



## Duke of Scandal

*Gaelen Foley*

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*Romance is in the air at Moonlight Square ~ Regency London's most exclusive address!*

Jason Hawthorne, the Duke of Netherford, made it clear to the young, lovesick Felicity Carvel long ago that nothing could ever happen between them. He has earned his reputation as the Duke of Scandal--and she's his best friend's little sister. For honor's sake, he vows to stay away from the lovely innocent. But six years of the wealthy libertine's life have left Jason empty and jaded, while Felicity has blossomed into a strong, beautiful woman, ripe for love and marriage.

When a sudden windfall makes her one of the most sought-after heiresses in London, chased all over Town by fortune-hunters, Jason knows he must keep the rogues at bay until her brother returns from his dangerous mission abroad. Unfortunately, the scandalous attraction between them has only grown to a searing intensity. Deep down, Felicity still wants Jason for her own. But after getting her heart broken once before by Naughty Netherford, does she dare attempt to play with fire again--and this time, can Jason resist?

## Duke of Scandal Details

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Author : Gaelen Foley

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## From Reader Review Duke of Scandal for online ebook

### Natalie says

I was never going to give this book 4 stars or more the moment they revealed that Jason fathered two illegitimate children. The children are entirely innocent of course, but it is that Felicity, our dear sweet heroine, is now saddled with the knowledge that the mothers of the two children would forever lurk in the periphery of their lives between her and Jason, as Felicity's thought process went when she found out. Which is exactly right. And it is so irresponsible of him too. The moment he fathered Simon, who is 4 i think, he should have taken precautions to stop being such a total irresponsible ass. No, instead he has to go and knock up some other girl out of wedlock and I don't care if she is an irresponsible mother, he is equally irresponsible as well.

Aside from that, this was cute. Felicity was a very saucy little heroine and I enjoyed her interactions with Jason.

I just wished Jason deserved her more.

V. excited for Rivenwood/Serena's book because Rivenwood sounds like quite the character.

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### Lady Gabriella of Awesomeness (On Hiatus) says

[claim his children out of wedlock to polite society. But even if that, to a certain degree was done, keeping the two kids at his home to raise with his duchess was simply not do

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### Jennifer says

Another great romance from Ms. Foley. I just think that Jason gave in a little to easily for all his angst about love and marriage. Felicity was great in her strategy to get him to realize he did love her. Another Duke is next in the series, but I hope she has plans for Peter, her brother to get a HEA.

I received a free copy of this book from the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

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### Amanda says

There's a scene in Duke of Scandal where Felicity admires a statue of Hades and Persephone which portrays the innocent goddess seemingly seducing the roguish god, thus reversing the preconceived roles of these well known figures. That moment is not only a turning point for Felicity but also sums up the book's story rather nicely as well.

I loved the tug-of-war between Felicity and Jason because it was the heroine that was in hot pursuit of the hero this time around. With Felicity being the one so open and honest about her feelings and Jason cast as the insecure one; what a refreshing change of pace! In this case it was Jason who was afraid of love because he had never truly experienced it before Felicity, not really. That, combined with misguided loyalty to Felicity's brother and Jason's best friend, kept Jason from fully letting Felicity in. But thankfully Felicity's persistence proved irresistible. The girl wanted her rake and she got him, talk about impressive.

In fact Felicity was the single best aspect of the book in my humble opinion. I just adored her. She was very aware of her worth and I liked that a lot. She had the ability to ooze self confidence while still maintaining a sense of vulnerability which made her feel all the more real and tangible. And her cheeky seduction methods have to be applauded.

I did feel the ending was a bit too tied up with a pretty bow perfect and I thought a little more time could have been spent on how much of an impact (view spoiler). Irrelevant nitpicks aside, Gaelen Foley's writing continues to meet all my catnip needs.

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### **Erin says**

I always love a Gaelen Foley book and 'Duke of Scandal' was no exception. Foley manages to keep the 'in love with brothers best friend' plot fresh and entertaining.

However, I am more excited about the next book in the series, 'Duke of Secrets'. Out of all the characters that appeared in this book (including a young Alec Knight) Azrael Chambers, the mysterious Duke of Rivenwood who only showed up in a hand full of scenes captured my interest the most. I look forward to seeing how his story with Serena (who made a very small appearance) turns out.

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### **Aly is so frigging bored says**

I liked the book, it was fun after I got into it. This had a slow start for me. I was intrigued by the characters since we met them in the prequel so I continued the book and I'm so happy I did.

