



Too Much to Lose

Samantha Holt

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Have you ever been so desperate you made a decision that would haunt you forever?

Jess has.

She became a porn star.

Jess is on the run from her past. She has no friends, no life. She tries to forget everything that happened to her all those years ago. After changing her image, leaving her home and getting a new job, she's determined it won't happen again. If that means never being close to anyone ever again, then so be it.

If only Hunter O'Reilly didn't make her wish things could be different. Hunter needs this job. After being screwed over by his partner—make that ex-partner—his investigation business is on the line. Already in debt, he eagerly takes on the job of finding some stolen money at triple his going rate. He expects problems at that price. But he doesn't expect to fall for her.

However, no job is ever that simple. When he's forced to spend more time with her, the lines between business and pleasure are blurred. And once Jess's life comes under threat, they have to make a decision, can they both overcome Jess's past?

Too Much to Lose Details

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From Reader Review Too Much to Lose for online ebook

Tina Williams says

A panty-melting, emotional and suspenseful read!

Too Much to Lose is edgy and oftentimes dark, featuring a Private Investigator who is in desperate need of money and an ex porn star who is equally desperate to forget her past. I just LOVED the premise of this inventive story and smexy plot from the outset!

Jess is a woman with a tragic past, events having compelled her to enter the porn industry, albeit for a short time. She deeply regrets this decision, trying to escape its consequences and make a respectable life for herself, avoiding men and the heartbreak that they can bring once they discover her secrets. When Hunter all but bursts onto the scene she is determined not to become involved, but circumstances draw them together and their lives become entangled. Will he be her saviour or is he a threat to more than her heart?

Hunter is under instructions from his client to find out what Jess has done with a significant amount of money she stole. To do so he must get close to her, this woman whose past is an enigma to him. He finds it difficult to believe that she is a criminal but he needs the money the contract can bring. Can he turn her in, given his growing feelings for her and the danger she increasingly appears to be in?

I loved that the hero and heroine have a strong and immediate mutual attraction and that despite their reservations cannot help falling for each other. They are extremely well matched and I became more engrossed in their romance the more I read. I wanted to see what would happen when Jess realised Hunter's deceit. There was also the burning question of how Hunter would react when he found out about Jess's time spent in the porn industry.

Hunter is a totally swoon worthy hero and I fell for him very quickly! It helped that he is a Harley riding drop dead gorgeous Private Investigator, with a strong sense of honour, not afraid to get his hands dirty when protecting the woman he is growing to love. Oh and did I mention he is also Irish ? – for me a definite plus! There is a good cast of supporting characters and plenty of nail biting scenes. Emotions between the couple run high as the plot and the truth unravels and the increasing danger and suspense build to a super climax.

I adored this read and strongly recommend it to readers who love a fast paced, suspenseful read but which also has plenty of action in the love and passion stakes. A copy of this novel was given to me for the purpose of a fair and honest review.

Jennifer's Reading says

Jess is a young woman who is trying to live her life quietly and not attract attention. However that goes to hell when she accidentally knocks Hunter in the head when they first meet. After making sure he is ok, she tries hard to forget ever seeing him and go to work. However, that doesn't work out to well, Hunter is her morning appointment.

Hunter is a big, bad, biker badass. He is a PI and trying desperately to hold onto his mothers house. However

he is down on his luck right now, and just has to complete this one job and he will have the money to catch up with everything. Hunter has a secret, and while he is attracted to Jess, he has a job to do.

What will happen when the badass realizes things aren't always what they seem? Will he be able to trust his gut and move past the pain of finding out the secrets? What will Jess do when she realizes that she was lied to? Will these two amazing people be able to move past the lies, secrets, and be honest with each other and themselves and be happy?

sue says

This is a very powerful and well plotted story.

Jess had a lot of things happen to her, bad things, and because of that she made some really bad choices in life. She ended up a porn star.

Moving on with her life and wanting to do better she gets a new job, new identity, new image as someone was chasing her tail. Bad things could happen to Jess!

Her Uncle believes she has stolen from him so hires someone to find her. His name is Hunter.

I won't divulge anymore of the twists in this story, but I will say that Hunter and Jess attraction was immediate.

I love the bit where Jess says " I like you Hunter" to which Hunter replies " I don't know why Jess, but I can't stop thinking about you"

Hunter was a ladies man but with Jess he had to be honest, he couldn't be any other way.

She doesn't of course know that Hunter is a PI and hired by her Uncle.

When things come out about each others lives Hunter is now in doubt as to if her Uncle has actually told him the truth.

And why did Jess run away, who was she running from?

He finds out from Jess that someone is trying to kill her.

The story does an about turn.

I enjoyed the story a lot, however, it could have picked up pace better/faster in some places as I felt it dragged just a little.

I still thinks it deserves a 4 star though.

