



# No Exit

*Lena Diaz*

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**No Exit** Lena Diaz

**Lena Diaz returns to the thrilling world of EXIT Inc., with two enemies who become unlikely allies—and discover that only through love can they save each other...**

As an agent of the Equalizers, Jace Atwell will risk everything to destroy EXIT Inc., the corrupt antiterrorist group, before more innocent lives are lost. The only way to infiltrate EXIT is by getting close to the CEO's beautiful daughter, but when they get a little too close, Jace finds himself falling for the woman he is duty-bound to deceive.

Whatever clandestine activities EXIT is involved in, Melissa Cardenas refuses to believe that her father is responsible and is determined to prove it. So when sexy, smooth-talking Jace comes clean about his motives, Melissa drops a bombshell of her own: she's been investigating too—and she wants to help him find the truth.

The chemistry between Melissa and Jace is undeniable, but their opposing views of justice make teamwork tricky. With their lives on the line—and the truth something neither of them expected—the only way to survive will be to trust their hearts and each other . . . if they can.

## No Exit Details

Date : Published January 26th 2016 by Avon

ISBN : 9780062349118

Author : Lena Diaz

Format : Mass Market Paperback 384 pages

Genre : Romance, Romantic Suspense, Contemporary Romance, Suspense, Contemporary

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# **From Reader Review No Exit for online ebook**

## **Mignon Mykel says**

If you read the previous EXIT, Inc. book, you know all about the sly, crazy stuff going on 'on the side' of this business. If you didn't...? Well, you're going to learn, and you'll learn first hand through the daughter of the CEO. I enjoyed that Jace and his team decided to infiltrate the group in a slightly different manner -- and when the first mission doesn't go exactly as planned, he starts to question well... everything. Including the fact that he may find the daughter to be quite beautiful.

I love when we have main characters who know that the other is completely, 100%-ly, off limits, yet fate doesn't allow them to look the other way. That was the case with Jace and Melissa. Watching as he battles his desire for her, and stay true to the man he was, was a fun journey. Likewise, though, I was fully expecting a big fall-out when Melissa learned just what was happening.

This was another fun, action-packed story by Ms. Diaz. On one hand, the character growth wasn't too substantial, but the chemistry was there, so it was easy to overlook. I also personally found Melissa's loyalty-versus-betrayal thought pattern to be a bit wishy-washy, especially in one of the final scenes.

In the end, there was more to like in this book than be annoyed with. Not only that, but there are more questions that arise... I'm looking forward to the third installment.

\* received a copy of the title in exchange for an honest review.

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## **Danielle says**

This is my first book by Diaz and wow I really enjoyed every minute of it! It was fast paced and filled with non stop action that I honestly didn't want to end. Since I didn't read the first book I was a little lost on the whole history of exit but I'm so glad Diaz took the time to explain it over again for first time readers of this series.

Jace is a ex navy seal and recently left his bodyguard job when something went wrong. Now he's helping other men take down exit and get to the bottom of why innocent people are being killed by assassins.

Melissa is the president of exit while her father is the CEO. Some strange things are going on and she is digging deep to find out what they are. The problem is she doesn't know who she can trust.

It's been a while since I have read a good romantic suspense with characters that I really enjoyed and this one just did it for me. I never got bored and I honestly didn't want to put this down. I had no issues on keeping track with who was who and what side they were on.

I felt these two main characters had some great chemistry and I loved how they started to work together even if they didn't completely trust one another. This book also had a mystery vibe on who is pulling the strings and why.

If you're looking for a good suspense to get your heart rate going I definitely suggest reading this book!

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## **Mona says**

Fantastic. 2nd book in An Exit Inc Thriller.

Ms. Diaz has gives so much suspense and let me tell you I could not but it down. It's emotional and you'll see why.

When Jace Atwell is assigned to watch Melissa Cardenas it's only a job. To find out what her father is doing inside EXIT Inc. But the plan doesn't go as planned. He may have to rethink things. Just maybe things will work out better for him now. It's about to get really interesting.

The only problem is there's something happening to him when he's around her.

The best is yet come. It may be dangerous, and soon Melissa realizes what's the real truth. She doesn't want to face but she has too.

Highly recommend...

1st book must read: EXIT STRATEGY

2nd: NO EXIT

3rd book: FINAL EXIT

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## **Danielle says**

After reading Exit Strategy last year I couldn't wait to read No Exit and watch the Equalizers bring down EXIT Inc. That being said, while I enjoyed some aspects of No exit, it wasn't everything I was hoping it'd be.

