



Two Lies and a Spy

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Kari plunges into the world of espionage on a mission to save her parents while trying to impress the guy she's been in love with forever.

When sixteen-year-old Kari's dad sends her an unexpected text, she and her brother immediately go into hiding. Because when your parents are superspies and your dad declares a Code Black, it can only mean something bad. Very bad.

Kari soon discovers that her parents have been disavowed and declared traitors, and she's determined to clear their names. Breaking into the Agency seems like a reasonable plan, especially with the help of a team that includes her longtime crush, Luke, as well as her two best friends—an expert hacker with attitude and a master martial artist—and Luke's popular, vindictive twin sister. Oh, and a new guy, who's as cute as he is complicated...

Two Lies and a Spy Details

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From Reader Review Two Lies and a Spy for online ebook

LB says

2.5 / 5 stars rating

This review is also posted at <http://readingnookandcranny.blogspot....>

My heart rolls over while Lacey makes a rude retching noise from her corner of the elevator. And in case nobody hears that, she says, "Gaaaaag. Seriously?"

"Seriously?" is about what I thought as well. I think I would have enjoyed this book much more in late middle school or early high school, before I started dating and when I was around people who actually talked this way (even if I wasn't friends with this type of people because, quite frankly, they usually annoyed me).

The premise sounded awesome. A teenage girl who goes to an elite spy school that has been covertly trained in certain areas by her parents that work for the CIA. Young Alias type heroine? Check! Except... not really, it turns out. Kari gets a text from her parents that puts her on high alert, as it is a message they use to communicate when things have gone sideways. Kari goes to pick up her brother and when they show up at the rendezvous point where they are supposed to meet their parents, their parents never show. There could have been a lot of suspense and mystery and intrigue build around this plot, but instead Carlton ops for teenage drama as Kari gangs up with her hacker best friend, the guy she has a crush on, the guy she hates, and her crush's sister that she thinks is a bitch.

Finding out what the heck is going on with her parents then becomes almost an afterthought as Kari tries to plan out what to do by changing disguises and trying to flirt at the same time. There is an interesting twist at the end that was a bit original (but sort of reminded me of The Americans) that pulled a little interest back in, but by then I'd gotten bogged down in the teenage drama. I've already got the second novel checked out from the library, so I might take a crack at it, but I'm expecting the series will stay geared toward the usual teen romance and drama, and less into the political espionage drama.

Claire (bookscoffeeandrepeat) says

These characters are so immature

Hazel (Stay Bookish) says

Actual rating: 3.5

I had a grand ol' time with the sexual tension and banter between Kari and Evan. HILARIOUS! The spy aspect was cool too. And I adored Kari's genius little brother, Charlie!

Gabrielle says

I loooved this book . It made am laugh out loud so many times it was so funny. I loved the main character Karina she was so determined and awesome and funny and a no nonsense girl I also loved the relationship between her and her brother. I loved the characters Evan, Rita, Kale, Karina, Charlie and even Lacey . I felt like the romance could have been drawn out. I loved the plot it was very well paced and kept me hooked the entire time. I loved the writing style as well. The spy concept was also executed perfectly. The end had the perfect amount of a cliffhanger , not too much to the point where I was annoyed but just enough that left me hungry for more. I can't wait for the sequel!!

Celeste says

A Quickie in the Corner Review

Great. I open my mouth to say it, but am suddenly spun by the shoulders and slammed up against the wall. Mr. Pretentious Pits, Man of the Designer Deodorant, growls, "You sexy little troll." He covers my mouth with his obnoxious one—and the next thing I know, he's kissing me.
Kissing. Me.

3.5 stars

The plot was fast-paced from the beginning and Kari has become one of the most bad-ass chicks from YA that I've read about in a while. Like kick-ass. She was fantastic and sassy and all around a big ball of awesome sauce. Can she be my new best friend?

But then Lucas wasn't around in the novel nearly enough for me to get attached so I have fully jumped on the Evan bandwagon and all his British glory. Also Charlie is in his own league of bad-assery. He makes me wish my brothers were that cool at 7.

The whole Tinker-Spy-Parent-Traitor deal was sort of predictable with Sophie though, and the ending was way too 'boxy' for me - I was actually kind of hoping for some big whopping cliffhanger and was severely disappointed with the somewhat uneventful ending.

