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Married By Morning: Hathaways, Book 4



Synopsis

He is everything she wants to avoid | For two years, Catherine Marks has been a paid companion to the Hathaway sisters a pleasant position, with one caveat. Her charges' older brother, Leo Hathaway, is thoroughly exasperating. Cat can hardly believe that their constant arguing could mask a mutual attraction. But when one quarrel ends in a sudden kiss, Cat is shocked at her powerful response and even more so when Leo proposes a dangerous liaison. She is not at all what she seems | Leo must marry and produce an heir within a year to save his family home. Catherine's respectable demeanor hides a secret that would utterly destroy her. But to Leo, Cat is intriguing and infernally tempting, even to a man resolved never to love again. The danger Cat tried to outrun is about to separate them forever unless two wary lovers can find a way to banish the shadows and give in to their desires | Will leave you breathless. Romantic Times BOOKreviews --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

[1852 - Hampshire and London, England]So here it is! The long awaited romance of "Marks" and Leo! I know I'm not alone when I say that by the end of the second Hathaway book, SEDUCE ME AT SUNRISE, I was sensing that they would be matched up in the future and was already anxiously anticipating it. Many readers have been counting down the days till this book came out, and that same pressure and excitement also made me nervous - would it be able to live up to our expectations? I'm very conflicted on what my answer to that question is and cannot give a straight

yes or no (hence the middling rating of 3.5 stars). One thing I will say is that I don't think this book should be read on its own, for two reasons: 1) reading Hathaway Books 2 and 3 will allow you to enjoy the Marks and Leo relationship *that* much more, and 2) see my CONS section.

SUMMARY: Catherine Marks (23) has been the governess and now-companion for the two youngest Hathaway girls for three years and during that time, the antagonistic relationship between Cat and her employer, Leo Hathaway, Viscount Ramsay, has only grown stronger. Leo (30) has changed from the drunken wastrel that he became following the death of his fiancée, however he is still irreverent and enjoys nothing more than a good argument with the pinch-faced eyeglass-wearing "Marks" (as he so "affectionately" calls her). They are like night and day: the relaxed, charming, devil-may-care facade aristocrat and the closemouthed, rigid (though NOT unkind!), somewhat stern governess. The normal routine of their relationship - one of constant fighting and teasing - changes drastically one afternoon when Leo finally gives in to the urge and kisses Cat ... and she kisses him back!

Thank you Lisa Kleypas for another excellent book. You know the plot: she's a spinster governess with a bad attitude and a mysterious past who longs for TLC. He's an accidental aristocrat who hides his massive capacity for love behind self-deprecating wit and naughty behavior. In short they are both hard candies with soft gooey centers. The story takes place over several months while the actual romance has been building for a year as seen in the two previous novels. That said, the plot arc does get stretched (as others have noted). There's no question H & H will have their HEA. That predictability is one of the reasons I enjoy romance so much. But it's always interesting to see what plot devices the author will use to complete the book. Although we learned about Cat's mysterious past pretty early on, the actual resolution of her past and resolution of the story was unexpected. Each character had to face his/her daemons to get to the HEA.

SPOILER: Interestingly, they each had to deal with the issue of prostitution. Hers was the literal meaning of prostitution via her history of family prostitutes and his via the aristocratic marriage to secure either money or land. Both of them resisted and showed that neither of them was "for sale" in spite of the outward persona they represented. Some other reviews have commented on the fact that Lisa Kleypas uses kidnapping a lot as a plot device. This is totally true. But what they aren't pointing out is that Lisa manages to create new characters and a new and unique love story in each and every book. Also unique loves scenes. Amazing. I think this is a huge accomplishment given that she's had to have written more than 20 books.

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