Deborah Hickey says

*I was provided a complimentary copy in exchange for an honest review.

Jess has worked hard to pull her life together while Hunter's is falling apart. After a lot of hard work Jess has managed to get a good job in London where nobody recognizes her. When Jess meets Hunter her carefully crafted world might just crack under the pressure.

Hunter is in financial trouble, but his new job could save his business and his home. As it turns out Jess is his new job and she's more than he bargained for. When the lines between business and pleasure get blurred things get interesting and Hunter finds out things are not always what they seem. Can Hunter save his business and Jess or will she be his last job?

"Too Much To Lose" is a spicy romance filled with secrets and deception. The chemistry between Jess and Hunter is very real despite the fact that both of them are hiding very big secrets. How long can Jess keep her past where it belongs? Can Hunter save his business when he is rapidly falling for his beautiful mark? Just when you think it's all or nothing, the game changes and Jess and Hunter have to try not to drown in their own ocean of secrets.

If you like strong characters and searing chemistry mixed with your mystery then be sure to get a copy of "Too Much To Lose" and prepare to feel your temperature rise!

Mary Lou Hoffman says

Series: Dirty Little Secrets

Category /Genre: Romance

Recommended for: 18+ due to sexual content and violence

Grammar/editing: A – near perfect

Received from: Samantha Holt (in exchange for an honest review)

This is the first book in the new Dirty Little Secrets series. There is no cliff-hanger, so I believe they will each stand on their own without need to be read in order.

Jess has a secret. She has moved to London to escape the knowing looks and whispers of her former friends and built a new life, but someone knows her secret and is stalking her. Hunter thinks she has a different secret. He is a private investigator who is also tracking her to find the money she is reported to have stolen. He doesn't expect his "thief" to be so innocent-looking and sweet. What happens when they meet is an immediate spark of interest that erupts into flames of lust for both of them. Can she trust him with her secret when so many others have failed her? Does he trust the girl of his heart or the client who has accused her? Can he protect her from the stalker or has she earned the threats?

I love both Jess and Hunter. They are strong, intelligent, complex people who each are harboring secrets that can destroy their burgeoning relationship. How they handle each other's secret is realistic. Ms. Holt creates relatable characters who provide entertainment, passion, and a break from reality.

While I considered this to be a "comfortable" read, meaning that it doesn't add to the stress of my day with an overabundance of angst, there was an element of mystery and suspense that kept me engaged until the very end. As always, I love this book as much as every one that I have read from Ms. Holt. I look forward to many more stories from her.

My personal philosophy of the subject matter would be to say that everyone has secrets. We have all made mistakes in our past that we would rather never discuss. Some are earth-shattering. Some are personally shattering. Some are just personal (and may seem like nothing to another person). The past cannot be changed, so love the person they are today. Their past is part of what made them the wonderful person they

are now.

Vicki says

Another wonderful book from Samantha Holt!

Too Much to Lose was a roller coaster ride of emotions. Jess and Hunter have an instant and hot connection, but the big question - can they get past their pasts, lies and heartbreak?

Jess is a woman on the run, she has been hiding from her past for years and is doing everything to ensure it does not catch up with her. She is a strong, independent and hardworking woman who will go to whatever lengths possible to remain hidden. She has no intention of ever letting anyone break through the walls she has put up around her heart, just to shatter it again.

Hunter is a private investigator who is about to lose everything. He needs to crack his most recent case in order to have the huge payday that is waiting for him. The only problem, Jess is a hard case to crack!

I loved this book. The characters go through so many struggles in life and are both determined to rise above them all. Neither of them expects to fall in love, especially with one another. Samantha's writing is wonderful, as always! You can feel all of Jess and Hunter's pain, love and everything in between as if it was your own.

Thank you Samantha for another wonderful book!

Rosemary K says

What happens when we are forced by circumstances to do things we don't want to in order to survive? Jess knows. She tries to keep her past a secret. Now she has a good job and hope for the future, but someone is threatening her. She is so tired and frightened. When she meets Hunter, she feels safe and desired. Their attraction is so powerful. He becomes her protector and she trusts him. But should she? The story is very intense and emotional. Too Much to Lose is a powerful combination of passion, betrayal and suspense that pulled me in from the first page. Jess and Hunter are two people who carry so much pain and despair in their heart. I empathized with them and wanted them to find peace and love. The city of London is the perfect setting. Great atmosphere. I found that the secondary characters were strong and compelling. I hope that we learn more about Mitch and Connor in future books. Samantha Holt wrote a gripping story that touched my heart.

Christine Mize says

My rating: 3.5 stars

Should bad decisions that we make in our youth follow us through life? Even if the decision was made in order to survive? Jessica was a porn star when she was younger but has since left that life and changed her

appearance. Hunter O'Reilly is a private investigator who has been sent after Jess by her uncle who has convinced Hunter that Jess stole a great deal of money from him. Hunter soon realized that the story he has been fed is a lie. He also realized that someone is trying to kill Jess. Can he keep her safe until he can figure out who wanted her dead?

