



Phoebe Deane

Grace Livingston Hill

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Grace Livingston Hill gives us a Cinderella-type heroine to sympathize with in part two of the Miranda trilogy. Day after day Phoebe is subjected to living as a servant in her brother's home, poked on by her hateful sister-in-law, and forced to endure matchmaking schemes influenced by greed. Marriage to an ill-tempered man with several misbehaving children seems to be her lot, and her hope is about to be snuffed out. Could a chance encounter in the woods change the direction of her life and finally introduce her to someone who could care about her?

Phoebe Deane Details

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Author : Grace Livingston Hill

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From Reader Review Phoebe Deane for online ebook

Sue says

Thank you TriciaG for your excellent reading of Phoebe Deane by Grace Livingston Hill. I think this is my favorite book of Hill's books and I love the part that Miranda (a common, down-home, honest girl) played in this story. She made me laugh each time. An excellent Cinderella type story where good wins out and evil is justified in the end.

melissa lingle says

Old fashioned but never outdated

Always sweet and well written, the wholesome stories told by Grace Livingston Hill always teach about good morals and delight the reader with tales that overcome adversity with ingenuity and love. If it's a story by Grace, you should read it. You will find your heart a little happier for it.

Adele says

Another sweet romance with honorable main characters.

Sunflower Jamison says

I could not put this book down.

It was a wonderful clean love story. My Aunt and Grandma used to read books by Grace Livingston Hill. This was in the 1940's and I was too young to appreciate these books, as I was born in 1942. When I was 6 or 7 when I would see them reading. Now that I am much older this author's name came to my mind so I looked for her at the library ebooks to no avail. I should have known that Amazon would have ebooks by this author. I'm so glad that I got to read one of these books and plan to read many more. Thanks Amazon.

Rebecca Lewitt says

I hate to give only 2 stars to any of Grace Livingston Hill's books. I love her novels and short stories--they are inspirational and beyond clean. If ever there is a chance to recommend an author to a young girl, I always suggest a GLH book. They are romance without even really any romance. They won't even lead a girl into the problems most clean and Christian romance novels will--daydreaming, focusing on romance too early, etc. They are PURE and beyond PURE. And usually quite entertaining. All that said, this one was a disappointment. Still pure, but not interesting, not well written. I wouldn't even have finished it except that I love the character of Miranda, (from the book of the same name), so when she showed up I slogged through.

Nope, this is not her best work--i wouldn't recommend anyone to read it. Phoebe was such a dunce--truly annoying character--NOT an over-comer. Usually Grace writes over-comers. She didn't even really have much of a life of faith...which is VERY odd for a GLH book. They are usually so inspirational--I get some important spiritual concept out of each one--but that was sadly lacking in this. No, read Daily Rate or Brentwood or Matched Pearls or Beauty for Ashes or The Sound of the Trumpet or Substitute Guest or The Witness or MIRANDA--basically any of her other books-instead.

Thomas E Maher says

Never disappointing

Good clean romance with underlying Christian truths. Grace Livingston Hill writes clearly and consistently bringing entertainment with well written stories. Though the setting is almost a century old, the morals and Christian truths are ageless.

Sheryl Tribble says

Miche is correct -- once Miranda shows up (a third of the way in or so), she gradually takes over the book, partly because Phoebe is woefully passive. Didn't bother me because I tend to like GLH's secondary characters better than her hero and heroine anyhow, and because I don't read her books for the romance, but I can see why someone who viewed the romance as primary would end this book quite dissatisfied.

This was a "historical" when GLH wrote it, but unlike *Marcia Schulyer*, it doesn't feel nearly so grounded in its time, but rather like many another early GLH set in her own time.

GLH let Miranda take center stage in the third book of the trilogy, so I'm rather looking forward to that. Most of her heroines do tend to be woefully passive, and to run when I would have fought, and also to bear their sorrows all quiet and saintly, so it'll be interesting to see how she handles such a feisty character in the central role.

Jane M Wagner says

IT was a good read, a tale of another time.

I enjoyed being taken to another time and place, where a village was a close knit unit and good could triumph over evil

Julia says

Grace Livingston Hill always writes a sweet, clean love story, with nasty hardships for the heroine to endure with patience, wisdom, and kindness. Phoebe, while quite passive in her responses to the horrible people in her life, is extremely courageous physically. You just want to bust her tormentors in the head. And, of

course, there is a handsome, intelligent, gallant hero that strolls into her life, along with several other loyal friends who love her dearly. As in many of GLH's novels, there is an historical backdrop to the story. In this case it played a minor role, referring to the potential abolition of slavery, New York's reaction to the idea, and how Texas would fit into that scenario. This is the 2nd in the "Miranda" Series, with "Marcia Schuyler" the first, and "Miranda" the third. First published in 1909; I listened to this as a free audio download from LibriVox.org (I went back and added one more star to this rating, after having finished the series.)

