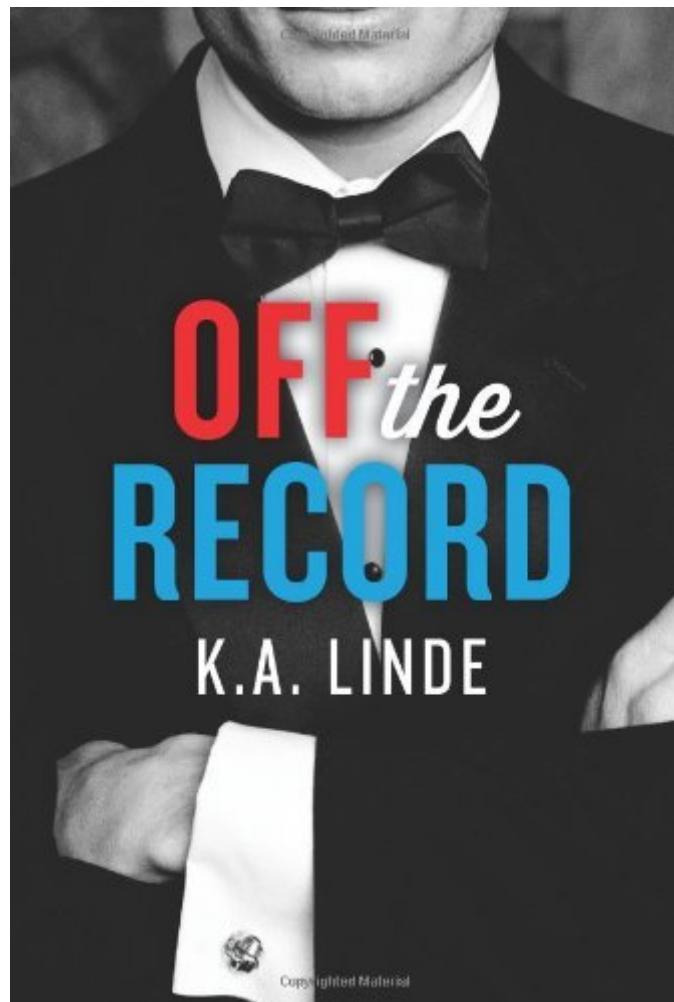


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# Off The Record (The Record Series Book 1)



## **Synopsis**

Liz Dougherty has no idea that a single question is about to change her life. Her first big reporting assignment for her North Carolina college newspaper has her covering a state senator's impromptu press conference. Brady Maxwell may have everything it takes to be a politician - a winning pedigree, devastating good looks, a body made to wear suits - but his politics rub Liz the wrong way. When Liz's hard-hitting question catches the upstart senator off-guard, it impresses Hayden Lane, Liz's editor who feels she's headed for a promising career as a reporter. But Liz is also headed into a secret romance with Brady that could destroy both their ambitions. Though he's a bachelor, potential voters might frown on Brady cozying up to a reporter. And Liz isn't sure sneaking around is enough for her - especially when things between her and Hayden might be less platonic than she thought. USA Today bestselling author K.A. Linde's Record series begins with a sleek, sexy, and smart venture into a high-stakes political campaign and an even higher-stakes affair that, in the end, will leave you wanting more with one of Linde's gripping cliffhangers.

## **Book Information**

File Size: 1636 KB

Print Length: 411 pages

Publisher: Montlake Romance (March 11, 2014)

Publication Date: March 11, 2014

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00F0SI3E2

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Not Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #15,107 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #44 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Women's Fiction > Single Women #64 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Literature & Fiction > Genre Fiction > Political #106 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Genre Fiction > Political

## **Customer Reviews**

I just could not wrap my head around why these two could not just openly date each other??? He is a young, twenty something, SINGLE guy running for the state Senate. She is a SINGLE gal who is at the tail end of her college career and she works for her college campus newspaper. They aren't famous... they aren't married... neither one of them are in committed relationships... so what is the problem?? The only problem they have is that she did not agree with some of his political decisions and published them in the campus newspaper. Who cares?? This is not something that would hurt a political career. BUT... having a secret mistress that you use for booty calls definitely will so I'm not sure if he is thinking with the right brain on this one! It's not like she was Anti-American or something. She just didn't agree with him. This could have been a fun love/hate relationship with these two... all oil and water outside the bedroom but in total agreement when they are in the bedroom! But, as a secret forbidden romance... nope... it just wasn't a believable scenario for me. I was pretty much done with this guy after he says that his career will always come before her AND that he can only meet with her in secret on HIS time not hers... but, that's okay he says... it will be worth all of the trouble. This guy really thinks too much of himself... He came across as arrogant and self absorbed. Didn't like him from the get go...The fact that she even agreed to this arrangement was just confusing. Why would any college educated, beautiful, mature, respectable woman agree to such a one sided relationship after only two encounters?? I'm sorry, but no guy is worth that much trouble. And, if all she wanted was sex... she could get that anywhere... no secrets attached.

And these 2 are prime examples of that. Ok, so here's the Jist of this book. And yes there are spoilers. We're introduced to Liz. She's a journalist in college. She's actually smart and is in school a very prestigious scholarship. I instantly like her, because I'm thinking YES FINALLY WE HAVE A SMART ONE LADIES! This girl will hold her own. This girl will not let us down. I later realize too soon how sadly mistaken I was. Liz meets Brady Maxwell, a Senator that's running for office. Brady basically propositions Liz, but only on his terms. Liz of course agrees to this, no shocker there, we already established that she's only book smart and not much else, and basically she can't think for herself. Brady basically strings her along, because he can't date her publicly because he's too worried about his image and how it will look. Ok, I can probably understand that, but your image doesn't really look much better touting Liz as your mistress. Fast forward a bunch of chapters, and Brady flies her up to a very expensive hotel so he can see her. He doesn't call her, he doesn't text her. She basically waits around the entire hotel upset that she hasn't heard from him. She then gets angry that she turned into "that girl", and briefly scolded herself but not before running to her phone hoping it was Brady the instant it rang. Girl is exhausting. At some point I was completely over her

ridiculousness, I seriously just wanted someone to kill her, just to put her out of her own misery. Surely she irritated herself. I appreciate the story line, but these 2 have no chemistry whatsoever other than sex. And even that is a little boring. Not to mention there's a perfectly good guy that is everything she wants basically hanging onto her every word..

This could have been a very good story about the current political climate in this country and how the media play into it and interact with the varied players. The author seems to have a good grasp of the dynamics at work, and she did a good job of setting up the conflict between two factions. This could have even been a titillating erotic novel. This female author isn't afraid to write the sex scenes in prose that would befit the most daring male author. In too many romantic novels, the erotic scenes fall flat for too much soft focus. Not here. It could have been a heartwarming love story. All the ingredients are there, including a choice to be made, with conflicts between romantic and career interests from the main character's perspective. And one very strong contender for the prize. Unfortunately, it is none of the above. The political content is shallow at best. The sex is infrequent enough that the author's graphic prose seems out of place in the larger story; the more allusive style of most female authors would suffice. The "love" story is more one of immature, shallow, misguided lust. Liz - how many times in each chapter do we need to be told how good-looking she is - that she has long blonde hair and a "nice rack?" How many times in each chapter do we need to be dragged through another three-page internal monologue of her conflicted emotions (without which the book could have been pared down to about fifteen percent of its length)? Liz comes across as immature and full of herself - cherry picking her emotions to fit her own selfish rationalizations. Her choice of an equally hedonistic best friend does nothing to lend substance to Liz's character. Brady - This guy is downright repulsive.

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