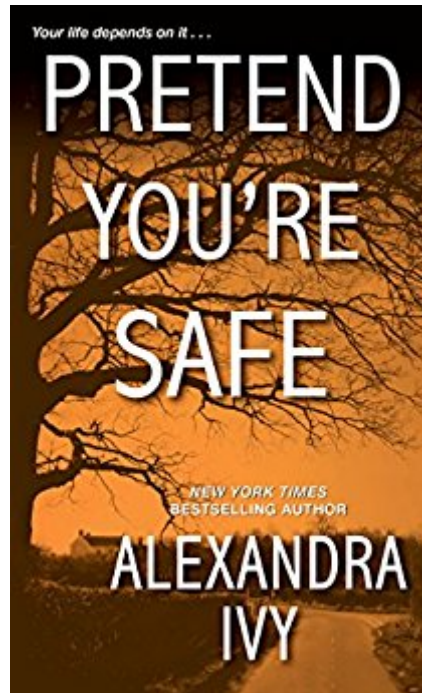




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# **Pretend You're Safe (The Agency)**



## Synopsis

HE SEES YOU First came the floods. Then came the bodies. The victimsâstrangled, then buried along the shores of the Mississippiâhave finally been unearthed, years after they disappeared. He remembers every satisfying kill . . . each womanâs terror and agony. But thereâs only one he truly wanted. And fate has brought her within reach again . . .

HE KNOWS YOU Jaci Patterson was sixteen when she found the first golden locket on her porch. Inside were a few strands of hair wrapped around a scrap of bloodstained ribbon. Though the âgiftsâ kept arriving, no one believed her hunch that a serial killer was at work. Now Jaci has returned home . . . and the nightmare is starting once more.

AND HEâLL NEVER LET YOU GO Back then, Rylan Cooper was an arrogant deputy sheriff convinced that Jaci was just an attentionâseeking teen. It was a fatal mistake. Thereâs a murderer in their midst, someone determined to settle old scores and keep playing a twisted game. And it wonât end until Jaci is his forever . . .

âAlexandra Ivy gives readers a nice balance of romance and suspense in her fast-paced, well-plotted novel.â âKat Martin, New York Times bestselling author

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Jaci Patterson had a stalker since she was a teenager. She started receiving strange gifts on her doorstep. When she voiced her fears, the lawmen dismissed her concerns. One deputy sheriff (Rylan Cooper) even went as far as saying she was just a teen seeking attention. She left town and the gifts stopped coming until one day a flood unearthed the past and the gifts started coming again. Now she was back in Heron and the stalker had his sights back on her again. Years ago Rylan Cooper, a Security and IT guy, was an arrogant deputy sheriff who was convinced that Jaci Patterson was looking for attention when she told them about the killer's obsession with her. He was so wrong. Now that bodies have been found, he realized that Jaci has always been in the murderer's sights. As they tried to catch the psychopath, he and Mike O'Brien found themselves mutually interested in Jaci. They also wanted to keep her safe. Jaci from the start chose whom she wanted to be with. Not only was Jaci facing trouble with her stalker, her estranged family was going through some things that rocked her world on its axis. The culprit was unexpected, I didn't see it coming until the very end. *PRETEND YOU'RE SAFE* is the first book in Alexandra Ivy's newest series, *THE AGENCY*. It was fascinating, thrilling, suspenseful and amazing. Two thumbs up! P. S. Looking forward to the next installment!

Loving this new direction Alexandra is taking with this series, I was a little nervous at first but it is a phenomenal book! It will keep you guessing until the very end. The suspense is off the charts with a dose of romance.

Awesome Storyline. Kept me guessing all the way to the end, Who the bad guy was. Another Great read by Alexandra Ivy

I hadn't read any of this author's books before but the synopsis sounded interesting and I was willing to give this book a chance. It was just okay. The writing was competent. But I felt the language was boilerplate and all of the characters felt wooden and one-dimensional. Also this is touted as a romantic suspense novel and I guessed the antagonist right off the bat and the romance was lukewarm at best. If you're looking for a book that you can read and not have to pay much attention to, this will fit that slot. But, for me, there are too many books and too little time to enjoy them. I want more from my reading material than I got with this book. And I notice it's the first book in a series. The author needs to rethink this book before putting out book two.

Jaci Patterson has returned to her hometown hoping that things have changed while she was gone

and praying that the torment she experienced in her teenage years doesn't return. Things were going fine for Jaci until a huge storm washed a body into a neighboring farm. Jaci is immediately on edge because years before she had found her first locket on her porch with a few strands of hair wrapped around a scrap of bloodstained ribbon and no one would believe that it was more than a prank. Rylan Cooper had been an arrogant deputy sheriff back when Jaci was trying to get someone to believe there were more to the gifts left for her. Now Rylan sees that Jaci is truly being stalked when another locket is left after the discovery of the body. Now Rylan admits that Jaci may have just been right with insisting a serial killer was on the loose and he now vows to do whatever he can to find them before anything can happen to Jaci. *Pretend You're Safe* by Alexandra Ivy is a romantic suspense read. As with most romantic suspense there is some language and sexual situations involved that you don't normally find in a regular mystery/thriller but the story also contains the chilling story of a killer on the loose tormenting the main character along with the developing relationship. As this one started off I was wondering if Jaci was going to end up struggling with a love triangle in the story line but thankfully she chooses her interest fairly early on even after two potential men were brought into the story. She was a strong character that was determined to not let the killer torment her yet again and was easily likable from the start. The book also contained a few twists and turns on the mystery side to keep it interesting while focusing on the relationship too so both sides were enjoyable. I received an advance copy from the publisher via NetGalley.

This cover tells you everything about this book. It's a bit creepy, it's a small town and it's dangerous. Just the vibes from the cover alone caused me to request this book from Netgalley. There's always been this lurking threat of a stalker since Jaci was 16, but no one took it seriously until years later and he's back. Not only does she have this idiot stalking her and possibly murdering other women but she has her stodgy rich family to contend with. A mother and step father, half brother and half sister and not a whole lot of sense or love among them. There were times I wanted to reach into the book and yell some words at her mother. Luckily for Jaci she has strong and trustworthy men that are willing to look out for her. Ivy wove an intriguing and frightening story that kept me reading well into the night trying to solve her case. Apparently there will be more in this series and I'm sure she won't disappoint.

Jaci Patterson has a stalker, it started years ago. Gold lockets with bloody hair have been left as presents for her. When they first started appearing local law enforcement dismissed her fears. Jaci

left town for awhile and the gifts stopped. Now after a flood in the area a dead body shows up. The lockets start appearing again and local women disappear. Law enforcement is taking it seriously this time. Mike O'Brien, local sheriff and Rylan Cooper both want to protect Jaci. Both are interested in her romantically. This is a good romantic suspense. Jaci is a strong character who knows what she wants. There is romance, with two heroes to choose from. It could be a love triangle but Jaci makes her choice clear early on. There is suspense and plenty of twists that will keep you guessing who the bad guy is. Thank you to net galley for an advanced readers copy.

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