



## His Suspicious Ways

*Lexxie Couper*

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Years ago, Jackson McKenzie let desire override his better judgement when he indulged in the hottest night of his life with Ali, a young woman he knew was off-limits. Guilt drove him to say things he didn't mean and leave when he wanted to stay more than anything. But now that he's heard Ali might be in trouble, he has no choice but to step back into her life, no matter how unwelcome he is.

After her father's death and her mother's worsening illness, Ali Graham is just trying to keep things together. But the mounting medical bills mean she's in danger of losing her inherited yacht-chartering business. Just when it seems things couldn't get worse, the man who broke her heart sails back into her life, claiming he wants to help.

As much as her traitorous body still craves his touch, Ali tries to keep Jackson at arm's length. But how far is she willing to go to avoid risking her heart again?

## His Suspicious Ways Details

Date : Published August 21st 2017 by Entangled: Indulgence (first published November 6th 2012)

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Author : Lexxie Couper

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## From Reader Review His Suspicious Ways for online ebook

### Gigi Melodias says

Enjoyed this. A bit different than her other books.

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### MBR says

Full review with quotes up on MBR's Realm of Romance

**Rating=4.25/5**

Rated an AWESOME READ from the sunny side of life!

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### Fedora says

Lexxie Couper takes her readers in a slightly different direction with Suspicious Ways. If you're at all familiar with Ms. Couper's writing, you'll know that it's usually a combination of compelling characters, heartfelt emotion, intriguing plot, and scorching hot action between the sheets (or elsewhere...).

With Suspicious Ways, Ali Graham and Jackson McKenzie simply get it on a little less frequently and explicitly than they might in one of Ms. Couper's other books. Ali is a young, extremely competent sailor, but you'd never know it from the way the other captains shun her. They gossip that she was the cause of her father's untimely death in a boating accident several years ago, and the loss of business is ultimately affecting her ability to stay afloat. Jackson was her boat-building father's business partner, and he's always been strongly drawn to Ali's many charms. He's back in town, and finds her just as irresistible as before. Unfortunately, others do as well, and that throws another wrench into the already complicated works.

My one complaint is simply that part of the plot hinges on the characters making assumptions about each other or the situation and failing to communicate openly. While I admit that this all too frequently happens in real life as well as fiction, it drives me bananas when a large part of the conflict is driven this way--I just wanted to sit them both down and give them a smack upside the head.

It's testament to Ms. Couper's writing though that I cared deeply about Ali and Jack and wanted desperately for them to be able to work things out. And the supporting characters are also appropriately likeable or despicable as called for :)

Suspicious Ways is an enjoyable contemporary romance--after all, where Ms. Couper writes, we readers can follow knowing she'll deliver a good read.

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### J.S. Snow says

Amazing suspense novel from Lexxie Cooper I enjoyed immensely. The build up to the sex scenes was at times too much to bear, but then suddenly, Lexxie delivered. Intrigue and suspense reigned throughout and you found yourself truly feeling for these characters. Another amazing read from a stellar writer.

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## **Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews says**

Piper's

4 Stars

Tame their desire? Better to try and tame the wind.

Four years after her father's tragic death, Ali Graham is still trying to piece together her shattered life. However, with her mother's worsening illness and mounting medical bills, Ali is in danger of losing her inherited yacht-chartering business. Things can't possibly get worse—until the man who broke her heart sails back into her life.

After that night when desire to comfort spilled over into lovemaking, Jackson McKenzie's crushing guilt drove him to say things he didn't mean, to leave when he wanted to stay. But when he discovers Ali is partnered with Sydney's most notorious entrepreneur, he has no choice but to step in.

If Jackson thinks Ali is going to let him swoop in and claim Wind Seeker as his own, she has a news flash for him. She can take care of herself, and as much as her traitorous body still craves Jackson's touch, she'll fight for her father's legacy, tooth and nail.

Suspicion and distrust slice through their reignited passion like a gale force wind through the rigging. But failing to weather the storm risks more than a second chance at love. Their very lives could be at stake.

Product Warnings Love is never easy. Especially when revenge, guilt and scorching desire all fight for control of the helm.

I am huge Lexxie Couper fan so of course I jumped at the chance to read Suspicious Ways.

Ali lost her father four years ago and is trying to keep his charter business, along with the yacht he built with his own hands afloat. Her mother is sick and government insurance does not pay for her treatment, or the assisted living apartment she must live in. Ali is doing all that she can to keep her father's business alive, even selling two of her father's charter boats, and working for the creepy billionaire Zane Peterson.

Jackson was close friend with Ali's father even given their age difference. He left Ali the day after her father's funeral, and the one night he gave in and finally slept with Ali. Now Jack is back in Sydney to take over Ali's charter business, the yacht and Ali.

Ali is strong willed and stubborn almost to a fault. There were times I wanted to slap her up side the head. But, there were also times I wished I could just hug her and tell her it would all be alright and everything would work out. I liked that Ali did not back down and that she would do anything to keep her father's legacy alive and get her mother the treatment and care she needed.

I felt the same way about Jack as I did for Ali. And, it's no wonder Jack's boat is called Suspicious Ways. As the same with Ali, I wanted to slap him up side the head and hug him. Even when I wanted to slap Jack silly and yell him to stop being dumb, I still cheered for him the whole way.

Ali and Jack have to over come a lot. But once they finally stop being stubborn and listen to each to each other, they get the happy ending that they both needed and deserved.

This book is a good quick read. The love story between Ali and Jack great.

Plus you have a creepy billionaire, who at first, I thought was going to walk away without getting what was coming to him, but Lexxie did not disappoint and he got what was coming to him and them some. Another great read by Lexxie.

