

# UNEXPECTED CONNECTION

by Sue Jaskula

## EXCERPT

I was angry at myself for my body's response that started the minute he walked up in his perfect suit. The return of his devilish grin didn't improve my disposition. "It's nothing," I snapped.

"I'm good at reading people and that expression tells me you have something you'd like to discuss."

Again, I hushed my voice, but I knew my irritation came across loud and clear. "Keep your voice down, damn it. I don't need rumors starting from your asinine comments. We're not going to play this cat and mouse game, Detective O'Connor. I am also good at reading people, that's why we're in this job. I've been around a few rodeos and met your smooth-talking type. The last one almost got me fired, so let's establish a few things. I'm not a damsel in distress. I don't need you to escort me or help me or hit on me or tell me how good I look on any given day. I don't date cops and I don't need you in my personal space every time I turn around. Are you picking up what I'm putting down here?"