TO SERVE. At least, you will know to expect BDSM!

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