



Agent Zero

Lilith Saintcrow

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An agent risks everything for a love he shouldn't feel in *New York Times* bestselling author Lilith Saintcrow's thrilling new romance!

After barely surviving an IED, former US Army soldier Reese was whisked away by a shadowy agency and genetically enhanced. Now a "Super Agent"--smarter, faster, stronger, deadly--Reese executes his missions with precision. But when he's inexplicably drawn to a down-on-her-luck waitress, Reese learns he's not the emotionless man he once thought.

One minute, Holly Candless is getting fifty-buck tips from her favorite hunky customer. The next, she's kidnapped, injected with something and rescued by Reese. Suddenly, they're on the run from the very government agency that wants Reese reprogrammed--and Holly dead. Keeping Holly alive is not only Reese's primary mission-it's his sole chance at love...and survival.

Agent Zero Details

Date : Published September 1st 2015 by Harlequin
ISBN : 9780373279357
Author : Lilith Saintcrow
Format : Paperback 304 pages
Genre : Romance, Romantic Suspense, Paranormal Romance

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From Reader Review Agent Zero for online ebook

jammaster_mom says

This is a romance book but much deeper than your typical contemporary romance.

I really enjoyed the character development of Reese and Holly. There was just enough information about the super soldier project without becoming incredibly boring. I enjoyed the development of the relationship between Holly and Reese. They were able to grow closer together and really were a team by the end. I am a sucker for the broken-people-who-are-able-to-find-love story line and that is what this story is about.

I have to say I am really hoping there will be more books about more of the agents. I enjoyed the world that Ms.Saintcrow created and I hope she continues to build it.

Tomiann says

Excellent, I want a full length novel out of this. The concept isn't super new but Saintcrow has some fascinating twists that would be make for an interesting world.

Faye says

Read: December 2015

Once I picked this book up, I couldnt put it down. Reese is a super engineered spy/soldier who finds himself falling for Holly who works as a waitress in a diner. Holly has some secrets of own and is scared to get close to anyone new.

As usual with Lilith Saintcrow, there was so much more going on here than just the romance. The science fiction element with the nanotechnology is a strong element to the story and the super-soldier program that Reese belongs to is fascinating, as are the other characters we meet behind the scenes in the program, such as Trinity and Cal. Saintcrow does a nice job of setting up for book two while still finishing Reese and Holly's story in a satisfying way.

I'm now very much looking forward to reading Agent Gemini.

Rating: 5/5 stars, best of 2015

100sweet says

DNF @ 40%.

Ok I give up this story sucked. The author never explains who some of these characters are and what the hell is happening. Everything unfolds as if we already know what is going on. This author seriously messed up. How do you not explain the premise to readers, especially when there are elements of the supernatural in the

story? The characters completely lacked chemistry.

Roksana says

I am not sure how to rate this book, frankly, I am still not sure how to feel about it either...

One is certain that this author writing style is just not for me...Not that I have anything against the author, but equally, I need to feel engage enough to read the book and for that the writing style is an important factor, so for this the writing was just difficult to follow and at times some words were technically difficult to understand and I had to look at the dictionary to understand the meaning so I was aware "what was going on"...there was a lack of emotionasl development for me to really feel their connection, although it was there, but i wanted more...The plot was also slow at the beginning and it only picked up at around 40% and for those who like a bit of spice to it..you won't find that here..its more of "a clean romance" The Hero and heroine have kissed for the first time at about 55% and shortly after they had sex, but it was not that detailed. On the positive side, I really enjoyed the Hero! he was very possessive and protective of the heroine and had stalker tendencies...Maybe I would say that he was watching out for her and was making sure she got home safe each night..that was very nice to watch...his constant need for her and the smell of her..simply put he was obsessed with her delicious smell..

"Reese let out a soft breath into her hair, closing his eyes. It was just as good as he'd thought it would be. No. Better. He could finally inhale and fill himself with her"

Not only that, but he really wanted her badly and there was no OW that would do for him than Holly! Even though, It was tricky to get involve with a civilian, his need for her was too overpowering...