Jace is new to the Equalizers and has been tasked with getting close to the CEO of EXIT Inc's daughter, Melissa, so he can get inside EXIT and do some digging. When things don't exactly go according to plan, Jace ends up protecting Melissa and getting in a lot sooner than he expected.

Melissa has been doing a little snooping of her own to try to figure out what her father's been up to and when she decides that Jace is trustworthy enough, even though she knows he's not being totally honest about a few things, she lets him in on her little secret... Which is when things start to pick up a little bit.

I think my main issue with No Exit is the fact that up until 50% nothing really happened. Jace and Melissa meet, argue about her father, and then FINALLY we get to see just a little bit of action... With the baddies and between the sheets. Since the first book in this series offered non-stop action from beginning to end I was expecting the same to be said about this one and unfortunately that's not the case.

Once the action started to pick up though? I couldn't wait to see how it would all play out. Melissa and Jace had each others back right through it all and it was a nice change to see a heroine hold her own in some of the situations they were in. But that ending? I was really hoping for more closure, and at this point, after everything that happened, we're left wondering if the Equalizers are even still a team.

Overall, while I was hoping for a little more from No Exit, it still ended up being a decent read and I'm still looking forward to see where Lena Diaz goes with this series if she decides to get the Equalizers back

together again.

\*ARC kindly provided in exchange for an honest review.

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## **Christina says**

4.5 Stars – 2.5 Flames

We all know that the second installment to series are rarely better than the first, but this one blows the first out of the water...and I LOVED the first one. I have to give the author credit. This is the second book of hers that I've read that there is non-stop action on every page. Yes, every page. So if you're a skimmer, don't do it with this one. You'll miss something important, guaranteed.

As with the first installment, we're immediately thrust into a high stress situation where the lead female, Melissa, is being chased off a mountain. But it's not the typical chase; at least that's not what it's supposed to be. We as readers are thrown a twist in the first Chapter. Yep, I said it. Don't worry though. It won't be the first twist, turn, and jaw dropping moment in this.

Jace is a member of the Equalizers who are still trying to take down Cyprian Cardenas and his "behind the scenes" company. Turns out that Cyprian's daughter runs the "front" part of the company, completely blind to what her father is really up to. Unfortunately, Jace has the task of getting to know Melissa in order to find a way to take her father down.

There is absolutely no way for me to write this review without some sort of spoilers, so I'll keep the good ones to myself. Obviously there will be chemistry between Jace and Melissa because, well, because. What you'll find out is that Melissa isn't the typical innocent girl. She's been through a lot and can totally hold her own. Now wonder Jace falls for her, right?

Since there are so many twists and turns and so much awesome action, the romance department isn't on the top of the list. But the action scenes and "who done it" feel kept me so captivated that I found it very hard to put down, even when I had to. I highly recommend this to any suspense, action, military reader and it CAN be read as a stand alone....but why would you?

\*I was given a copy of this book as a gift from The JeepDiva in exchange for an honest review.

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## **Beverly says**

This is the second of the series. I liked it better than the first one because I had already met the cast of characters from the first book, so it made more sense. Lots of action, interesting story.

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## ? Kimberly says

Diaz begins the No Exit with an intense scene that does not play out at all like Equalizer, Jace Atwell expected. Jace is trying to infiltrate EXIT Inc. and the team decided the CEO's daughter Melissa Cardenas is the perfect way to gain entry. He is to save her after his teammate runs her off the side of the road. Only it is not his teammate and gunshots are exchanged. From that, moment on Diaz kept up the intense thrills.

I enjoyed watching Melissa and Jace get to know each other. Neither trusts the other, but Jace quickly realizes that Melissa is beginning to suspect her father is up to something nefarious. Their interactions felt genuine and the constant danger may have sped up the emotional aspects of their relationship, I never doubted it.

I love ex-military, special OPS men and Jace was adorable. While his basic instinct is to protect, I appreciated his interaction and respect for Melissa. Melissa is strong, but definitely lonely. She was well on her way to discovering her father's secrets, but it is hard to accept your father is a cold-hearted killer. A twist at the end almost made me pity the man. Jace and Melissa are leaders and it created some fun banter, a little danger and some heat. Characters from Exit Strategy are present, and we get updates on the Watcher's, Council and overall story arc. Each book features a different member of the Equalizers and their love interest. Diaz does a nice job of bringing the reader up to speed enabling No Exit, to work as a standalone. The overall story arc continues and I am anxious to discover which teammate will be featured next.

