



## The Dangerous Gentleman

*Julia London*

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## **The Dangerous Gentleman** Julia London

*With her trademark sensuality and dazzling storytelling, Julia London brings us the Rogues of Regent Street, three dashing, aristocratic gentlemen whose scandalous exploits are the talk of the ton. Adrian Spence, Earl of Albright, has earned his notoriety on the dueling field, and in the finest drawing rooms—and boudoirs—of England. This is his story....*

It was strictly business as Adrian Spence claimed the woman his brother desired. A hasty wedding, and Lilliana Dashell was his—sweet revenge on the father who disinherited him and the brother who let it happen. Their wedding night is a revelation as passionate, innocent Lilliana ignites fires Adrian tries desperately to deny. By day he is a stranger. By night he is the lover of her dreams, and she a shameless wanton in his arms. But Adrian is determined that no woman will ever possess him. And Lilliana knows that her only hope of taming this very dangerous gentleman is to unlock his deepest mysteries and open his shuttered heart to love....

*From the Paperback edition.*

## **The Dangerous Gentleman Details**

Date : Published January 16th 2009 by Dell (first published April 11th 2000)

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Author : Julia London

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## From Reader Review The Dangerous Gentleman for online ebook

### Ridh says

Just barely 3 stars, and I still think it's a bit generous.

The plot had some potential. Revenge plots aren't my favorite and well this book pretty much explains why I don't really like them. It screams "MISUNDERSTANDINGS." The angst level broke the godforsaken scale on this one. One minute passion, the next: argument, hate, love, hate, love, hate, love. I can't even explain how ridiculous it all got. It was like watching/reading a *really* bad soap opera.

Please don't get my started on the characters. I have such a hate-love relationship with these two. I'll say this much: though I didn't like either of the MC's very much, I had more sympathy for the hero. Otherwise both were pretty self-destructive. I liked Lillie at first, but she just seemed petty later in the book, and I honestly don't think she tried hard enough to avoid her husband's *brother's* affections. I thought her selfish at many points. Not that Adrian was any better. Talk about a tortured hero. He was happy about 45 pages total through this 380 page book. Yah. That tells you something. I didn't like Benedict. No, wait. I HATED him. What was his problem? Just leave them alone! Shoo! Go! Goodbye! I also hated his father, naturally. He was a bastard and a coward through and through.

I gave stars because of the puppies (They were so cute) and because of the writing style. Like I said there was potential, but Ms. London could have laid off the angst ~~a little~~ a lot.

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I picked this up after I forgot to finish it, and, well, I'm gonna need something super light and happy to get this out of my mind. I'm really hitting a rough patch with the books I'm reading lately...

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### Eliza says

NOT what I was expecting! This was such a great book- and completely surprising. We start off with the typical story line of brooding hero meets naive heroine, but the book gives us much more than that. A little teeny bit of humor, but really it was more of a roller coaster of emotions. I was not expecting the darkness that ebbed through the book. Truly an excellent and brave heroine that developed and grew so beautifully through the book- our hero was so broken, but was saved just in the nick of time. I can't do the book justice with my weak review, but I did love it and highly suggest it. Not a fluff book- bits of sweetness, but the love took LOTS of work.

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## **Dina says**

4 1/2 stars

*Note to self: Write this review ASAP, before Fani comes to beat me into a pulp, LOL.*

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## **cosmogirl7481 says**

Good lord, there was some high and convoluted drama in this. I mean, damn.

Adrian was an asshole. And he continued to be an asshole (except for about 5 goddamn minutes) until the end of the book.

Also there was this:

"...the heavy sacs of his life's blood met her body with a fierceness that was, incredibly, not fierce enough."

Sorry, y'all.

Don't read it. Unless you're into heavy sacs and overly angsty asshole heroes.

1.5 stars, but only bc I finished it.

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## **Tanja says**

I love angst but simpleton heroine and thick hero were too much.