Felicity has always been in love with Jason, the Duke of Netherford. She was resigned to never having a happily ever after with him, till she needed his help managing a fortune left to her by her great aunt.

Jason is Felicity's brother best friend and all 3 of them grew up together. He had always taken care of her from afar and reset her allure till he saw how fortune hunters treated her after she got her inheritance. The more time they spent together the more he couldn't let her go.

I liked Felicity. When she saw that she couldn't win him by being mannerly and taking no risks, she changed and became bolder and unafraid of pursuing her wishes. Jason was a sweetheart at heart, but the neglect his parents had shown him when he was young convinced him that he was unlovable. Felicity changed that and helped him see that he didn't have to waste his life on being unhappy.

All in all it was a funny book and got me intrigued on knowing more of Jason's friend, the Duke of Rivenwood.

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### **Carol \*Young at Heart Oldie\* says**

Review to follow.

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### **Sam says**

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See, while this book ticked a few boxes in my favourite tropes list, I was disappointed that it took more than half the book

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### **Dina says**

3 1/2 stars (rounded down to 3 stars, because Ms. Foley's writing sounded too "modern" for the time period in which the story took place and I had a hard time buying it)

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### **♥?elody says**

As a big Gaelen Foley fan how did I not know about this series? Which she started 2 years ago?! ?

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### **Christa says**

I thoroughly enjoyed this first full-length novel in the Moonlight Square Series. I thought that it had great characters in Jason Hawthorne, Duke of Netherford, and Felicity Carvel. I really liked the way they had been friends for their entire lives, even though they hadn't had much to do with one another for several years. I loved the ease that was between the two when they really started to spend time together again. The teasing and banter between them was fun, and they had wonderful chemistry together. The storyline kept me intrigued, and I was very glad that Felicity was so accepting of Jason and all of his past roguish behaviors. I liked the way she saw his vulnerabilities and handled them gently. Everything about this charming love story came together to create a very enjoyable reading experience for me. Gaelen Foley is a must read author for me, and this book has all of the elements that make her a favorite. I received a free copy of this book from the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

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### **Barbara Rogers says**

Series: Moonlight Square #1

Publication Date: 10/13/15

### 3.5 Stars

This was a quick and easy read – but – it definitely wasn’t a historical. Yes, it says it is, but all of the conversations, situations, actions, etc. were thoroughly modern. If you replaced the carriages with cars, you’d have a contemporary story. The ‘hero’ was the biggest man-ho I think I have ever read and the ‘heroine’ was such a saccharine Pollyanna that it was totally unbelievable. Strangely enough, I did still enjoy the read. I wouldn’t care to read it again, but I did enjoy it while I was reading it. Maybe because it was more lighthearted than serious.

Jason Hawthorne, the Duke of Netherford, had a lonely childhood with parents who didn’t love – or even like – each other nor did they care about him. He was raised by very well paid servants – so he grew up thinking that if you wanted someone to take care of you, then you had to pay them. Therefore – he paid for everything he wanted – including the bedroom activities. He also sired two – yes, TWO – illegitimate children. You might think one is an accident and forgive him as long as he took care of the child etc. but two isn’t forgivable. They were also by two different mothers. I will give him credit that he took care of them and regularly went to visit them, but still – you’d think that having been raised in the situation he was, that he’d be very careful not to put another child in that same situation. He is totally worthless – his one ‘useful’ thing is supporting a house full of artists – a painter, a composer, a scientist, a sculptor. He has no useful interests at all. Just a spoiled rich kid. I absolutely failed to see any reason at all why the heroine (or any other woman) would dedicate her life to loving him. I’m sure she remembered the boy he was as they were growing up, but, goodness, after eight years of his current behavior, you’d think she would see him differently. He’s always cared about his best friend’s sister – but he has avoided her for eight years. He promised her brother he wouldn’t pursue her and besides – she’s much too good for the likes of him.

Felicity Carvel has loved the boy who grew up on the neighboring estate, Jason, all of her life. He is her brother’s best friend and they spend all of their time together. She adores Jason and finally, at the age of fifteen, she decides to make her feelings known to him. He is shocked and rebuffs her – and then he avoids her for the next eight years.

