



## The Secret Arrangement

*Vanessa Waltz*

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## **The Secret Arrangement** Vanessa Waltz

I'm secretly engaged...to a man I've never met.

I knew him by his handle, "August," but he knew me by a flirty, nude selfie attached to an email. One lewd phone call became the first of many passionate exchanges. His voice made me burn for hours, but he was just a fantasy.

Until he proposed.

I've never kissed him. We've never had a date. I've never seen my fiancé, but I fell in love with him long before I saw his face.

And when I finally met August, I realized he was the strapping, handsome ex-soldier he promised. Protective, loyal, and all mine...

All I have to do is say yes.

But there's a catch. There always is. Even the perfect man comes with a price.

## **The Secret Arrangement Details**

Date :

ISBN :

Author : Vanessa Waltz

Format :

Genre : Romance, Contemporary, Drama

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## From Reader Review The Secret Arrangement for online ebook

### Danielle Talle says

I really enjoyed this latest Waltz release. We met our "beauty" as a down-on-her-luck girl in California who has an ongoing online romance with a foreigner. They finally met when she agrees to marry her. I initially thought this premise was rather benign and typical for some romances but the book quickly shifted into an adventure I never expected or have read before. Our "beast" is all man, macho, headstrong, dominant yet romantic and sensitive at heart. The secondary characters, mainly Alex, kept me on my toes with whether to root for him or despise him. And this delicate balance really kept me engaged throughout the read.

I only had two main qualms with the read: First, I was sometimes annoyed by Lily's rash opinions of the conflict and lack of desire to learn more. She never really delved into the culture. I understood she had restrictions but still it annoyed me slightly in the early part of the book. She warmed to me, but August was an instant favorite. Secondly, I wish there was a definitive epilogue that looked farther forward in the couple's future. But these were rather subjective opinions and do not detract from the skillfulness of the writing or artful storyline. Especially the inclusion of their correspondence, scattered throughout the book.

I recommend this book for anyone looking for some surprises and adventure...Happy Reading!

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### Kaeti says

Enjoyed this ARC, I liked Lily and August. This was a very different romance storyline in that there's government ruled by a tyrant, militias and rebels. Plot had a few turns and the ending was very unexpected. You will get to see some old familiar characters.

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### JLS says

Lily is living in a tent community in a loft with 50 other people. The hazards are innumerable. The bright spot is her online relationship with August. They talk about anything and everything - including sexual preferences. Her life is not what she had hoped for and she feels like a failure. But August, out of the blue without even meeting her, asks her to marry him. She is floored and skeptical. But he wears her down and she says yes. The only problem is she doesn't really know much about August, not who he really is or where he is from.

He shows up and she's elated to be out of there and pleasantly surprised by him. She's not so pleased when she finds out where he's from and who is father is. As she falls deeper in love with August, she begins to wonder if she really knows the man she's sworn to marry and if she can trust him. He's passionate but he also has a dark side. Can she stay with him? Can she survive his family? Can she really marry him?

I thoroughly enjoyed reading The Secret Arrangement. It's full of passion, intrigue and life. The characters of Lily, August and Alex make you want to cheer for the good guys to win even as you are trying to figure out

who are the good guys. The author writes the location in such a way that I felt like I was there witnessing the beauty of that country. Well Done, Vanessa Waltz!!

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### **Diana Torres says**

So The Secret Arrangement wasn't a book that I could totally love, the plot was great, and it sucked me in quite a lot most of the time but unfortunately the back and forth of the heroine between I want August and don't want him was getting a bit too annoying for me, sometimes even made me feel like they weren't a perfect match, in my honest and weird opinion I think she should've had a go with Alex, but again it's just my opinion and It would've give the book a bit of a dark twist lol... (Vanessa if you read this please make a book on Alex, I would sooo love to read about what ended up happening to him) Any who another thing I dislike was how August kept keeping so many secrets from Lily, I understand he wanted to protect her, but at what cost?? it just made the hero look extremely selfish, and the ending??, I really wanted to cry, but not because they found their way, but because I felt like the ending ended very abruptly.. Why Vanessa why must you do that???? :( I wanted to read a bit of a longer ending..

I also wanted to Know what happen to August Dad after August manage to leave, that man was evil hopefully and maybe in your next book if you decided to write one on Alex I hope to find that his father got a painful and agonizing ending for all those people he hurt.

On a site note it was a nice touch to once again incorporate one of your previous book characters in this book, I really like that.

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### **Linda Barrett says**

The secret arrangement was a very good book that kept me entertained throughout and definitely kept me on my toes.

When I thought I knew what was happening the goal posts shifted and had me guessing yet again. I thought the storyline flowed really well and I was that engrossed in it I read it all in one sitting and it felt like hardly any time had passed. Their love story was an interesting one and I absolutely loved their emails back and forth. You can't help but feel for these two and it really pulls at your heartstrings on occasions. This is a great addition to the series and I highly recommend you one click this book as soon as you can. I'm voluntarily reviewing an advanced reader copy of this book.