Copy provided by publisher. This review was originally posted on Caffeinated Book Reviewer

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## Laura the Highland Hussy says

Review posted on Got Fiction?

The first book in this series really caught my attention. It was full of intrigue, twists, turns, and hot romance.

This second book starts off just as fast, with the mission going south. But the hero Jace doesn't know the half of it. The plan is to have his partner run the daughter of their enemy off the road, and Jace will save her, gaining her trust. Of course, it doesn't go to plan.

Part of the problem with this book is that it doesn't stand alone. If you haven't read the first one, you won't get caught up until midway through. I mean, you'll know what's going on in the plot for this actual book, but you won't know why Cyprian Cardenas is the bad guy, what he did last book, or why his actual (original) purpose wasn't terrible.

EXIT Inc. is Cyprian's business. It's a tour guide company where they take you on extreme vacations. But there's another side to EXIT Inc. It's a secret government department that takes out bad guys. So EXIT Inc. starts out as the good guys. In the last book Exit Strategy, we found out that Cyprian has been using it to take out innocent people. So the good guys have become his personal assassin team.

In this book, Jace is using Melissa to get close to her father. The idea being that the guys who broke away from EXIT Inc. are trying to prove what's going on and get the government to shut down Cyprian's operation.

Melissa is trying to figure out what's going on as well. But on her own, she isn't able to do what Jace can do. Although she's made some progress. Melissa hires him for protection as her bodyguard, and the two of them dance around each other. This is where it starts to fall apart for me. (and it's still like only the first quarter of the book).

Melissa obviously doesn't know what's going on, but she knows Jace isn't just her bodyguard. Everything was too coincidental. So she starts to push him for info. And he tells her almost everything! I was so mad at that. The guy's a former SEAL. He can keep a secret from everybody but this chick?! Seriously? And his backup decided since he couldn't keep his trap shut, that he was out of their club. It was just such a weird scene. In general. It really sticks out as where I almost DNF'd the book.

Melissa veered into TSTL (Too Stupid To Live) territory a few times. She kept talking about how she needed to protect him. Anytime something bad happened, she acted as if he's incapable of doing anything, and ruins his plan. He's not a martyr, he's a SEAL. Give him some credit that he's not going to go down without a fight, or a plan. At one point she brought a knife to gun fight-she doesn't know what she's doing! She tried to protect Jace, but got in the way, and got shot for her troubles.

Overall, the plot is there, it's a full and exciting plot that she did so little with! I was so disappointed that this book didn't hold up to the first.

\*\*\*ARC courtesy of AVON books

HighlandHussy

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## **Carmen Pacheco says**

When we last explored the world of Lena Diaz ([EXIT Strategy review](#) available [here](#)), it became crystal clear that the once-respected organization was anything but savory, and on the verge of being dismantled. Cyprian, the head of the snake, is under intense scrutiny and only an “inside job” can eliminate his nefarious, misconstrued plotting to salvage the company. Easy enough. Jace Atwell will get close to Melissa, Cyprian’s daughter, professionally speaking, and secure irrefutable proof to oust the bad guy permanently. When Jace and Melissa connect, however, lines blur and easy only applies to yesterday (a motto he lives by as a former Navy SEAL). Hot, I know! No Exit was a wonderful extension of a fabulous storyline with new characters (and previous studs), engaging writing and plots to enhance the overall thrilling effect. As customary, Ms. Diaz grips you in varying degrees, from swoons to sweaty upper lips! :D

As nonchalant as Jace purports to handle his new job as Melissa’s bodyguard, he quickly ascertained cross purposes at work; mysterious government watchdogs and rogue missions, to name a few. A worry those, but none more than underestimating Melissa (more like sure to blindside him if he doesn’t give Melissa the respect her business acumen has earned her). When Jace’s efforts are compromised (Melissa’s no wallflower), does he walk away, leaving Melissa to root out real evil or stay to collaborate and bring forth real justice?

When Lena Diaz writes a book, the action and romance don’t compete for attention. She weaves them in and sweeps you up, even when you didn’t think it would fit. I sure enjoy that feeling! Jace was written so confidently (no easy task when you compare those previously mentioned studs), I looked forward to harrowing close-calls; to see how they’d hit the ground running when up against the wall. Melissa, in her own right, has a spine of steel and it is called upon more often than not. Dreading the truth will only keep her head buried and this woman needs to live! Romance develops as ideas align. Ms. Diaz has you clutching at

your heart in ecstasy and fear.