"It's beautiful," she said, hushed in this cathedral of trees and ice. "I love snow." "Yeah." He sounded hoarse, and sharp. What could he say? Nothing he was thinking. I will do anything for you, just don't go anywhere. Just don't leave. Stand there and smile at me, and I'll do anything you want. It wasn't precisely pain. Was this what cardiac arrest felt like? Just let me get close. Just please, please don't go anywhere"

"He rolled his head to the side, looked at her. "I'm sorry because I'm not sorry, goddammit. I'm glad you're with me. I'm a selfish little jerk and I have you, and you can't even run away from me because you'll end up dead. I'm not above using that to keep you here, and after a while you'll get used to me. I can't even be sorry about that. It's all I wanted from the first time I walked into that diner, and now I have it, and I'm not giving it up."

This hero had eyes only for the heroine and would do just anything to be with her, so for that reason, I decided to give it a 3 Stars!

Safe Gang: (view spoiler)

Southern Sky says

This was so manic. It was hard to keep up with the different povs. I feel like it was too wordy. Too many

things going on it needed an epilogue badly. The romance was non-existent really. He was obsessed with her almost to the point of creepiness. There was no grand romantic type thing anywhere. No exchanging of I love you. He kind of asks her to marry him at the end but it was meh.

DemetraP says

Awesome read. The hero was so in love with her, she was the only woman he wanted. It was cute to watch him drink coffee at the restaurant where she's a waitress and try to work up the courage to talk to her.

I really liked the slow build of the romance and how they both fell in love with each other.

It looks like the hero's friend will be getting a book next.

TINNGG says

4.5 actually. That was v. good. I picked it up after several readers were talking about it.

It's like they found the virus in Doom only it doesn't work at all on most (it kills them), and the survivors are supermen (and women). It's also like an STD, though the other person won't survive the infection unless they're a mate.

Guess what the h is?

The government (or someone) came up with this and implemented it. No clue how they picked their "volunteers" but if the H's account is any indication, it was much like one cyborg series - the recruit was severely injured/dying and had nothing to lose. The small issues they didn't quite account for were that the super agents were like everyone else - they had a conscience, and when the "emotional noise" started to interfere with the ability to do their job, they were eliminated. They also didn't account for the transference aspect, so when a woman that was associated with one was found to have it, they wiggled out.

Our story exists because the h smells good to the H, so he's been watching her for some time. A Dr on the program didn't know what was actually going on, and when he finds out, he tries to take out the H. Someone grabs the h for questioning, the H rescues her, and they take off. Another agent is on their tail, but he has some issues too (a girl he was associated with was killed).

Transference occurs, saving the h's life (she's terminally ill). The other agent, having ditched his own tail, shows up. They get captured - after the h has recovered - and they escape.

The H was not the brightest crayon in the box prior to being recruited, and as a result, is somewhat lacking in social skills (he was apparently low enough IQ to be institutionalized). It's like someone gave the virus to Forrest Gump actually. So at times, he's smart, but dumb. It does improve intelligence. The government wants him back though because he held off the emotional noise the longest. Duh, he was the most lacking to begin with.

The h's ex informed her that he wanted a divorce the day she first got a clue that she was sick. I was a bit puzzled by a few statements there. I got the impression she never told him, but he'd said he'd handle the treatments (he was in med school). Since then, she's spent some time keeping everyone at arms' length - to

protect them from themselves supposedly.

William Howe says

Good SF, I don't know about the Romance

An interesting SF read with some cool tropes on display. The Romance side is a little odd. Very stalker-like with impulse control issues. The story flows well and the writing is good. I just don't think this is very romantic.

I do look forward to the next in the series, though. A deeper examination of the virus and its impact would interest me.

Harlequin Books says

"Two troubled characters shine within an intriguing, unique plot rich with romance and tension. Reese is a strong, protective, passionate alpha hero whose love for Holly will melt the hearts of readers" (RT Book Reviews, 4 1/2 stars).

Suzanne says

I'm not a reviewer....I never know what to say. That being said, I must admit that I really liked the storyline. A secret government project that alters the physical and neurological systems of their 'agents', who are then trained to carry out missions both foreign and domestic. So what happens when they start thinking for themselves?

