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Insider: Exodus End World Tour, Book 1



Synopsis

Toni Nichols set aside her dreams to raise her little sister, but now she's reaching for the stars as the creator of a revolutionary interactive biography about Exodus End. She's on tour with the rock band to immerse herself in their world, but how will she ever gain the trust of four veteran superstars who've been burned by the media before? Nobody said this was going to be easy. Then again, good things can come in hard packages. Adrenaline junkie Logan Schmidt lives for the rush of playing his bass guitar before thousands of screaming fans. When he's not performing onstage or in the bedroom, he's looking for his next thrill in extreme sports. So why does a sweet, innocent journalist get his heart pumping and capture his full attention? Is Toni the real deal, or is she just digging up dirt on his band? Logan's eager to rock Toni's world, but when she starts to get too close to his heart, she takes her insider look to a place he may never be willing to go. Contains mature themes.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Like many of her fans, I loved both the Sinners and Sole Regret series and waited a long time for this one. But this book is disappointing by comparison, and the author's comments at the end about her struggle with writer's block make poignant sense. I don't think Olivia ever really let herself get into the main characters in this book. That's why Toni doesn't make sense and Logan seems like a pale version of Eric Sticks. Unlike her other books, this book violates the "show, don't tell" rule of storytelling. Olivia's trademark sparkling, funny dialogue is almost totally absent. Even worse, after

having the narrator tell us what happens and what the characters are thinking and wanting, it's all repeated in Toni's journal entries. The book is repetitive and dull as a result. There are moments of wit and sizzle, so Olivia Cunning is still in there, but for the first half of the book I was wondering if it was written by the same person responsible for the other wonderful series. Toni is just not believable. We meet her as a 25 year-old reclusive, frumpy, duty-bound virgin with no friends who is intent on proving herself as a professional. A few hours later, she has sex with the first person she meets and is suddenly talking and acting like the savvy, sexy, flirty, sex-authority, Myrna, of Backstage Pass. The schizophrenic contradictions continue throughout the book. I think Olivia never quite related to this girl, and couldn't quite figure out who she was. Logan's attraction to Toni is equally unbelievable. His change from playboy to devoted boyfriend is told in narration, but not conveyed in dialogue or action in any way that makes it believable. His emotional life is suggested, but not shown, even in the scene with his mother (who also is totally undeveloped and self-contradictory). The most real characters in the book are the ones we know from the other series. The explanation for that is in the author's post-script. She knows and loves those characters, and so do we. It's wonderful to have them appear again, but the contrast to the ill-defined and unrealized characters in this book is all the more striking. I look forward to the remaining books in the Exodus End series, especially Outsider, because those characters and their unusual love is so brilliantly realized already. If Olivia lets herself really get into the characters in this series, we will all be thrilled.

loved the other series so had high hopes for this one too. in some regards it did not disappoint one bit in others it felt a bit "under-build" and going too fast. i loved the appearances from the other bands, it's nice they stay linked together so you can still revisit those characters and see how they are doing. i liked the story as a whole but i felt that something was missing and couldn't quite put my finger on it so i started reading the other reviews to see if another reader would have picked up on it too. some did. the leading lady is a bit too Jekyll and Hyde, if you stay a virgin that long and doesn't feel all that real that one guy can sweet talk you out of your panties in just one hour, no matter how big the attraction is. she doesn't really show the back bone she has in other starting scenes. i think this part could have been worked on better, dragged out more, let her come to grips with all the band-members and let logan suffer some blue balls a bit more at the start, that imho would have made the rest of their whirlwind romance a lot better and easier to take in. that both have issues they have to work through is without question, wouldn't be a book without some drama and conflict. it's once she's comfortable with the group and gets out of her shell more that reading this

book becomes a real joy. If you are a sinners fan and enjoyed *Sole Regret* you will want to start this series too, it really is a good read and the sexytimes are of the scales.

The Sinners series was my first rock romance series and it set a high standard for other series to measure up to. Shortly after finishing the series, I started following Olivia Cunning's blog and stalking her writing progress tickers. So yes, I've been waiting for quite some time to read *Insider* and whooped when the pre-order link went live. The story was very good, and those super sexy scenes this author delivers were in abundance, along with some drama, heartache, secrets, and humor. I enjoyed how Olivia introduced more about each of the band members and also loved the glimpses of the Sinners living out their happily ever afters. It did take me a bit of time to connect with the leads, Toni perplexed me at times, and I didn't "feel" that connection with them as a couple constantly. I do think that uncertainty may be intentional though, because that's precisely what the characters experienced themselves. However, those blips didn't take away from the book too much, and I think it's a bit expected with the first in a new series. This probably won't be my favorite Exodus End couple, but it won't stop me from rereading *Insider* while waiting for the next of the series. One of my favorite parts of a good series is interaction among secondary characters. Olivia Cunning always gives us such insight into friendships within the band and their entourage, and these moments bring these bands to life. *Insider* gives us exactly that. So many inklings into the future stories are revealed, and I can't wait to learn more about each band member and read about their experiences on tour.

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