"... and this is Dr. Samantha Endel, Head of Aerospace Corporation's Missile Control Development", announced Bart Smith. As Alex took her proffered hand, their eyes locked and his world beyond went away. His "Hello, I'm Alex Zoravar from AWRE in the UK" was lost beside the electricity flowing between them. Smith's voice, in the mist outside his view, was introducing the next in line. With an effort, Alex tore himself away from the depth of her knowing, smiling eyes and the room came back into focus. He was stunned; barely able to function through the rest of the introductions. All he could think about was her. Normally rational and in control, he had to mentally shake himself. "I've never felt like this before. Who is she?"

Throughout the coffee-sustained first meeting, broken only for a sandwich lunch, Alex forced himself to keep his eyes from Samantha Endel for fear of being distracted from the important task in hand... but he could not get her out of his mind. By the time the meeting broke up at the end of the day, Alex had regained some inner composure but was now desperately curious to explore the source of his disturbance and as their eyes met once more, they were magnetically drawn together. She was blonde, slim and elegant, and poised with an easy confidence. Small talk was all that the situation allowed... but her blue eyes spoke to him on another level.