There are many twists and turns in this story. It took a little while for it to get going, but once it did, it was a wild ride to the end. Every other chapter of this book is written from a different view point – the first from Jess and then from Hunter. I enjoyed looking at the story from both views. It will be interesting to see if this book will spin stories for Mitch and Connor. I enjoyed how strong the supporting characters.

This is book one in the Dirty Little Secrets series but does not have a cliffhanging ending. Those who enjoy romantic suspense and trying to figure out puzzles will enjoy this book.

Ronda Bearden says

Gifted Copy

I feel this book has a great story plot. The story takes a little while to take off and get into the thick of the story. When it does take off it takes off and it's great! I also felt that the story repeated itself on that background of the main characters a little too often. This is a well-written book other than the repeat at the beginning of the main characters. I loved the description of things from beat sheets to how the room looked, you feel like you are right there see what they are.

Jess is hiding from her past and Hunter is trying to keep from losing his. They both have broken pieces to them. They both have a very strong attraction to each other can they find the right road that will bring them to happiness or will what they have crump!

I am looking forward to reading more from Samantha I think she has a lot of talent.

Maria Suarez says

I received this book from the author and from Paranormal Romance and Authors That Rock. Too much to lose by Samantha Holt is the story of a Jessica a girl that is running away from a hard past and is trying to build a new future and forget everything that she has been through. Then comes Hunter into her life under false pretenses. Hunter is hired to find Jessica and some missing money with the promise of a big pay check in order not to lose his mother's house. But what he didn't expect to happen was to fall hard for Jessica. Even with all the doubts about each other and the lies they both find it hard to stay away from each other and give into their feelings.

I really loved the story and have to say that I specially loved the fact that the book jumps right on it and it keeps me interested all the way through.

I give this book 5 fangs!!!!

Cheryl Sanders says

Jessica Callahan had some horrible things happen to her when she was younger and as a result of those things, she made some bad choices. Now, she's trying to pick up the pieces and live a normal life. Hunter o'Rielly is a private investigator who is investigating Jess. Her uncle hired Hunter to find her and find out where the \$50k is that he thinks she stole from him. While getting to know her, Hunter finds out more about her story and starts to doubt her scandalous uncle. He also finds out that someone is trying to kill her and they don't know who or why.

This story was fantastic but the very beginning was a little slow for me. After the story picks up though, it never slowed down. So much is happening in this story that I couldn't possibly write it all in my short description. Full of action and one HOT private investigator! Thank you Samantha Holt for another great read! Love the cover!

Received a copy in exchange for an honest review.

Ruthie Taylor says

"I received a free copy of this book to read and review for Wicked Reads."

I think that the plot made this a good read. It took a little while to get going, and the writing style had its moments - but I was keen to see how the underlying tensions between the lead characters would be resolved. The chemistry between them was evident, although the speed with which they acted on it seemed extreme, given her circumstances in particular. I was not convinced by the male internal voice, as it was far more emotional than I think men are.

Overall this was a story that was worth telling, and I enjoyed how it ended.

Ashley says

I liked this book, to be perfectly honest, I had just read a book that made me ugly cry and this was a welcome reprieve. I would definitely recommend this book to those that are 18 and up, just due to the content within the book. It's hot and steamy and not really appropriate for a younger audience. It's the first book in the series and didn't end on a cliff hanger, which was nice, but it still leaves the reader with the hope you'll be getting more.

Jess, has a past and she's on the run from it. She has no friends and doesn't try to put herself out there to make any. She wants to leave her past just where it is, in the past. Hunter is a private investigator and his business is on a quick downward slope. Someone hires him to get close to Jess and figure out what she's

hiding.

The more time they spend together the more they begin to question their choices. Should Jess really have to be alone, maybe she can trust people again. Hunter begins to believe that people aren't always what they seem, while others are exactly what they are, sweet and kind.

As the book continues you're thrown into several twists and turn. It will definitely hold your attention and have you wondering what will happen to Jess and Hunter when the smoke clears.

Deborah says

They Need Each Other

She was forced to do what was necessary for her to survive. Now she needs to forgive herself for her decisions. He is trying to save the house his mum worked so hard for and he took a job he wasn't comfortable doing. This is an intense angst filled hot read. Enjoy I did.

Christina Wade - BFD Book Blog says

3.5 stars so i'm rounding up to 4 stars.

this book had a great pace and kept me interested throughout the story. it did leave me with a couple of questions that were unanswered so i'm wondering if there will be another story. the writing was good and the character development was pretty solid.

i liked the main characters and the supporting characters. i'm guessing mitch and conner could have a story if she wanted to continue the story.
