



In the Pursuit of Charity

Alexandria Sure

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He expected her to recognize him.

He expected her to be seduced by his charms.

He expected her to fall for him.

Expectations are a funny thing ...

When his parents named him Herbert Lincoln James, they already had expectations that Linc would attend an ivy league university and go into politics. Linc didn't. As captain of his swim team, he was expected to win the big relay to carry his swim team to the state championship for the first time in decades. Linc didn't. Society expected him to walk past her. He couldn't.

She expected him to see through her.

She expected him to make her into a joke.

She expected him to be cruel.

Expectations are a funny thing ...

In the Pursuit of Charity Details

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Author : Alexandria Sure

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From Reader Review In the Pursuit of Charity for online ebook

Derna says

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

4.5 Stars

I really enjoyed In the Pursuit of Charity by Alexandria Sure. It was sweet romance story that was a little different from your average New Adult story. Swim team captain Lincoln has fallen for Alexis. Alexis likes Linc but can't why he would be interested in her, someone who she is sure looks different from his usual type.

The storyline told from Linc point of view was thought-provoking for sure, and I think the author has done it well, she hasn't sugarcoated some of the hurtful and insensitive things that people say and think. I would love to have some of Alexis POV to know what she was thinking.

Alexis was lovely, and I completely understood and relate to how Alexis feels. I like Linc he seemed down-to-earth and nice all round guy. Linc liked Alexis, and he didn't care about what his friends felt or said. He fell for the girl with a laugh it was that simple. I adore the connection between Linc and Alexis.

I was shocked and a little cross with the way it ended as I was thinking how could the author end it like that. However, a quick look on Goodreads and I discovered the good news that this was the prequel and therefore Linc and Alexis story is not over. I can't wait to see what happens next for these two.

Yvonne Eason says

This is the first book I have read from the author and I can not wait to see where this story ends.

Linc is the captain of the swim team. There are rules to be followed. Social standards, social acceptances. What happens when those social rules are not followed?

Alexia hears all the jokes about her weight. Puts on a brave face. Smiles and carries on. Why is he talking to her? Is this another joke at her expense?

Whatever their feelings for each other, will the social cliques. The boundaries set in High School and College get in their way?

I so need to read the next book. I need to know what happens to Linc and Alexia. This story can not be left like this.

Maggie V says

*** ARC KINDLY provided by the AUTHOR in exchange for a HONEST REVIEW ***

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With this being a new authors book there were some confusion between inner dialogue and conversations. I wasn't a huge fan of the book being written in the third person but then had italic sentences in first person for Linc, it was confusing at times.

Okay now that I got the only bad part of the book out of the way let me rave about the rest. It was WONDERFUL to read about an athletic guy falling for a nonathletic girl. Linc was very much in shape hitting the pool everyday and going to Michigan State and on the swim team. By the way I LOVED that this book was based in Michigan as I am a Michigan girl... with that being said GO MAIZE and BLUE U of M! Anyways it was great to see him fall for a girl that was plus size. There were moments I was cringing for his mistakes or for the way he would describe things, but that's because he has never been with a girl like Alexis.

Alexis is shy and quiet. She is not able to do a lot of things because of her size and because of how people treat her or look at her. Linc's friends don't understand why he likes Alexis, let alone finds her attractive. Not only does Linc like the inner beauty but he is very attractive to the outer beauty as well which is like a fairy tale to Alexis.

The story-line and characters were great and it was wonderful to see a kind hearted person not care about what his friends and family thinks all for the heart of the one and only girl he truly wants. Like I said before the writing is not the best which is understandable the first few books for any authors can be like that, it's a learning experience and that's why many authors go back and re-release books - NOT saying that is what needs to happen here, just stating that the book is great and should be read. It was a slow build read and an easy going relaxation feel to the book. It was refreshing to read about young love that is honest and true. Plus I enjoyed seeing Alexis break out of her shell finally.