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## **Bj says**

\*I gave this audiobook a C- for the story and C+ for the narration at AudioGals\*

Where to start? What a difficult book to review. While I loved the heroine, and enjoyed parts of this book, the hero is an extremely trying one. Mostly due to the hero, at different points in this book, I greatly struggled to continue listening. Of course, in the end, I was happy I pushed through, but it was not always easy.

The Dangerous Gentleman is a British historical romance with elements of suspense. The first book in the Rogues of Regent Street series, it may nonetheless be read as a standalone book, as each book tells the love story of a different rogue, who has gained notoriety for his scandalous adventures both in and out of the bedroom.

Adrian Spence, Earl of Albright has had a difficult upbringing. Never loved by his father, who yearns for the opportunity to disinherit him at every turn, he has learned to survive and has created his own wealth. Meanwhile, his younger brother, Benedict, is the golden child in his father's eye. So when Adrian is goaded

into a duel, and kills his opponent in self-defense, Adrian's father finally finds the means to disinherit him and transfers all of his inheritance (other than an entailed estate which follows his title) to Benedict.

When Adrian finds out that Benedict is planning on proposing to Lilliana Dashell, a 22-year-old spinster country girl, Adrian seeks his revenge by marrying her first. But other than in her bedroom, which he will only occupy long enough to get the deed done (even on their wedding night), Adrian generally ignores her and is indifferent to her attempts to get to know him. Instead, he is condescending, belittling her and generally dismisses her as merely a "Grange Princess". At one point, he treats her so badly, that there is a scene involving dubious consent where he accuses her of acting like a whore and treats her accordingly. Moreover, even though he promised to show her the world in order to convince her to marry him, he's not even a man of his word, as he shuts her away on his estate and refuses to allow her to accompany him when he travels.

Lilliana, in turn, desperately tries to gain Adrian's attention, and notwithstanding her great sadness (she cries every night after he visits her bedroom), still manages to care for Adrian, even when, following an accident, everyone else would turn their back on him. I felt so sorry for her. Even at the same time that she is being horribly verbally abused, she still fights to uncover family secrets, in the hopes of helping Adrian see again the slight glimpses of love that he has shown her.

Please see the full review at AudioGals at: <http://www.audiogals.net/2014/07/the-...>

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### **Mahak says**

4.5

I fall in love with Julia for the second time.(Devil takes a bride is my 1st love). This book was full package for me. It has everything a book must has to enjoy. It was about to become my most-fav but last quarter made me hesitate.

Our tortured & wicked mind Adrian proposed marriage to Lilliane (in such a charming way) & our innocent dreamy(country bumpkin) accepted it unaware he was just taking revenge on his cruel father & brother. I love the way author portry these two characters. She was such a sunshine, full of energy & positive vibes. She love him fully with her big heart. I specially enjoy the acts she did to ruffle his feather(that were cute & different), to get reaction from him.

Hero was the beast, not the cruel one but the kind 'I m wicked & I know it'. I enjoyed the way he deal with heroine. He consider himself very smart, his all actions were calculted,composed. All the tragedies in his life turned his heart to ice. I enjoyed seeing him jealous,serve him better It took him long to realize the warmth of love is slowly melting it away.

And when the 'tragedy' happen to hero,it was such a emotional phase of their life. Their love making, their scenes it was so intense. I feel their heart as well soul connecting. But to my disappoinment later hero went to his own self. Perhaps it was all these years of hatred & sorrow that made his character. I hate him for that. But than in last of chapters I understand Love doesnt happen to perfect people, it makes you perfect They both were poll apart, both had flaws but in love they become perfect for eachother. It was entertaining ride. Definitly going to read other books of this series.