Can't wait for a sequel though.

Naughty Parting Thought

I totally think the random guy on the Harley who saved her from Mitch when she left the hotel is coming back to play a role. He was too mysterious not to be more important than he was made out to be. I also kinda lusted after him a bit even though he was a blink in the book, which has totally never happened to me before. Impressions matter!

Ayanami Faerudo says

I love YA espionage books. I loved The Gallagher Girls. I liked The Heist Society. The Specialists, The

Squad, Also Known As, and Digit were okay.

But this? This was not up to par.

Yes, the heroine was kick-ass but not smart. Was she really given lessons by her spy-parents? When you go under "Code Black" or whatever name you call your highest-level-emergency, You. Don't. Trust. Anyone. Ever. Kari was doing well, giving the school the slip, rounding up her little brother, dodging agents and following the family protocol but then she goes and make contact with her friends. There's nothing wrong with getting help from your friends but effing hell You're "Trained" By Spies Act Like One! Seriously. Kari blabbed everything to her motley group including that her parents were spies and she wanted their help to break into Langley. Ahahahahahahaha. See the major breach here? And when they entered Langley, Kari had this small, niggling thought that everything was too easy then it probably was... which it was. A trap, too. I mean, highly-trained agents could apparently be distracted by jiggling set of bazoongas. Come on. Pfffftttt.

Then, the mission itself. Proving Kari's parents were not double agents. Nice, nice vehicle for action and conflict. (view spoiler) Major drama. But there was something wrong with the picture here. Oh yeah, that confrontation scene. Why didn't she swap back the charm with the fake charm or whatever. Honestly, the superficial girl had more sense of swiping something, i.e. an access id, from an agent.

Full review at Whatever You Can Still Betray.

Melannie :) says

I friggin LOVE this cover and don't care if you judge me. There.

Book_freak says

what to say? what to say...?

I LOVED IT!!! it was a read full of awesomeness and fun & giggling and gasping and fan- girling and screaming and swooning and eye- rolling and laughing and fist- pumping and nail- biting!! emotions- disbelief & dislike & some serious like/ love & suspense and i should rather type the whole book out shouldn't i? :D

I was hooked from the first line and it kept me glued to the Kindle!
the writing was awesome...the perfect mix of spy/mystery & humor/wit that i just love
the plot was really good as well. a few surprising twists ;)

loved loved the characters! they were all so sarcastically kick-ass!
kari- a character that reminded me of Toby from Perfect Cover who is one of the most awesome YA girl

characters- shes up there with Katniss and Tris!

Evan- evan evan evan ♥

he was like annoying fly that keeps buzzing in your face...but a gorgeously witty (view spoiler) kinda fly! ♥
Luke- yesh! there's no luke-kari-evan love triangle. luke is not part of it, shouldn't be, according to me at least! i mean ok yeah hes cute and rich and all but who would even 100k at him with evan around??!! lacey and charlie and kale & rita they were all impossibly awesome as well

the book ended at a kinda cliff- hanger and the second book releases September 2nd 2014. so long! so longggg!! :(

overall amazing awesome book! totes fab
recommend for anyone who loved the squad
☆☆☆☆☆ 5 of 5 stars

? jamieson ? says

STRAP IN. I GOT A RANT COMING

Listen, I don't do these much because I really can't conjure up the energy to care that much but HERE WE ARE because every now and then a book comes along that just gets you fired up

And listen I know y'all thinking 2 things

1: Why did you read this in the first place?? DID I KNOW IT WAS GOING TO (PROBABLY) BE BAD?
YES I KNEW *buuut* I read it for Around the World in 52 Books so you can't judge me gooooodbye

2: if you hated it so much explain how you read it in one sitting?? THIS IS A FAIR COP. But do you know that feeling when you're like *oh my god this is so bad I have to stop reading/watching* but as you say this you're hitting next episode? that was me okay

So I guess I can't say the one good thing about this book is that it's really addictive. Like I read it all in one sitting so I can hardly fault it on that front.