If Jace and the team succeed, will any hope of keeping Melissa's heart end in failure?

"...Losing you, if I lost you, that would be the worst."

It dawned on him that it wasn't just the rain running down her face. It was tears.

"Have I?" she whispered. "Have I lost you?"

As if I'd tell?! Ugh, so, so, good! No Exit is a line to cross...to become free. Layers of tangled secrets, lies exposed, truths faced, murder, and then some...It's all in here!

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## **Catherine (The Sassy Bookster) says**

NO EXIT is a captivating, action-filled, edge of the seat ride from the first page, filled with mystery and suspense, many players with complex and conflicting motives as well as surprising and unexpected twists.

The Equalizers are still on a quest to bring down EXIT, Inc.'s covert operation and this time, they plan to infiltrate using Melissa Cardena, the President of EXIT, Inc. and daughter of the CEO. While Jace Atwell's plan to gain entry does not go as expected it works out in his favor and gets him the access he needs, but Melissa is much smarter than he gives her credit for and soon they find themselves working together as unwilling allies.

Melissa Cardena has had her suspicions that her father is involved in unsavory activities and one too many coincidences, including the convenient death of her boyfriend and his family only served to support her suspicions. She doesn't want to believe that her father is dirty and she has been secretly conducting an investigation, one that could lead to her death if caught and she knows that Jace Atwell's sudden appearance in her life is connected but she is determined to find the truth.

Melissa and Jace at cross-purposes but have to depend on each other when Jace is cut loose by the Equalizers for fear that his loyalty has been compromised and their investigation leads them down a rabbit hole where they are up against bad guys with different motives and a master puppeteer who takes delight in manipulating all the players for his own purposes.

I have to say that Ms. Diaz writes a mean thriller, the nail-biting kind that keeps the reader flipping pages quickly to find out what happens next. Melissa and Jace are very strong but complimentary characters and work very well together. Jace is reliable, honorable and protective and Melissa is smart and stubborn. My only minor issue about this book was that in spite of the sparks between Jace and Melissa, their romance did not get equal billing as the mystery and suspense.

Disclaimer: I received this book for free from the Publisher in exchange for an honest review. This does not affect my opinion of the book or the content of my review.

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## **John W. says**

NO EXIT is an action packed thriller captivating readers from the start of Lena Diaz's storyline. Diaz weaves subplots around betrayal, corruption, murder, manipulation, and romance moving the main storyline forward like the speed of lightning. Her female protagonist, Melissa Cardenas, daughter of EXIT Inc., CEO, Cyprian Cardenas, is loyal to her father but feels something is off. Exit Inc., is on the surface is a legitimate company offering extreme international tours and behind the scenes is secret government sanctioned company charged with eliminating people who are a danger to national security. Diaz's male protagonist, Jace Atwell, works undercover for the Equalizer organization, seeking to prove EXIT is doing something illegal. Equalizer's goal is to stop EXIT's illegal assassinations. Readers are given Melissa and Jace's backstory and Diaz continues to develop each character as the story proceeds. After Jace saves Melissa's life, they found a connection and decided they would work together to uncover the truth regarding EXIT's activities.

Readers meet key support characters and learn their history and roles in the storyline as Diaz brings them into her story. Diaz moves her storyline forward keeping focus on activities at EXIT Inc. She takes her story different directions via subplots giving readers in inside view of what the antagonists are planning. The decision of Melissa and Jace to work together creates a conflict between Jace and the Equalizer team. Readers see events unfold through Melissa and Jace's eyes giving them an understanding of their feeling of being alone. The author keeps her readers aware of her continuing development each of the key support characters. She reveals information to readers, gradually keeping their involvement in story's action.

Diaz creates an atmosphere of intrigue by adding suspense with each twist and turn of the storyline. Each change helps readers understand unfolding events, bringing each piece of the puzzle together. The author keeps readers off balance gradually helping them focus so they can figure out what is happening. Lena Diaz is careful to build the momentum moving readers towards the intense ending of NO EXIT.

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## **Books and Spoons says**

Take a deep breath, and sit back comfortable, because you are about to emerge in a roll-a-coaster ride, a non stop thrill ride of suspense, mystery, and murder.