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### **Canan ^^ says**

Bilindi?i üzere Adrian babas? ve karde?inden intikam için lilliana ile evleniyor..ve bir süre sonra içine kapan?yor..bunun bir çok sebebi var..babas? Adrian'a kötü küçük o?lu Benedic'e ise fazlas?yla sevecen davranış?yor...Adrian'a kötü davranışmakla kalm?yor..onu a??al?yor..onun olmas? gereken serveti..paray? benedict'e b?rak?yor..yani veriyor..birde burda Benedict ve Adrian'?n do?umlar? ile ilgili bir tuhaf?k var..:)

bir di?er sorun ise düelloda ölümüne sebep oldu?u Philip hem en yak?n arkada?? hemde kuzeni..onun ölümüne sebiyet verdi?i içinde biraz vicdan azab? çekiyor...

k?z?m?za gelince...ilk ba?larda o?ldukça saf..masum..kendi halinde bir çiftlik k?z?...ama Adrian'? çocuklu?undan hat?rl?yor ve onunla evlenmek istedi?ini ö?renince aptal a??klar gibi hemen evet diyor.Benedict'le evlenmek gibi bir durumu oldu?u halde..ama i? resmiyete binmemi?...k?z?m?z?n istedi?i ?eylerden biride özgür olmak..hayat? doya doya ya?amak..zira 22 ya??na kadar çiftlikten çok nadir ç?km?? ve londraya bile 1 kez çocukken gitmi?...Adriandan bu özgürlükler konusunda garanti al?yor ve evleniyor...

buraya kadar her ?ey iyi..ama Benedict arada bir onlar?n evide yat?ya kal?yor ve her ikisinininde aras?n? açmaya çal??yor..k?z?m?z aptalcada olsa kocas?n?n karde?i diye benedict'e iyi davranış?yor ama Adrian bunu yanl?? anl?yor..eee Benedict'e üstüne tuz biber ekliyor..Böylece uzun süren bi yanl?? anla??lma durumu oluyor..

hatta bir ara Adrian nedenini anlamad?m kazam? yoksa kas?t m? var kendini silahla vuruyor ve kör oluyor...ilk ba?larda dünyayla elini ete?ini çekiyor ama daha sonra Lillian sayesinde hayatı tutunuyor ve aralar? Benedict tekrar ortaya ç?kana ve Adrian tekrar görmeye ba?layana kadar mutlu mesut sürüyor...

daha bunun gibi bir sürü anla??lma?klar olsada sonuçta bir Lillian Bir Adrian ee Birde bebek mutlu mutlu ya??yor..

ama ?unu söyleyim ak?mdan ba?layarak gün do?umuna kadar kitab? okudum...yok böyle bir ?ey..çok etkilendim..bazen ciddi anlamda gözlerim doldu..onlar?n mutsuz benim içimi daralt?..:)

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edit:yorumlar?m yanl?? anla??lmas?n oldukça e?lenceli bölümleride var kitin...Lillian ilk ba?larda oldukça ası tav?rlarda denedi?i için bir ara baya?? bi e?lendim:)

## Marie says

Bintang 5  
Buku ke 1 seri Rogues of Regent Street

Ini kisah tentang seorang anak (haram?) yg dibenci ayah kandung sendiri karena sang ayah tak dapat menikahi cinta sejatinya. Betapa picik sang ayah.

Alkisah...

Dunwoody, Inggris 1834, tersebutlah Rouges of Regent Street, para berandal yg terdiri dari Adrian Spence, Phillip Rotembow, Arthur Christian, dan Julian Dane, keturunan bangsawan yg menjadi idola kaum muda bangsawan. Mengumpulkan kekayaan besar diberbagai bidang dan hidup menantang bahaya dan tak gentar menghadapi apapun maupun hukum yg berlaku. Penakluk hati para gadis muda dan para ibu yg ingin menjadikan mereka suami putri putri mereka, sedangkan bagi para ayah mereka merupakan bencana karena

mereka merebut mas kawin para gadis tersebut di klub judi.

Karena satu kejadian fatal mereka kehilangan 1 anggota mereka, Phillip Rotembow yg memilih mati dengan cara yg tragis ditangan Adrian sepupunya sendiri. Untuk menghindari kejadian yg sama agar tidak teulang lagi, Arthur meminta kesediaan sisa anggota Rouges untuk berjanji tidak ada lagi yg tumbang diantara mereka akibat masalah yg tidak dapat diatasi seperti halnya yg terjadi pada Phillip shabat mereka.