BUT OH MY GOD THIS BOOK

You know how we need to leave 2012 in the past because it was a weird and unlawful time? y e a h. I know this is a 2012 book because it literally **has every 2012 trope these is** Love triangle? yes. Girl on girl hate? yes. Boys with eyes that can change 12 different colours depending on their mood? ye s. the sort of abusive boy who's abusive traits are somehow supposed to be hot? ye boi

THE LOVE TRIANGLE

Ah on page 2 we are introduced to our love interests. There's Luke - tall, 8 packed, tanned, grey eyes that sometimes go blue. Rich, nice, sexy dimples. He smells "sporty and sexy" direct quote
Then there's Evan - rough around the edges, super great body also, ""funny"", mysterious, blonde, a bit of a bad boy. Probably has gold eyes

READ THIS FOR YOURSELF

(view spoiler)

Anyway, first of all authors are seriously setting up all 16 year olds for disappointment because let me tell you from the bottom of my heart there are no 16 year olds who are this perfect super hot sexy - 16 year olds are gangly and pimply AND THATS NORMAL !! THATS GOOD !!! but they aren't fucking Abercrombie models the fuck

Okay the main character is described as being "super boring" - brown hair, brown eyes, obviously described in a negative way because of course. But don't worry, she's secretly super hot in the eyes of the boys and she will LEARN how truly beautiful she is don't worry (I probably shouldn't hate on the MC too much because she was kinda badass there was a scene where she choked a man with a child backpack strap like damn)

OKAY So lets talk about Love Triangle Member #2

EVAN KINCAID AND THE NO GOOD, VERY BAD, TOXIC MALE CHARACTERISTICS

So Evan is introduced as being the mystery student. He moved to America from London and has a super hot British accent but no one knows anything about him.

So one of the first things he does is the old Jace Wayland "he ran his eyes slowly down my body" HELLO THIS IS NOT HOT it's like directly objectifying the MC but anyway **of course** it's presented as being hot and cool whatever moving on.

So he's supposed to be super funny. Except.... his humour is always just making objectifying jokes about women.

Ahem, I quote.

"I almost didn't recognise you, but then one thing gave you away. It's the curve of your arse, love, I'd recognise it anywhere"

(If you vomited in your mouth a little, I did too)

NEXT

OKAY SO HE LITERALLY CALLS HARRASSING THE GIRLS FUN I should note this comes after he makes a heap of jokes about how he'd like to see Luke's sister (who's 15/16) naked and how she has such good boobs ect ect AND THEN

IF THIS WASN'T BAD ENOUGH

THE OTHER BOYS LAUGH ABOUT HOW HE MADE THE "ITS FUN" COMMENT

THEY LAUGHED

BITCH WTTFFF

But ooooh boy we haven't even got to the best (most toxic) bit yet
So there's a scene where Evan comes up from behind, SLAMS THE MC AGAINST THE WALL and KISSES HER WITHOUT CONSENT. and of course the other people with her cheer because these kids haven't had the consent talk yet or some bullshit. and she physically fights him off and goes off (RIGHTFULLY SO) - she says about it "I barely restrain a snarl. I cannot even verbalize how pissed off I am"

SO THIS WOULD BE GOOD (AS IN HER ANGER ABOUT IT) EXCEPT THE KISS IS KINDA PORTRAYED AS SEXY IN A WAY AND GOOD AND LATER THERE ARE NO REPURCUSSIONS BECAUSE SHE ENDS UP BEING ALL LIKE "EVAN IS MY FRIEND AND A GOOD GUY" BITCH WTF DID YOU FORGT THE TIME HE ASSAULTED YOU I DIDNT

LACEY CARSON DESERVED BETTER

So Luke, the li, has a little sister called Lacey. On literally page 2 the mc starts talking about how she's awful and such a bitch and soo mean and how she hates her

HELLO GIRLS HATING GIRLS ISN'T COOL ANYMORE

So Lacey is supposed to be really hot because thats how the characters describe her. She often is called "jailbait" by the main guys which is weird

So she's the Isabelle Lightwood of the book. She dresses in short skirts and has expensive lingerie and on fleek eyebrows and instead of evryone being like "wow! she's so confident rock on girl" THEY SHAME HER. SHE GETS CALLED A HO AND A WHORE AND A SLUT AND IM TIREDDDDD