Felicity’s brother is off on an expedition to the Himalayas and she desperately needs to reach him. The ONLY person who would know how to reach him is the sponsor of the expedition, Jason. Felicity has no choice but to contact Jason about sending word to her brother. When she doesn’t get answers to her letters to Jason, she shows up at his home – hoping mostly to speak with his secretary to get the information she needs. As she is close to leaving, Jason makes an appearance – very unkempt, barefoot and obviously still in yesterday’s clothes – Felicity is shocked but speaks to him. Then, she sees the two harlots peeking out from a door upstairs and promptly takes her leave.

That visit, and the reason for it, cause Jason to decide that he needs to step in and protect Felicity since her brother isn’t there. It is nice to watch Jason realize how much he cares for Felicity – and that he always has and to see them get their HEA.

I’m still debating whether I’ll read the next book or not. I am a bit intrigued by Rivenwood, so I might give that one a read, but if it feels as modern as this one, then it will be my last book in this series.

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## Angie Elle says

*Thank you to the author for providing a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.*

I feel like a broken record lately, because I've said this about so many authors whose works I've enjoyed, but this book just didn't do it for me. **Duke of Scandal** was about a man who, out of years of neglect from both his parents, sought love between the sheets with half the ton, and the woman who sets out to tame him. This plot isn't something that I usually have an issue with, and I think why it didn't work for me here is that neither Jason nor Felicity were particularly likable.

As far as the pacing goes, this book felt slow. I really miss the intrigue and suspense from Foley's previous works, as I think that's where she excels. This was just run-in after run-in between Jason and Felicity, and with all the games Felicity was playing, it felt juvenile. I think the shared history between the characters was relied on too heavily to account for their current attraction, which is something I've noticed a lot in recent second chance romances. If past events are going to play such a prominent role in the present, then that past needs to be fleshed out for me to buy it. Ultimately, Jason and Felicity's relationship felt forced to me. I wasn't sure what either of them saw in the other, but I was convinced they got what they deserved when they chose to be together. Aside from each other, they appeared to have few interests or aspirations.

One thing that was a huge problem for me...

(view spoiler)

Also, some of the language of this book was too modern to be indicative of the time period.

I loved **One Moonlit Night**, the prequel novella to this story, but **Duke of Scandal** wasn't a win for me. Because I liked the prequel, and because the hero of the next book (Duke of Rivenwood) stole every scene he was in in this one, I'll be checking out the next book in the series.

*This review was originally posted at Badass Book Reviews.*

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## Michelle says

I LOVE this book! Jason and Felicity have known each other for many years and Felicity's brother is one of Jason's best friends. After a failed attempt of flirtation on Felicity's part when she was fifteen she thought after so many years that she had moved on and couldn't be in love with Jason anymore. Jason, known as the Duke of Scandal and Naughty Netherford, has had his great share of trysts and affairs he finds a new purpose in looking out for Felicity, as she has suddenly becomes an heiress, from fortune-hunters. He has always been attracted to her and cares for her but a promise from her brother has kept him wary of her presence for

quite a long time. She comes looking for a way to contact her brother who is away on an expedition and shows up at Jason's house one morning after a long time of polite distance away from each other. After reconnecting, these two become fast friends and their attraction to each other causes quite a spark and flame. I was surprised by their actions. Jason, rake supreme, works very hard to be honorable around Felicity. He definitely wants her but he tries to hold himself together and avoids getting too close to her. However, Felicity is the one to try to seduce the Duke. Her actions were surprising but not out of character. She knows she wants him as much as he wants her so she is on a mission and I was very entertained and impressed by her perseverance. They have a wonderful playful and sweet romance. I thoroughly enjoyed watching them fall in love. I was completely captivated by their love and I didn't want the book to end. An excellent romance!

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## **Lu says**

In the prequel of the series we get to know the hero Jason as the debauched friend of Gable and learned he had a thing for Triny's friend Felicity.

Well... Felicity and Jason were childhood friends and things changed once she tried to kiss him. She was just 15, and he was 19 and heir to a dukedom.

Years passed of him avoiding her, until some family matters throw them back together.

I'm a particular fan of childhood friends turned into lovers and this story was interesting and well written.

Jason is really debauched, not one of these rogues only by name we see everywhere, but someone that probably had a STD or two.

He is the kind of hero I would not touch with a 12 feet pole, but Felicity was determined to have him and fix his ways, and I cheered for her success.

This Author is new to me and I got this two first books for free, but I'm really hooked to the series and will for sure read the next book (The Duke of Secrets) about the Duke of Rivenwood. I love a Duke, even better one full of secrets. ;)

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