Dari Kematian Temukanlah Arti dari Pengampunan...

Sudah jatuh tertimpa tangga pula. Itulah yg tepatnya terjadi pada Adrian Spence Earl of Albright pasca kehilangan Phillip. Belum usai ditepa rasa bersalah karena Adrian yg menarik pelatuk menempus jantung sepupunya sendiri, kembali kerumah masa kecilnya Kealing Park hanya untuk dicerca habis habisan oleh ayahnya (yg tidak pernah menyayanginya semenjak dirinya dilahirkan). Tidak hanya itu Adrian akhirnya kehilangan hak waris dari sang ayah sedangkan adiknya Benedict hanya terdiam tanpa pembelaan sedikitpun kepada kakaknya. Bagaimana tidak karena Benedictlah yg akhirnya mewarisi kekayaan ayah mereka sebagai ahli waris selanjutnya.

Sakit hati, Adrian mundur mencari pencari perlindungan dan kenyamanan diestatanya sendiri Longbrigde yg diwarisinya dari kakek pihak ibunya. Ditengah perjalanan Adrian menikahi Liliana Dashel putri seorang baron dari Grange yg hanya seorang gadis dusun. Pernikahan ini merupakan balas dendam Adrian terhadap ayah dan adiknya karena Liliana sudah diincar Benedict dan ayahnya yg berkepentingan dengan properti ayah Liliana. Liliana sendiri sangat terkejut dan gembira karena pria yg selama ini dikagumi dan dicintainya sedari kecil, menikahi dan menjanjikan kehidupan dan kebebasan bersama Adrian.

Namun pernikahan mereka tidak seperti yg diharapkan dan dibayangkan oleh Liliana. Memang, segala kebutuhan materi dan semua keinginan Liliana dapat dipenuhi oleh Adrian tapi Adrian tidak pernah memperhatikan Liliana. Adrian mengacuhkan dirinya sejak awal pernikahan mereka. Hanya satu perhatian yg ditujukan Adrian pada Liliana yaitu dimalam hari diranjang pernikahan mereka, Adrian menyerahkan diri sepenuhnya pada Liliana. Tapi Liliana itu tidaklah cukup karena Adrian selalu meninggalkan dirinya setelah menunaikan kewajiban sebagai seorang suami. Disiang harinya Ardian hanya memperhatikan pembangunan Longbridge.

Awalnya Liliana menerima saja apa yg terjadi. Liliana menyibukkan dirinya dirinya dari kegiatannya melukis hal hal yg disukainya. Sampai pada batas yg tak tertanggungkan Liliana mulai melakukan pemberontakan untuk menarik perhatian Adrian. Mulai dari memotong rambut Liliana yg disukai dan dipuji Adrian, memindahkan buku buku penting urusan bisnis dan juga mencoret coretnya, memakai pakaian laki laki dan menunggangi kuda jantan kesayangan Adrian. Selain itu banyak hal hal yg dilakukan Liliana, menciptakan arena tinju bagi pelayan yg sedang betengkar, merusak topi dan cravat Adrian dan juga mengambil anjing kampung untuk diperlihara dalam rumah (Liliana mendapat info mengenai kenangan Adrian kecil dengan anjngnya). Semua itu dilakukan Liliana untuk menimbulkan kemarahan Ardian. Oya Liliana juga melukis Adrian sedang menunggangi hewan jelek. Tapi Adrian tetap seperti dirinya tanpa emosi ketika menghadapi Liliana. Dan Liliana sempat meyesali pernikahannya.