Also I'm a bit Disturbed because often she author makes her flirt with older adult men and talks about how they're ogling her breasts or butt which is a really ... not cool way to write your own character? Like you're literally objectifying her for adults mens gaze in your own story SO NOT COOL

Ironically, Lacey is the smartest motherfucker of all these dumb motherfuckers and she really kindly helps out the main trio so many times even though they're rude as fuck to her so keep on keeping on Lacey I am So Sorry you got reduced to this terrible trope

APHOBIA AND GENERAL ROMANCE BULLSHITTERY

So there's a bit when the MC gets angry and the li says "god, you're beautiful when you're angry" NOO don't belittle and dismiss people's feelings like this IT ISN'T CUTE and I just FUCBJKDFGKJD FUCKING HATE THIS LINE

okay but the REAL bullshittery

First of all, she girl says she's never kissed a guy (at age 16) and the li says to her "what is wrong with you"

WHAT THE FUCK DO YOU MEAN WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU. NOTHING IS FUCKING WROJG WITH HER. NO ONE NEEDS TO KISS ANYONE IT'S NOT FUCKING IMPORTANT AND IT MEANS NOTHIN

So he starts teasing her about it and she says

"Can you stop making me feel like a freak of nature"

"But you are. What girl of sixteen has never kissed anyone?"

Ok guys, seriously, in all seriouness. *I hate this so much* It's such a terrible and fucking untrue message to send. Kissing people ?? is (overrated) no ok serious it's something you do IF YOU WANT TO when YOU'RE READY. And if you never want to ? that's fine you're normal. This is fucking the worst book, because the girls who kiss too much are sluts and the girls who don't kiss are "freaks of nature"

and the fucking real joke is she's SIXTEEN she's still a kid ! No, who you have or haven't kissed doesn't fucking mean anything. Some people don't like kissing or want to kiss, some people haven't found someone they'd like to kiss. THERE IS SO MANY REASON WHY YOU MIGHT NOT HAVE KISSED SOMEONE AND NONE OF THEM MAKE YOU WEIRD

AND WHAT THE FUCK SHE'S SIXTEEN

Also Evan is fucking wrong because lots of 16 year olds have not kissed anYONE AND IT'S ALL OKAY

This bit really annoyed me. Plus is was aphobic as fuck and just generally shitty I hatedd it.

SOME DOT POINTS

- the "twist" was so fucking obvious fjghgj
- I hate Evan so much and I hope he dies in a puddle of his own bullshit
- Charlie (mc's little bro) is the One Good Thing in this book
- WHY DO PUBS LET BOOKS LIKE THIS HAPPEN WHY

My name is jamieson and on the mystery of "is this book as trash as I thought it would be" I name it fucking solved it really was.

Honestly, me opening this up to see every trope I hate ?

So All in All I hard DO NOT REC lmfao

Review end

nick says

Read more of my reviews at Nick's Book Blog.

I love a good spy book and *Two Lies and a Spy* caught my attention with its fun looking cover and the pretty awesome title. As soon as we enter the book, we are on an action-packed adventure along with Kari and an amazing cast of secondary characters. Kari was a main character who was a badass who was ready to do anything to help save her parents. What I liked mostly about her was her ability to think through any situation before making a decision. She was head-strong, level-headed and smart, which can be a rarity in YA heroines. As much as I loved Kari, it was her friends and little brother that made this book a success for me. I loved the interactions they had and they were so funny at times. As far as the plot goes, it was highly entertaining and it did take a turn that I didn't foresee at the end, which made me like this book even more. I have to admit that you have to suspend your disbelief and forget about logic when it came to this book, because it did have scenes that were over the top, but that didn't mean the book was any less enjoyable. There also seemed to be a budding love triangle, which I honestly did not approve of, but on the romance front, nothing much happened in the book, so I was able to forgive this book for its love triangle. The next book will probably define it a bit more. All in all, if you are a fan of the movie *Spy Kids* or are looking for a book that is fun, entertaining and light, I recommend *Two Lies and a Spy* wholeheartedly!

Liz at Midnight Bloom Reads says

I hadn't heard anything about *Two Lies and a Spy* before I began reading it, but I'm so glad I didn't miss out! If you like books with teenage espionage and a hint of romance, I'm sure you'll be loving this book too. Kat Carlton's debut *Two Lies and a Spy* is pure fun!