For a longer review at this book and others, please check out my blog at Trashy Biblio Blog

Bobbi Wagner says

In the Pursuit of Charity: A New Adult College Romance by Alexandria Sure is a sports romance story. This story is about insecurity and accepting who you are. This story is full of emotions, you will laugh, cry and it may make you angry at times. This is my first story by this author and I loved it! I enjoyed her style of writing and her creative characters. She created a story that pulls you in from the first word and keeps you engaged until the end. She created characters that are true to life and have a way of popping right off the page. These characters will take you on a roller coaster ride of various emotions that you won't want to miss. You will fall in love with these characters. Find out what happens to these characters as they are faced with life struggles of insecurity and pure pressure.

Herbert Lincoln James (Linc) has ideas about his future that don't necessarily match his parents vision for him. They have had expectations from his birth that he would attend an ivy league college and go into politics. His ideas took him to the pool. He is the swim captain that was expected to win the big relay that would take them to state championship for the first time in years. He didn't do this either. He is expected to walk right by her but he didn't. What will happen when society expects one thing but he has his own ideas of what should be happen?

Linc can't decide what to do with his future. There are many expectations for him but that isn't what he seems to want. When he meets her, he knows that he just can't let her go. She is perfect to him. Will society dictate their relationship? Expectations can be a dangerous thing. He expected her to recognize him, fall for his charms and to just plain fall for him. She expected him to see through her, make a joke out of her, and expected him to be cruel. Will they let society dictate their expectations on them? Linc is such a strong character that he is just makes an awesome boyfriend material. He is kind, compassionate person who has no idea about his future but he knows that he wants her. She is also a strong character that has some insecurity problems but she does seem to grow throughout the story. They really are just great together but will expectations matter more then they expect? The secondary characters are just as great. You will love some and hate others. Some are a great support to the two characters more then others. Social expectation really makes a difference in some relationships but will it damage this one? Find out what happens with these two characters, will they let society dictate their relationship?

This is my first story by Alexandria Sure and I know it won't be the last. I can't wait for the second part of this story. Alexandria lives in Michigan with her supportive family and her two rescue pups. Her characters are developed at a local coffee shop where she loves to have her coffee. Her characters come alive in between her lattes. You will lose track of time with this story. I read it one sitting because I couldn't put it down. This is a fast paced story that will keep you turning page after page. It will leave you wanting more. You will never see this ending coming! I highly recommend this story as I know you will want to see what happens with these character as expectations will either hurt them or accept them.

Chantelle Smith says

Herbert Lincoln James had many expectations set out for him from his parents, attend an Ivy League University and go into politics, but Linc didn't do that. He was also expected to win the relay race for the state championship with his swim team, but Linc didn't do that either. But with the society and the crowd of friends Linc hung around with, he was expected to walk past her and ignore her, but he couldn't.

But he had expectations of his own, he expected her to fall for his charms, he expected her to fall for him but expectations are a funny thing because she didn't do anything he expected her to do.

But she has expectations as well, she expected Lin to be cruel just like his friends were, she also expected him to see right through her as though she never existed and most importantly she expected him to make her into a joke. Once again Expectations can be a funny thing.

In the Pursuit of Charity is a novel by author Alexandria Sure. This is my first read from this author and I'd love to see what other great reads she brings us.

I loved the idea of this story, and loved the characters especially when its centred around something that doesn't really get put into book that often (especially ones I have read) let alone being a main character. But I did find it hard to get into and found it kind of slow. But after a while I really started to enjoy the dynamic and developing connection between the two main characters.

This book had a great deal of emotions from the characters that as the reader I could truly feel, such as; heartache, love, acceptance, anger, frustration. I've laughed, smiled, been sad from this book and was made frustrated and angry with the cliff-hanger ending that the author gave us. This book had some great scene between these two main characters and I loved reading their interactions with each other. I love how they met, the determination that Linc had at getting her to notice him. I liked how they spent their time together and how under the circumstances and even the friends that Linc had showed no support, that Linc was still determined to make things right for and with her. That is how real they were when they were around each other, they could tell each other things and not have to worry about being judged. These characters have an undeniable connection that is new, real, fresh and beautiful as both characters are inside and out! I couldn't stop smiling throughout the book with seeing their connection blossom and change.

This did also have some scenes in which I was shouting at the characters because I couldn't believe how he was wording things to her, I know it was nerves and that made me nervous for both of them.