Kemunculan Benedict di Longbridge menambah lebar jurang yg ada diantara Liliana dan Adrian. Dengan lihai dan tanpa dosa Benedict menanamkan rasa tidak percaya kepada keduanya. Pada Liliana, Benedict menceritakan keburukan keburukan Adrian, mempertanyakan keberadaan Adrian ketika tidak bersama Liliana (seakan akan Adrian mengunjungi wanita simpanannya), dan menyatakan keprihatinan Benedict untuk Liliana.

Menghindari istri dan permasalahan yg dihadapinya di Longbridge, Adrian milarikan dirinya ke London. Bersama sama Arthur dan Julian, Adrian menghilangkan penat dan perasaan bersalahnya terhadap pernikahannya. Adrian berterus terang kepada Arthur dan Julian apa yg terjadi pada dirinya dan kenapa Adriantsampai menikah. Mengingat sumpah diantara mereka, sahabatnya memberikan saran saran yg menurut mereka dapat menyelesaikan permasalahan Adrian. Mereka mengajak Adrian besenang senang di London dan tenu saja Adrian menolak dan bertekad kembali pada istrinya untuk beterus teang dan memulau kehidupan pernikahan yg wajar bersama Liliana mengikuti saran Arthur.

Sekembali dari London ternyata umpan yg telah ditebar oleh Benedict menunjukkan hasil. Liliana menjaga jarak dari Adrian. Sikap Benedict yg menunjukkan kemesraan kepada Lilianapun menimbulkan kecemburuan dan prasangka buruk Adrian terhadap hubungan Liliana dan Benedict.

Belum cukup keterpurukan yg dirasakan, Adrian mengalami kejadian yg menghilangkan penglihatannya dan orang orang mengira kalau Adrian hendak bunuh diri. Dan Adrian berulangkali mengusir Liliana kembali kerumah orangtuanya tapi selalu ditolak Liliana. Liliana bertekad tidak akan pernah meninggalkan Adrian. Dan menyakinkan Adrian bahwa Adrian membutuhkannya dan Liliana ingin membuat Adrian merasa hidup dan bebas.

Sekali lagi ayah Adrian berusaha menghancurkan Adrian dengan cara mempertanyakan kemampuan Adrian menjalankan estate Albright dan gelarnya karena kebutaan Adrian. Berusaha merebut Longbridge dan seluruh harta milik Adrian dibawah perwaliannya. Menghadapi tuntutan ayahnya itu dan tekad Liliana akhirnya Adrian berusaha bangkit dari keterpurukannya akibat kebutaan dan juga berusaha memperbaiki hubungannya dengan Liliana.

Kebahagian tampak mulai menyapa Adrian dan Liliana. Berdua mengalami kehidupan bersama saling berdampingan dan bahagia. Adrian mulai terbuka pada Liliana terutama mengenai hubungannya dengan ayah dan adiknya. Bahwa adrian mencurigai dirinya adalah seorang anak haram.

Saat penglihatan Adrian kembali dan Benedict lagi lagi muncul dihadapan Adrian dan Liliana, umpan yg selama ini telah ditebar Benedict kembali menghancurkan kepercayaan yg baru dibangun oleh Adrian dan Liliana satu sama lain. Liliana marah ketika Adrian tidak berterus terang mengenai kesembuhan mata Adrian. Liliana merasa dirinya dimatamatai oleh Adrian karena rasa tidak percaya Adrian pada Liliana. Dan kecemburuan Adrian semakin besar dan menganggap Liliana lebih mencintai Benedict.

Keadaan tersebut semakin diperparah dengan munculnya Arthur dan Julian (padahal sahabat sahabatnya ini datang membawakan pesanan perhiasan yg dibeli Adrian untuk dihadiahkan kepada istri tercinta Liliana). Untunglah kemunculan kedua orang ini membuka mata Adrian. Menurut mereka keberadaan Benedict merupakan racun bagi pernikahan Adrian karena Benedict berusaha membala dendam terhadap Adrian karena merebut Liliana. Dan akhirnya Adrian mengusir Benedict.