A single text message from her father sends Kari Andrews and her younger brother, Charlie, on the run in this fast-paced thrill ride! Kari's spy parents have been captured and accused as traitors, but she's willing to do whatever it takes to prove the Agency is wrong, even if it means some computer hacking and breaking into one of the most secure buildings in the world with the help of her friends.

Kari is an awesome protagonist. She's headstrong, tough and knows how to protect herself in a fight, yet there's also a vulnerable side to her as well that she tries to hide. Under the circumstances, it would be understandable for Kari to crack and shatter as her life falls apart around her, but she remains steadfast and pulls herself together. After all, Charlie may be an adorable seven-year-old genius, but he still needs his big sister to look after him.

Kari may find herself in the serious situation of trying to rescue her parents and clearing their names, but *Two Lies and a Spy* is actually pretty cute and light. There were some really funny laugh out loud moments, especially in the form of trying to disguise identities. And Kari may have a crush on Luke, but her snarky banter with hottie British transfer student Evan will have you jumping ship to Team Evan at the first opportunity.

The execution of the plot could have been more complex to add a greater sense of danger and intrigue, but nevertheless, *Two Lies and a Spy* was an entertaining read from start to finish. After learning some very difficult truths about her life that will surely impact her actions in the future, I can't wait to see what's in store

for Kari when the sequel is released next year!

Nasty Lady MJ says

Really 1.5 stars. Dear lord, I hated a lot about this book. I don't know if it was because the book seemed to be written for a younger audience (it seemed more middle grade than YA) or if the entire structure just seemed meh and there were some giant gaps in logic filled with Mary Sue asses.

To see full review click on one of the following links:

The Blog

Booklikes

Katy says

This ended up being a pretty great read. It was intriguing. It was thrilling. It was FUN! And, it surprised me in more ways than one and did not end up the way I thought it was going to.

Before I start, I wouldn't say the espionage plot was out of this world. Kari's parents are missing; they're declared traitors; she and her brother are on the run; and she and her friends try to clear her parents' names. There are some spy stuff, as well as a few fight scenes. But it was written in a way that didn't make you take it way too seriously to the point where you're thinking, "C'mon on! This is BS!" It just sort of worked - really, really well.

The characters were really great. I really liked Kari. She was spunky, but not in an annoying way - a thin line many authors often cross. My admiration for her is most comparable to the way I feel about Katarina Bishop in Ally Carter's Heist Society.

Charlie was amazing. Luke is adorable. And I LOVE Evan. Yeah, I can see how he would annoy the crap out of someone, but I could tell there was more to him, and his bickering with Kari kept me entertained. Rita and Kale were typical sidekicks. And even though Lacey was a bit over-the-top, I really liked her too because her ridiculousness made me chuckle.

I had expected to pick up a espionage story that would most likely try too hard to make the spy scenes thrilling and exciting (hey, you are writing for young adult after all). So I was prepared to nit-pick. BUT I was totally blown away by how much I enjoyed reading this. Carlton just had a way of making the book serious, yet light and fun at the same time, and it's been a while that I can say that I just thoroughly enjoyed reading a book instead of grading its merits.

Negar says

Evan's in my face again. "Insult me one more time, just so I know you're going to make it."

I try to come up with another bad word, but my brain doesn't cooperate. And then it sort of does—because I realize that for the first time ever, I want to say something nice to Evan Kincaid. This is totally shocking, but true.

“Let me have it, Kari.”

I'm grinning under the oxygen mask.

“I can take it. C’mon.”

With a superhuman effort, because they're so heavy, I manage to lift my left arm and hand and knock away the oxygen mask. "F-f—"

“Oooh. Now you’re playing hardball,” he says.

“Friend,” I announce.

For a moment there's dead silence.

Then Evan laughs, long and hard. "I think I'm going to faint."

One of the paramedics pushes the oxygen mask into place before I can say “Me too.” And darkness closes in around me once again.

Missy's Book World says

I love this YA book it was what basically started my reading addiction (lol). This book is one of my top 3 favorite? YA series to be ever written in (my opinion). I loved the suspense and the humor. Oh my I laughed a lot during this book.