I liked that we got to see Linc have interactions with sister, you can really tell how close they are together even though geographically they were far apart. They both had an understanding with each other about what their parents really know. That's also something I'm glad we got to see. From the synopsis, you can tell how strong and powerful Linc parents think they are in their son's life. His parents are clearly expecting him to do great things, but I like that Linc makes his own his choices, and lives with them. You can tell from one phone call that his Dad see's things in a different way, and allows Linc to make the decisions unlike his mum, who still wants continues control over his life and decisions.

I loved the chemistry that these two characters had. Once she finally stopped fighting the effort Linc was making these two had a developing relationship that was real and so much better than could have expected. They help each other come to decisions neither could decide on their own, supported each other through the hard times, but also knew when to let go when wings were meant to be spread!

These two characters were the most real developing relationship I have read in a while. It was hard seeing how other people portray her, and the things that they would say, but there are also people like Linc that see past that and see the personality and the beauty inside.

For a fresh, real and raw college romance, don't miss this quick lovable read that captures your heart.

Petra Gleason says

This is a good prequel to a great story. I can't wait to read more about both Alexis and Linc. There is a ton going on and so much more to learn. I want to hear more from Alexis, I want to learn more about Linc and if he ever stands up to the bastards that don't support his new relationship and I need to find out if Linc and Alexis are ever able to truly listen to each other without letting past experiences color how they deal with what's right in front of them.

Christine says

In the Pursuit of Charity by Alexandria Sure is a sweet love story between two unexpected soon to be graduated college students. Told in the male POV of Linc this story is emotional and thought provoking. Linc's family has a plan for him but now that he's almost finished school the last thing he wants to do is follow his mother's plan. Not in his plan is Alexis and he can't stop thinking about her. Alexis is shocked by the attention and can't understand why Linc wants to spend time with her let alone find her beautiful. Linc's friends and mother don't agree with his pursuit of Alexis but against the odds, he's fallen for her but can he show her his intentions are true?

After I finished this story I sat and asked "was it meant to finish like that?" so be prepared for a small cliffhanger. This is a prequel story and I can't wait for the next installment/conclusion to Linc & Alexis story. I loved this unconventional love story and felt drawn to Alexis character and saw so many similarities to myself. It's not often I get a chance to read a story with a Plus Size lead who's the love interest and I loved it! The connection between the two leads drew me into the story and I couldn't put it down. I can't wait to see what happens to these characters and where this all leads. 4 Stars for In the Pursuit of Charity by Alexandria Sure

*** Reviewed for Sweet & Spicy Reads - ARC provided for an honest review ***

Karen Hrdlicka says

This is the first work I've read by Alexandria Sure and I really want to go back now and read her first book. Her style and characters draw the reader into the book, and while you may think you've read a story like this before; you haven't. Ms. Sure's book is one of those books that speak directly to your heart. I'm a big fan of the underdog in books. In essence both Linc and Alexis are underdogs, fighting stereotypes of who they appear to be. Linc is the privileged jock who can have his pick of women and Alexis the plus-sized girl that no one seems to have a problem saying rude things to and about.

While we all know life takes unpredicted turns. Linc is not prepared when he is exposed to Alexis' voice while on a date with a Barbie-bimbo. When he finally meets her his heart sees her for who she is : a studious, beautiful woman, with an amazing laugh and smile. However, the woman has high walls to scale before she will open up to Linc.

Avoiding spoilers: What follows is a well-paced story of an unexpected but beautiful relationship. I love books I can relate to, and I can relate to Alexis' character. Being plus-sized in our world is still a stigma, and people see nothing wrong with voicing their assine options about a person's weight. It's no wonder that women of size are goal and career oriented because society shows us that our HEA isn't a reality.

I loved the characters, especially Linc's internal dialogues and forehead smacks. I loved the relationships: Linc and his sister, Joanne and Alexis, Izzy and Linc and even Linc with his butthead friends. I loved the

writing style and the pace of the book, but most of all I loved the budding relationship between Linc and Alexis. There are lots of unexpected turns in this book and I can't wait to read more by this author.