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### **April Symes says**

This is a fabulous read. This is all angsty and full of red-hot chemistry as August and Lily try to overcome the torture of a politically corrupted country led by his father. They met on line and when he proposed she

said yes before meeting him. Once together, their life wasn't as Lily dreamed it would be. Lily and August fly to his home in South America, where soon it doesn't take long for Lily to realize she is a virtual prisoner in a country that is hostile to US. August's family is dangerous. The whole country is dangerous. What is Lily going to do?

What I will tell you is that this story really had me hooked from the very beginning and had a lot of twists and turns. Lily is strong and independent, as well as sassy. She doesn't allow anyone to try and break her down. She pushes back. August was a little harder to get a read on because he was all hot and sexy yet he put her in this position with his family. I liked him but felt he could have protected her better. This was an arranged marriage to real love type read which is good because thank the lord they actually fell in love. This is a sexy story, with intrigue, suspense and steamy chemistry. I enjoyed this and cannot wait to see what Ms. Waltz writes next.

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My Rating: 4.6 stars \*\*\*\*\*

"I received an advanced copy of this book from the author at no cost to me."

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### **Rubee Bailey says**

[ I found so many issues with the story I could not stop rolling my eyes during the sex scenes. Like how do you plan to move your fiance to a Spanish-speaking country KNOWING she knows not one bit of Spanish? He could have at least bought her some Rosetta Stone in preparation. And I like an alpha male as much as the next romance

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### **Sheila Schoenauer says**

This book was quite interesting. The blurb really intrigued me and I was looking forward to reading it. This book though, it's not what you would expect. There's intrigue, heart breaking love, and people fighting against them. There are also lots and lots of secrets. I enjoyed this book greatly and read it in one day. However I did have a few issues. One of them really bothered me (and I wouldn't be surprised if it was supposed to bother me). I was NOT a fan of Alex. I understand the animosity that Lily felt for August but it really bothered me that she was more than willing to trust some man who she had just met in a foreign country (seriously!) but she couldn't trust the man she supposedly loved for not telling her the whole truth. She could have heart August out and then been smarter to NOT just go off with someone she had never talked to or knew anything about. Other than that I felt for both August and Lily. They really were in love but people (ahem Alex and the general) kept saying things to Lily to mess with her head. August had a lot of anger inside of him and I can understand why but I wish he had stepped up and fought for her love and attention more instead of waiting. All in all I really enjoyed this story and was glad I took a chance on it. \*I voluntarily read an advanced copy of this book for my honest and unbiased review.\*

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### **Babel says**

Oh, wow. I can't believe how amazing this book turned out to be. Really, it blew my mind.

The problem is that I can't share the details of what made this romance a remarkably original and impressive experience.

It's a double plot inside an arranged romance.

Truly eye-opening and inspiring.

Ok, let's start with what I can really tell. The emails and text messages August and XXXX share are hilarious, hot and lively. Interspersed throughout the whole book, they reconstruct how this couple reached their status of strangers who meet on line, fall in love and decide to get married... before they meet face to face!

Now, the mystery of who he is slowly unfolds when it is too late for her to change her mind. And let me share this: it is unbelievably deeper, larger-than-life, and more dramatic than anything I could've anticipated in my wildest dreams.

The surprises, gut-wrenching threats, and betrayal and twists are beyond expectations. I loved everything so much. The steamy scenes inflame the pages, too. The love is a fairy-tale gone to hell and then gaining a place in heaven through tears and blood. I loved the couple because he's a beast with a tragedy and she's a heroine full of compassion and courage. And let's not forget Alex. Please, dear author, write his story, too. Isn't he worth it? Oh, yeah.

I recommend this with my heart and brain :-D

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### **Shelly Reynolds says**

"No one has ever made me feel this way before. I'm saying yes. I can't wait to meet (and marry) you. Let's do this."

This was on-line dating to the extreme! A Pretty Woman-esque tale of the woman at her lowest, finding her prince charming - coming to take her away from it all. Or is it?

Lilly Osborn never expected to be here. Living like a squatter in a warehouse encampment, barely scraping by. She had bigger plans than this for her life. Starting up a chat with a man named August was just an escape from her hum-drum life and newly found single-hood. A few flirty texts, some NSFW pictures, a little cyber-release -all just fun. Until he proposed. She's never met him but is this her ticket out? He's handsome and has promised her the world. If she says no, her life remains a prison to her - one she may never escape. If she says yes, her whole life could change. What she doesn't realize is how much. Finding herself trading one prison for another, she no longer knows who to trust. Was this all a scam, or does August really love her? Does she listen to her head or her heart?

I liked this story. I did find it a little on the unbelievable side though. If I were in Lilly's shoes, and found out the truth, I would have been terrified, not torn between terror and wanting to jump in bed with August. I certainly wouldn't have accepted a proposal from someone I've never met. I never trusted August so I never really connected with he and Lilly as a couple. But this is fiction, and it doesn't always have to be believable to be entertaining. There is an HEA so at least it all works out!