My biggest problem with this book was the jargon/euphemisms/lexicons the author used to describe some things. Some of it was a bit hard to understand, but I muddled my way through.

I also thought the main characters could have had more depth.

I'm also thinking there is going to be another story involving two of the secondary characters in the book, and will read it, just to find out what happens to these characters, and this secret government program.

Susan says

Good story, with a bit of a science fiction feel to it, almost a combination of Spiderman and the Six Million Dollar Man. Reese is a soldier/spy who has been genetically enhanced by the introduction of a virus into his system. His senses, intelligence, and strength are all incredible. He and several others like him are all part of a secret government agency. In this book, Reese has become fascinated by a waitress at a local diner that he visits between assignments. Something about Holly soothes him after particularly rough missions. He doesn't really talk to her, just watches her and leaves.

Holly is alone in the world after her father's death and her divorce from her husband. She hasn't had an easy life. Her military father died of cancer, likely caused by his time in the military. She watched him fight both the disease and the system that should have helped him. After helping put her husband through medical school, he asks for a divorce just as she finds out that there may be something wrong with her too.

Holly is a little freaked out by Reese and the way he watches her, but he's never actually done anything wrong. She gets the feeling that maybe he's just a bit shy. One day he finally asks her to have coffee with him somewhere other than the diner. Though wary, she says yes. Their plans are interrupted when a normal check-in/check-up turns into an attempt to kill him. Worried about Holly's safety after another attempt on him, he discovers that she's been taken, drugged and questioned, and is about to be killed to cover it all up. He rescues her and they go on the run.

I liked the development of their relationship. Reese is super protective and will do whatever he must to keep Holly safe. His supersensitive nose detects a scent about her that he just can't resist, like it is calling just to him. His feelings for her grow stronger, but he worries that the things he has done will make it impossible for her to return those feelings. Ever since Holly found out that she is sick, she has kept people at a distance. She doesn't want any of them going through what she did with her father. She quickly discovers that Reese won't be pushed away, and realizes that she likes the feeling of being cared for by him. A surprise event changes her prognosis, and makes it possible to think about a future, if they can get away from those who are after them. I loved the ending, as Reese is still endearingly awkward about expressing his feelings.

The suspense of the story is really interesting and intense. The agents are supposed to do their jobs without any "emotional noise", ie. conscience, feelings of love, sorrow, guilt, etc. Anyone who develops these tendencies gets reprogrammed or "liquidated". When a doctor who knew only a small part of what was happening learns the truth, he goes off the deep end and decides to eliminate the carriers of the virus. Of course, those in charge can't have that, but their attempts to fix the problem only make things worse. One of the other agents is sent to track down Reese and Holly, but he's actually on their side and has his own agenda. There is also a female agent whose point of view we also get, who really illustrates the effects and pitfalls of the program. She turns out to be much more important than suspected at the beginning. The pursuit of Reese and Holly is intense, and the final confrontation still leaves some questions unanswered.

MJ says

First of all, there's no Agent Zero in this book. We meet Six, he's the hero. And later Eight and Three. Six, AKA Reese, is one of the author's usual souped up super guys. Instead of supernatural, he's a former mentally challenged soldier turned super agent by a military virus. He is really sweet and I enjoyed his back story. Stalking the heroine (Holly) and doing the sleep watching thing is kinda hinky, but I'll let it pass. Our heroine also suffers, she is working herself to death, literally. When the other virus infected agents start defecting, the secret government division starts pulling in all agents. Reese's loose ends include Holly. He foils that plan and escapes with her. This is a Harlequin, so it's no spoiler that things work out and there's groundwork for other character's stories in additional books.

Alisha says

3.75

bombay_sapphire says

The premise of this book is very interesting- a virus given to humans and then bonds with their DNA to alter it. It's very much like spiderman being bitten by a radioactive spider. However, it's a bit confusing at times to put together what's going on within the story because of the style of writing and I got a bit annoyed with the heroine of this story. It really irritated me that she just accepted what life gave her and never thought to fight. Instead she just gave up.