Amy says

Loved this story! I can see where Alexis is coming from being a plus size woman myself. People are cruel. She stays to herself. Linc is an athlete and very in shape. So therefore he has never associated with someone like her before. His friends are jerks! Just a really fantastic college age love story! Definitely can't wait to see what's next for this author! I would definitely recommend this book to all of my friends.

Philomena Callan Cheekypee says

This is my second read by this author and I loved it just as much as I loved the previous book.

I absolutely loved Linc and Alexis story. Both characters felt so real with real life topics that made this story into a well written relatable story for many. I was really rooting for Linc and Alexis.

This is a lovely romantic story. This is a truly lovely read. I can't wait to read more from this author.

Michelle says

Need more!

Arc provided by author for honest review. I was very skeptical to read this book. It just didn't sound like something I normally read or would enjoy. I am very happy to say I was dead wrong. I devoured this book. From the start to the finish! And now that I'm finished I want more and I need more. Ah sometimes hate cliffhangers lol.

Angela says

4 Stars

In the Pursuit of Charity is a New Adult/ college romance by Alexandria Sure.

The story introduces us to Herbert Lincoln James (Linc) who has lived his life with enormous expectations thrust on him and the pressure of living up to them. But life doesn't always go according to plan and you can't always live up to expectations. This is why Linc feels like he has let everyone down. He can't fulfil the expectations of him, but he also doesn't know what he wants to do after college.

He meets and falls for a girl who is not what his family or society expects him to be with. If he followed expectation, he would walk right past her, never noticing her at all. But he does notice her and is very taken with her. But she is quite sceptical of his attention and intentions, as her past experiences have caused her a lot of pain and left her with trust issues. But Linc is determined to prove his feelings for her are real and that she can trust him. Will he be able to break through the barriers she has erected around her heart? Will they find a way to overcome the expectations and obstacles that come their way? Or will they succumb to the

expectations placed on them?

This is the first time I have read a book by Ms. Sure and I am happy to say that she did not disappoint me. She writes beautifully, capturing a lot of emotion in her story and giving us a plot and characters that stand out from a lot of other novels in the same genre.

I don't want to say too much without giving away some major spoilers. But I loved the underlying message of the book, about expectations and the pressure that can cause, about letting society dictate how we live our lives- sometimes for the better but that isn't always the case, and about not judging a book by its cover, and of not making assumptions based on what others think. I loved that Ms. Sure was willing to tackle a topic that isn't addressed nearly as often as it should be. I thought she did a wonderful job of capturing the emotional and psychological toll that this experience can have on an individual.

Really well done!

Thank You Ms. Sure!

Never Stop Reading or Dreaming says

This is glorified fat shaming and ends in a cliffhanger....

? Jeri's Book Attic ? the Romance Bibliophile ? says

Intrigued by the Blurb I choose to read an ARC of In the Pursuit of Charity by the new to me author Alexandria Sure. The book is a rather short one that I read in one session. Her writing style and character development is very different from what I usually read so it took me a little longer to get into the story and its characters. The plot flows at a slower but very steady pace which accentuates the characters very well I felt after I allowed myself to "get into" it.

And let me also inform you that either this is a series or the ending might not be what you expect. I at least was surprised by it so I am kind of expecting there to be at least a second book. This book is not a loud full-blown romance novel - it is quieter - the characters deal with a lot of stuff that the author took right out of the real life and that is also what it feels like when you follow the developing relations in the story.

But do not expect it to be predictable because of that - because it is not. This is a story about social standards and expectations and what happens when you either suddenly do not follow them anymore - or when you were never within them to begin with.

The story's I usually read are louder and faster so this is indeed an unusual one but that does not take away anything from the message of the book. I would like to hear what happens next to the characters - but I have to admit that I would not mind if the author would allow a little faster pace without losing sight of the characters needs.

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Amber says

Another amazing read by new author, Alexandria Sure. I really love her writing style thus far. In the Pursuit of Charity, Alexandria brings us a topics not much people like to talk about; weight, self esteem, failure. You can't help but fall for these characters and their situations. On some level most people are able to relate to these characters. My heart really went out to Linc, especially at the end. I ran out of words and I wanted so much more! I really loved Linc and Alexis' story and can't wait to devour more of it. This is another top read for 2017, I highly recommend you pick this one up, you wont be sorry.