Happy Reading!!

Review copy provided for an honest review.

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### **Tabatha says**

I've got to say this story was a bit different than what I'm used to from Lexxie, but I really loved it! I think all the characters were exceedingly well developed and the plot was suspenseful as well as steamy too! You could feel the heat sizzling between Ali and Jackson when they were together, and boy was it was intense. They tried to resist one another, both having some major hangups where their relationship was concerned, but you just can't fight chemistry like that and these two definitely belong together. You don't want to miss out on this one, guys. It was full of Lexxie's trademark sexual tension that I just adore, plenty of suspense to keep you on your toes, and best of all it was a great romance with characters you are just going to love!

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### **Casey (KcLu) says**

I'm a huge Lexxie Couper fan, and there isn't anything that I have read by her that I haven't gobbled up and loved!! This book, Suspicious Ways, is her first non erotica romance novel, and I have to say she still steamed the heck out of my e-reader!!!

Ali Gram has the weight of the world on her shoulders from her mother's illness and medical bills to trying to keep her father's business alive and going. Not many peeps from or visiting Australia want to take a yacht-charter from an American, even though she has made her home in Australia. To make it worse the one man that broke her heart is back.

Their one night of lovemaking scared the hell out of Jackson McKenzie, and like a typical man he lashed out with words and hurt her. Now he is back and knows she is about to loose her father's boat, but he will have a hard time getting back on her good side, if at all. He also has to fight to save her from Sydney's most notorious entrepreneur, before she gets into a situation she might not survive.

These two have some serious hurdles in their way, and the biggest one is both of them having more pride then they need. But even though they fight it tooth and nail the chemistry between them throws off some serious sparks!! I absolutely loved this one!!!

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### **Lu says**

I usually like her books but not this one. Had the hero and heroine shut up long enough to listen to one another and quit jumping to conclusions there would not have been a story. Couper usually does better than this.

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### **Drmgrl99 says**

With a lot of romance (it says non-erotic but OMG-Lexxie can heat up a page like no other!) and plenty of suspense, this novella keeps you turning the pages to the very end!

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### **Sheryl says**

#### **Full Review Now Up!!**

#### **Kudos, Lexxie Couper!! You're first foray into romantic suspense went off with a BANG!!**

*And what's this? This story is termed "non-erotic"? Well, let me tell you then, it would make A LOT of romance that I read positively "Christian" (and they're NOT)!!! This story was HAWT!!! Freakin' STILL burned up my iPad I tell 'ya!! :)*

Ali Gram is horrified to find out that Jackson Mackenzie (LOVE THE NAME!!) is back. This was the man that she gave up her virginity too on the day of her fathers' funeral AFTER he had accused her of killing him... AFTER which he hightailed it out of Australia. He's now back under some impression that he has to save Ali; from her crippling debt and from Sydney's biggest predator and entrepreneur. But things don't go the way Jackson planned and there is so much non-communication and incorrect assumptions that went on between these two, that I kept screaming to BOTH of them; TELL HIM, TELL HER!!! I was feverishly turning the pages just to find out what would happen next...

I LOVED Jack; what a tortured soul, but still all Alpha \*RAWR\*! And Ali; what a strong woman... I wondered why she just didn't kick Jack in the gonads at the start.... But I got it... If it was me, I TOO would have been climbing Jack like a monkey :) \*FANS MYSELF\*

**So Lexxie, looks like your romantic suspense cherry was popped (LOL!) in writing Suspicious Ways... i personally hope you continue to write more, because i ABSOLUTELY LOVED IT!! You are an AMAZING writer; you KNOW how to make your readers emotionally invested in your characters.. and your men... WOW, they ALL make me wanna rip of my panties and say TAKE ME, TAKE ME! (And that's pretty darn AMAZING in MY book :)) and in the case of Suspicious Ways, the suspense just added that EXTRA layer to a AWESOME story! 5 stars for sure! Go read it peeps! You won't regret it!**

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## **The Smutty Kitty says**

As posted on The Smutty Kitty reviewed by Zen Kitty

4.5 out of 5 Licks

The synopsis of this book was deceptively boring. It didn't even touch on true greatness of this short novel. Ali is a young woman doing her best to take care of her Dad's legacy, her mother's debilitating medical condition, all while trying to keep a struggling business afloat. Enter Jackson. He was her Father's much younger best friend. He left Ali a scant few days after she buried her Father. Four years have come and gone and he's returned. Why'd Jackson leave? How does she feel about him now? You'll have to read to find out. Some serious issues from the past weave a tangle of lust, angst, heartache and true love throughout every last page of this incredible tale.

I've decided I just love me some "Aussie Authors" ...repeatedly I'm willing to go to "AA" to get my fill. This book contained a whopping punch in a short amount of time. The internal debate within these two characters alone had me up until 1:00 p.m. trying to finish it! There's also a really nasty bad guy that makes you cringe, clench your teeth and tighten your hand into a fist as if you could reach in and punch his lights out through your eReader.

Some of my favorite bits from the novel:

"To say he was sexually attracted to her was like saying hell was hot – an accurate statement, but a ridiculous understatement as well."

"Talking with you was always like trying to de-claw a tiger, Ali. God, I've missed this."

"Every time the tip of his tongue touched her bare flesh, she lost another heartbeat to him."

If you're looking for a book that will fulfill your need for a new and interesting way to read about past and present love, this is a goodie. It also provided more information than I ever thought I'd learn about the art of sailing. From a yardarm, to a gaff, and a gudgeon to the helm of a yacht, you'll learn a great deal. My only complaint about the fantastic Lexxie Couper tale was that I wanted more!

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