



**Editorial Notes for DEADLY AFFECTIONS by Tracee Lydia Garner  
Prepared on February 22, 2017 by [...]**

Dear Tracee,

*Thank you for sharing Deadly Affections with us for copyediting. The mystery from the opening of the book is so strong, and your heroine is compelling. We were particularly impressed with how you depict realistic interpersonal dynamics, and we love how your characters were able to overcome their past to find a happily ever after together.*

*You will find our individual notes and edits throughout the book, highlighting sentences that might benefit from revision. Our approach was to accomplish the following:*

- *Address each comma splice, where there are two independent clauses and no conjunction between them.*
- *Replace each ellipsis with the standard period, space, period, space, period. Microsoft Word likes to replace these with its own symbol, which can cause formatting problems in publishing. If you prefer the ellipsis symbol, we recommend that you accept our changes and do a find and replace. The previous version had both types of ellipsis.*
- *Note repeated usage of words and information.*
- *Draw your attention to sentences that could use more clarity.*
- *Replace dashes, which are used to hyphenate words, with em-dashes (or long dashes). While newspapers may use spaces around each dash, it is preferred that there are no spaces around dashes in books.*

*We have a few larger editorial suggestions, as well:*

- *Consider adding Leedra and Kira's escape scene and/or Kira's safe return home to Dexter. You build suspense by leaving them in danger, and it makes sense to skip over parts of the narrative that Leedra doesn't remember, but it seems like there might be a few more great scenes in there that we're missing.*
- *We would love to see more of Allontis. Perhaps there's a specific project at the Center that she still wants control over while bedridden.*
- *There's a mention of Dexter's brother, James, toward the end of the book. It would be great to know about him sooner, and readers might love to go to a professional football game with Dexter and Leedra at some point for a reprieve from the danger and crisis Leedra faces.*
- *On a smaller note, many of the character names and/or nicknames in the book begin with a C, D or L. If any of these characters are not carried over from other books in the series, you might consider changing their names in order to distinguish them from one another.*

*Please let us know if you have any questions about our edits.*

*We enjoyed spending time with Leedra and Dextra, and we wish you much success with this series!*

*Best wishes,  
S and C*

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