Berusaha menyelamatkan pernikahannya, Liliana yg mengetahui kehamilan dirinya berusaha membuka tabir masa lalu tentang kelahiran Adrian yg diyakini Adrian bahwa dirinya adalah anak haram ibunya. Liliana tidak mempercayai hal tersebut karena melihat kemiripan Adrian dengan kakeknya dari pihak ayah Adrian dari sebuah lukisan yg ada di Kealing Park. Menuju Kealing Park, Liliana menemukan kebenaran yg sangat mengejutkan.

Adrian yg menyadari kepergian Liliana sangat marah (mengira Liliana mengejar Benedict). Menyusul ke Keeling Park, Adrian dalam keadaan marah mengusir Liliana kembali kerumah orangtuanya. Tanpa sengaja Adrian akhirnya mengetahui alasan yg sebenarnya kenapa Liliana berada di Kealing Park. Dan Adrian juga mengetahui tentang masa lalu kelahiran dirinya dan adiknya dari mulut bibi kandung (saudara ibunya) yg

tidak pernah diketahuinya ada. Betapa menyesalnya Adrian karena tidak mempercayai Liliana dan keputusannya mengusir Liliana.

Dengan amarah Adrian menemui ayahnya untuk mempertanyakan kebenaran yg telah didapat Adrian. Dan memaksa agar sang ayah mengembalikan seluruh hak yg pernah dicabut dari Adrian. Dan ayahnya diharuskan pula menceritakan hal yg sebenarnya kepada adiknya Benedict. Kemudian Adrian kembali ke Longbridge untuk memohon maaf dan cinta Liliana. Meminta Liliana untuk tidak meninggalkannya. Bahwa Adrian membutuhkan pengampunan dari Liliana untuk menyelamatkan hidup Adrian.

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### **Ewa says**

[(but then miraculous and really speedy recovery) (hide spoiler)]

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### **Lauren says**

3.5 stars

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### **Iliada says**

#### **4.5 stars**

This was my first Julia London book and I really enjoyed it! This was quite heavy on the angst and I love revenge-driven plots. However, I have to warn readers that do not like angsty books with *many* misunderstandings against reading this book.

Adrian's father has always mistreated him and preferred his brother, Benedict. When he finally disowned him and deprived him of what was rightfully his and his weakling of a brother just stood by and watched doing nothing, Adrian decided to marry the woman his brother was in love with to take his revenge from both his father and brother. Lilliana on the other hand never cared much for Benedict, but she had always been smitten with Adrian, so when he proposed, though surprised, she eagerly accepted, just to find out that her husband thought of her as a country bumpkin and that the only place they could communicate was in bed.

Firstly, I want to mention how happy I am that Adrian found Lilliana unappealing at the beginning. I am sick of all the insta love/attraction books out there. The H/h just can't hold their hands off each other from the first time they meet, even if they don't get along in anything else. Points to the book for that! Lilliana was a great heroine. I liked her vividness and spontaneity and while it took a little time to realise exactly *how* great she is, I (and Andrian too) finally did.

I can't say much for the book, just that it was full of misunderstandings and tension between the two as Lilliana tried to coax a seemingly indifferent to everything concerning her Adrian into expressing some feeling and Adrian kept thinking that there was something between Lilliana and his brother. It was a real page-turner, I was dying to know what would happen next and how they would work out things between them.

I hated Benedict. He was such an idiot and he was always trying to create problems between the H/h in a too obvious way, but it took Lilliana and Adrian ages to realise. He really was in love with Lilliana and Adrian took her from him, but that doesn't justify such deceitfulness. Adrian on his part accused Lilliana of having an affair with Benedict more times than I can count and after the fifth time I wanted to smack him on the head!

About Phillip's death: His motives for provoking a duel weren't explained after all and I hope they will be in the sequels. In any case I have two things to say: He was a coward for wanting to end his life and he is unforgivable for choosing to do it in a way that would weigh forever on his cousin and best friend's conscience.