Becky says

Did I enjoy reading Phoebe Deane? Yes and no. Grace Livingston Hill manages to get me worried about the fate of the characters, manages to keep me reading. But. Part of me knows that a happy ending is always assured. Part of me feels silly to "worry" about what is going to happen next!

In Phoebe Deane, readers meet a young orphaned woman, Phoebe Deane, who is living with her half-brother and his family. (Her sister-in-law is AWFUL; so awful I can't find one positive thing to say about her!) Because Phoebe is always being put down and insulted by this woman, Emmaline, the children know they can get away with it too.) So long as Phoebe accepts her calling to serve and submit without hesitation or complaint, the sister-in-law is content to "allow" her to exist in the same house. She has a plan for Phoebe. She wants Phoebe to marry Hiram Green, a neighboring widower. Hiram Green is OBSESSED with Phoebe. His obsession isn't healthy--for himself, for his children, for Phoebe. He follows her everywhere. He goes to the post office and asks for her mail. He takes some of her mail and opens it before destroying it. He's a despicable villain. He just can't understand why Phoebe isn't saying yes. HE's determined that she WILL say yes. He will scheme and manipulate until she has no other option. How far will he go?

There is a hero in Phoebe Deane. Phoebe is walking on her birthday when she meets a man in the woods. His name is Nathaniel Graham....

Unfortunately, he is only visiting so readers don't get a chance to really know him as well as we might like. But. He is interested--very interested--in Phoebe. And he wants to write her! So there is great potential that this will turn into happily ever after...

Phoebe's best friend and ALLY is Miranda a character first introduced in Marcia Schuyler.

Wendy S. Delmater says

The title character, Phoebe Deane, has been an orphan since she was eight and is now 16. She's lived with her much older half-brother's family and while she gets along fairly well with *him*, Phoebe's half-brother's wife Ermaline is, to quote Phoebe's countrified friend Miranda, "...the meanest thing in the shape of a woman I've seen yit, an' I've hed some experience."

The story is set in the 1860s, during the time of the abolitionists, with a side order of the war in Texas with Santa Anna. You get historical insights into farm and home life in small towns during that period, mainly through descriptions of all the chores the nasty head of that household piles on Phoebe, and the intentional gossip that is used to herd her into an unwanted marriage with a much older coarse and despicable man - to Ermaline's benefit.

Salvation comes in the persons of an interested young man who has the legal skills to thwart salacious, planted gossip, and in the unlikely person of freckle-faced, wily Miranda... whose sense of justice and questionable morality is always employed to protect those whom she loves.

You get over Miranda's accent rather quickly and will come to love her. What a character.

Jennifer says

So we have sweet little old-fashioned romances on one side of the fence and intolerable, overemotional, unbearable soap operas on the other side. This book precariously teeters on the fence and doesn't end up landing on either side. Which is a good and bad all at once. The old-fashioned romance aura of it is quite easy on the mind and appealing to the heart. But the outrageously evil characters and the constant hand-wringing really started to get on my nerves. I don't like books that feature one unreasonably crazy mean person and this one actually packs in two. The damsel in distress is what kept me reading - what in the world happens to Phoebe?? But it all ends well even though the road to rescue is riddled with some contrived plot elements. Overall, I wasn't impressed, but was faintly entertained and therefore shall grace this review with two stars.

Jacqueline says

From this and many other Grace Livingston Hill Books I learned about Salvation and how awesome our Lord is. It was through this author that I first found out that there was such a thing as Salvation the most valuable gift God ever gave to man---to me

Ahmad Sharabiani says

Phoebe Deane (Miranda Trilogy #2), Grace Livingston Hill

Bethany Rivera says

Warning- Spoilers

Grace Livingston-Hill is not only a Victorian styled writer but many of her stories have a Christian or religious base. If you have read any of her novels, there are several mentions of God and other religious or biblical references. Out of all three novels in the Miranda series, Phoebe Dean is the most religious. That was not an issue and it did not deter my interest in the novel, but it was a main focus. So if you are not one who enjoys religious books or ideas, maybe skip or skim those parts of the novel.

The character of Phoebe Dean is respectable and innocent- a bit naive and stand-offish which can come across annoying. It is more of a Cinderella story, being able to escape her intolerable sister-in-law and arranged marriage in order to marry the man of her dreams.

To me the most important part of the book was the true introduction of Miranda and her growth from the first novel. Unfortunately, she is only in about ? of the novel, but it shows her nature, her intent, and undying love towards those she admired and “adopts” as her family/projects. In the little amount she appears she makes an impact and truly makes the novel worth reading.

I enjoyed this novel, it was not my favorite from the trilogy, but I would read it again.