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## **Valeen Robertson (Live Thru Books Blog) says**

Whew, *The Secret Arrangement* is a hell of a ride!!

Lily's life sucks, plain and simple. She's squatting in a barely livable warehouse filled with others in the same position she's in. The place is such a mess that it could go up in a puff of smoke in a single second. To take her mind off her life, she starts going online to chat and ends up meeting a guy named August with whom she shares an immediate connection. Flirty pics are sent. Sexting commences. Then a proposal. And Lily knows she has to accept it because she already has feelings for a guy she hasn't even met in person yet. And so she can have the life she always dreamed of. So she's whisked away to a foreign country with her new fiancé, and she's in heaven. Until she's not. Until she arrives and finds things were left out of August's communications to her. Important things. Crucial things. So now she's stuck in a foreign country with danger all around. Her man isn't who he claimed to be. His family is dangerous. The whole country is dangerous. What is Lily to do?

Seriously, this story blew my mind. It so did not go where I expected it to go. I felt so badly for Lily. She stayed strong, though. She kept her sass and her independence. August I had problems with because really? The position he put her in was ridiculous. Thank God they actually fell in love, though! I don't want to say more except you have to read this entertaining story. It's crazy in a good way. It's sexy. It's well-paced and the characters will draw you into their story right from the start.

*I received a free copy of this book via Booksprout and am voluntarily leaving a review.*

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## **Racy says**

WOW, great sorry.

I loved reading the little messages we got to read between Lily and August. I think it helped us understand and see how this relationship blossomed. Then to be proposed to by a man you never met had to be shocking and a little unbelievable. I can see why part of her believe he would not show.

I loved August from the get go. Yes we saw this amazing man but every person has a side that others normally do not see and August had that. He had a lot of anger that was built up inside and for good reason. My heart broke for everything he has to go through. August was a good man and had an amazing heart.

I hated August's father from the get go. He was pure evil and loved the hurt and fear he brought to others. I am not certain this man ever knew what it was like to love something other then power and money. I do not feel he loved either one of his sons. He was truly a selfish person.

At first I have to admit I did not like Alex who was August's brother. It was not till maybe the middle of the book I got to understand him and start to like him a little. By the end of the book I truly loved him and hope that we get to see a future book come out on his story.

I loved the steamy parts of the book and trust me when I say the author does not disappoint. I am so happy I

got a chance to read this book.

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### **LORRIE says**

This was exciting, suspenseful and romantic

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### **Jamilynn says**

Ok, I have waited months for this book to come out and I can tell you that it was so so worth the wait. There's a reminder of the ultimate bad boy that she writes so well but the way she is playing the past and present with each other kept me glued to my kindle. I haven't read thru a book that fast since I read my first book by Vanessa.loved it!

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### **Mary Clark says**

This was a well-written and quite extraordinary story that was intriguing from start to finish. Thought emotionally charged in some places, this only highlighted the overall excellence of the plot. It has been a while since I have read such a moving and unusual story. This is definitely a book I would have no hesitation in recommending.

There is nothing in Lily's future except a bleak question mark. Life used to be full of opportunities for Lily, but somehow her only choices now were to continue living in destitute poverty in an unsafe warehouse or to accept a stranger's marriage proposal. August and Lily had met online and every choice Lily makes brings her closer to August; a man who hears her confess her deepest fears and most intimate fantasies. But August didn't want to save Lily, he wants to marry her. Lily wonders why her, and can she really trust him, or will it cost her. Every detail about August hints at power and wealth and while he cannot give Lily a perfect life, he promises to make it a better one. August's father, Luis, is a powerful man; a general in the military, serving a dictator, President Cortés. Now Lily knew the reason for August's tight-lipped secrecy; while she had trusted him, he had lied and brought her into the country illegally, even if he did make her feel loved. August had sold Lily a fairytale and she had bought it, but has she exchanged one prison for another. August is lonely, broken and desperate; Lily knew August wanted her no matter what the cost, but it was complicated, and they were two broken pieces trying to be whole. As far as August's father is concerned, August is a selfish, spoiled brat, just waiting for an opportunity to leave, but his father will never allow it, while he uses Lily for propaganda purposes; threats force Lily to rethink her actions. August had warned Lily about his situation; that things would be different with him and she wouldn't have the same freedoms she was used to. August thought Lily loved him, and he assumed it would be enough. Lily needs a purpose in life, but knows anything she does will be politicized. August has a half-brother, Alejandro, but they didn't grow up together, were not close and August didn't trust him. When Lily confides in Alejandro, she knows she has made a mistake and this error of judgment has far reaching consequences. Meanwhile, August is still hanging on to his dream, but will he ever be free? Lily is an Espada now; she cannot come and go as she pleases, but then suddenly she becomes a liability. A copy of this book was provided to me with no requirements for a review. I voluntarily read this book and my comments here are my honest opinion.

