Beneath The Surface

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He was the last man she wanted to turn to for help. But when freelance journalist Quinn Summers uncovers a shocking secret with the potential to rock Washington, DC, she reluctantly finds herself on his doorstep. Someone intends to silence her forever, and Asher Tate may be all that’s standing between her and a vicious killer. Overbearing, arrogant, and insanely hot, the ex-marine Special Forces officer turned mercenary for hire is no bodyguard—especially when it comes to the stubborn woman who sets his blood on fire as quickly as his temper. Quinn Summers is a powder keg of trouble just waiting for a match, and he isn’t surprised that the feisty beauty has made some dangerous enemies. To survive, she’s going to have to play by his rules—and that means stepping into Asher’s world, where he controls the playing field. But in his fight to save Quinn’s life, he just might end up losing his heart.

**Synopsis**

Quinn, a freelance journalist, has uncovered something that others, perhaps the government, would prefer stay hidden. The consequences of her discovery are something Quinn heartbreakingly learns upon returning home and seeing her roommate, Emily, has been murdered, with a warning for Quinn that he’s coming for her. Not knowing who else to turn to, she calls her
sister, Violet, for help. Thankfully, Violet’s husband, Nikko, calmly gives Quinn a plan to get her out of New York. A plan that includes Asher, Nikko’s friend that Quinn met at Nikko and Violet’s wedding four months ago. A man that Quinn cannot stand. The man that wouldn’t stop poking at her, the man she last saw naked, with the girl from the desk wrapped around him. An experience he doesn’t even remember he had. "Yeah, I'm with her here...that's a prick move and a plot device I absolutely loathe, and quite honestly, I already want to stop reading this book now." Asher, a mercenary for hire, is currently laying low until the press forgets his name regarding a massacre that Asher, owner of Tate Security, and a witness to the event, has been completely cleared of, yet he still feels guilty for not following his instincts. As they spend time together while Asher protects her, they each get to see the person behind the facade they show others, strengthening their attraction, and starting a connection. Can Asher keep Quinn safe? Will they uncover who’s behind the attempts on Quinn? Will they learn how far up Quinn’s discovery goes?

While in Haiti, freelance journalist Quinn Summers stumbles upon a sex trafficking ring. Gathering as much evidence as she can, she mails her SD card to her sister and has a meeting with an U.S. attorney general. Leaving that meeting not sure she can trust the government, she makes it back to her apartment to discover her roommate has been murdered and the killer left her a message telling her she will be next. Fearing for her life she contacts her sister and her brother-in-law tells her to go to Asher Tate. Former Special Forces and just found not culpable in a massacre his security team was involved in, Asher doesn’t want to deal with the shrew he meet at his friend’s wedding. With her life in danger though, Asher knows he has to protect Quinn. As they try to find out who is behind wanting her dead, Quinn and Asher fight their mounting attraction. Beneath the Surface started out with a thrilling pace, we know Quinn has discovered something she shouldn’t have and know she is in danger, but don’t know who or where that danger is going to come from. The scene where she discovers her roommate was chilling and I was locked into the story. The action side of the story started off very strong but the introduction into our characters and how they were connected (why Quinn is going to Asher) stumbled along a bit and felt somewhat awkward. I checked to see if this was second in a series because it felt like I should have previous knowledge of the wedding Quinn and Asher meet at, it's not listed as part of a series but looks to maybe be an off-shoot of one as Quinn’s sister stars in her own story in a separate series. The first 30% of this story was highly engaging but the pace slows down when Quinn arrives at Asher’s place and they start trading barbs back and forth.

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