Wow, this story starts with the guns blazing, high intensity, and goes into the deep secrets of EXIT from the page one. It was impossible to put off my hands. The action is constant, the twists in the plot, the little pieces of the puzzle of the mystery recovered, the murders, and attempts to kill, all requires your attention.

The events of the book one, are so cleverly build into this story, that everything that happen in the book before, are clear in the memory of the reader, without boring them to tears with repetition. Also, makes this book two easier to follow, for a new readers for the series.

There's a lot characters, but they are manageable to keep track of, the members of the council, the watcher, whomever it is, the enforcers, the main characters, all play an important part in the revealing puzzle of information. It is mesmerising, how all the pieces fall into the place, and more about the evil actions of EXIT comes to light.

Jace, the former SEAL, is honourable, trustworthy, smart, and always ready for action. He is adorable, really, with his convictions and attraction to Melissa, he won my heart easily.

Melissa is a leader, she stubborn, intelligent, sassy lady. She has been lonely, worried, and fearful for a long time, and finally found a person she feels safe with, Jace. The banter between them is fun and to the point, they work well as a team, and respect each other, even learn to trust each other as time goes by. The romance takes a backseat to the action in the story, but there's no doubt about the connection, attraction, and feelings growing on between Jace and Melissa, and they are genuine.

Riveting action, breathtaking battles to stay alive, and enchanting romance on the side between charming characters - all the trademarks of excellent romantic suspense!

~ Five Spoons

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## **Gaele says**

The second I've read in this series, I'm still sorting out the ins and outs of the genre itself, although I do love the characters, action and tension that weaves through this series. An underlying common thread EXIT means they are all just dancing over the edge of rogue agents, handling the jobs that are 'too hot' for ordinary sanctioned actions by the government. That alone has readers expecting action and tension, and Diaz certainly delivers with plots, subplots, agendas and the underlying truth so buried it requires an excavation.

Jace works for the Equalizers, an organization that is dedicated to unearthing the covert actions of EXIT, ostensibly to protect those who are wrapped up in situations while not truly being involved. He plans to infiltrate EXIT by using and deceiving the daughter of the CEO, Melissa. Starting in 5th gear, we're dropped into Jace's plan but things don't follow his outline.

While publicly, Melissa isn't willing to acknowledge her father could have been involved in less than savory missions, she's also not willing to share her own discoveries with a man she just met. These two do spark off one another, and the revelation is more of a surprise to Jace than I think he was expecting. Jace isn't cold-hearted or single-minded: his character is protective and caring and he manages to balance the two in such a way that Melissa can't help but see the honorable man beneath the initial deceptions. She's not meek either, and these two strong personalities have plenty of banter as they test one another on that journey to trust. Sparks fly a plenty, always with the threat of discoveries and being discovered along the way...

Discovering secrets, dropping in a serious twist with secondary characters, background information and a mystery puppet master pulling the strings that combine to make the story move forward apace while allowing the reader to feel they have enough information to follow along, know the characters and understand just what is going on. Well-balanced to give a nod to the first book, while still allowing readers to jump in without having experience with the earlier titles in the series. A wonderful read that kept me intrigued and thinking throughout.

I received an ARC copy of the title via the publisher's Avon Addicts program for purpose of honest review. I was not compensated for this review: all conclusions are my own responsibility.

This review was originally posted on I am, Indeed

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## **Jen says**

The second book in the series continues where book one ended with Jace looking for a way in to EXIT to help take it down. Unfortunately, the only way is through their enemies daughter. They are sure of Melissa's

knowledge of or involvement in EXIT's enforcement arm, but after months of surveillance, Jace can't believe that she even knows about her father's secret activities. Melissa may have been ignorant of her father's activities, but in the recent months she had some suspicions and began to investigate on her own. Jace's boss doesn't think that Melissa can be trusted and cuts off communication with him. As they work together to get to the truth and stop EXIT, they face danger from not only her father, but a traitor who is out for personal revenge. This was a fast-paced suspense that kept me glued to the pages wondering what was going to happen next and where the Equalizers go from here.

I received an ARC via NetGalley for the purpose of an honest review. I was not compensated for this review, all conclusions are my own.

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### **Karen says**

Lena Diaz is a sure bet for a well written, action packed romantic suspense story. To see more, check out my review on my blog.

[goo.gl/YkFbPx](https://goo.gl/YkFbPx)

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