From the blurbs of other JL books I've read, I understand that all her books are more or less angst, so I guess I just found a new favourite writer. All in all, a great book for fans of off-the-scale angst books!

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### **Hanife says**

Durdum durdum en sonunda o güzel yorumlar?n?zla Tehlikeli ?li?kileri bitirdim. Kitap hakk?nda denilen entirikalar beni çok fazla bo?mad? nedense di?er kitaplarda okudu?umuzdan biraz daha fazla engel söz konusuydu ama kitab?n ak?c?l??? okuru kesinlikle b?kt?rm?yor. Benedic i öldürmek istedi?im seferleri bende unuttum =) Böyle bir varl?k yok. Uyuz resmen içten içe evliliklerini mahfediyyordu az kals?n. Lillie miz çok tat? daha evinden d??ar? çok az ç?km?? ama maceperest ruhu ta??yan bir k?z =) Kesinlikle ası =) Adrian'?n dikkat?n? çekmek için yapt?klar?nda çok gülmü?tüm ama adam her yapt???na inatla anlay?? gösterdi. Archiee bu adam cehennemlik tam :@ Bir insan öz o?lünden bu kadar m? nefret eder ve küçük çocuklu?undan beri yapmad??? kalmam?? :@ neyse bu kitap yüzünden 3 saatlik uykuyulan?m ama bitirdim =) gerçekten MUHTE?EM bir kitap =)

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### **Fani \*loves angst\* says**

This is actually my all time favorite romance. I have read it more times than I can remember.

The story is simple: Adrian Spence, marries his brother's sweetheart to get revenge on him for conspiring with their father on disowning him. Adrian is a tortured soul: always rebuffed by his father, he recently found himself in the awful position of having to kill his very best friend in a duel. So emotionally, he is as closed as an oyster. Lilliana, his wife, is a simple country girl, neither too beautiful nor experienced. She soon realises that her husband is keeping his distance except when they're in bed together. During the day, he hardly speaks or listens to her at all. This of course, is ripe ground for the evil brother to sow the seeds of discordance between them. And the misunderstandings begin...

For fans of angst, emotional reads, this is a great story. Yes, half of the misunderstandings could be solved if only they talked openly to each other. But both, especially Adrian, prefer to keep their pride rather than open themselves to possible heartache. I really don't care why the gap between them takes so long to mend; I just love the incredible tension Ms London seems to build. And every time I re-read it thinking that I'll just skip some pages here and there, I end up reading every single page again, feeling the same agony, of whether these two people will find true happiness after all.

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## Melanie says

I am kind of in an experimenting phase with romance authors. After shying away from romance novel almost all my life I decided what was a harm in reading and am proceeding methodically for the past two years to read as many romance novels as possible. It is not that I read just Romance but the once I am counting for the moment.

So it is with a sad heart I have to say that I had the misfortune to start my jump into romance by reading one of Judith McNaught's books after which every other romance novel I have read paled in comparison. Except for a few notable works like "Ellen O'Connell's Eyes of Silver Eyes of Gold", "Annie's Song" "Kiss and Angel", "Tracy Ann Warren's Husband Trap" and "Julie Garwood's Saving Grace" I have met with disappointment on this venture. But still I was satisfied. Yet no book has ever made me felt saddened by the fact that "Judith McNaught" has stopped writing historical novels than this one. There were time I wanted to tear off pages from this book which would have ended up with me damaging a very expensive ebook reader which I had to beg to acquire. Oh!!!the satisfaction I would have had.....Why do people in historical romance have to be this clueless.

I didn't find a single endearing trait in the Hero Adrian Spence, nor the heroine Lillian. To me both of them were thick and so full of misunderstanding and ego I didn't think they will get a HEA in the end. Come on people tone it down a bit.....Don't project your frustration on to others....Why the hell am I frustrated on their behalf? They brought it about they should suffer. But the whole bloodymindedness of the character was just too much even for a passive objective reader like me to stay unfeeling. And the writing why did the author have to repeat her self so often.. Did her publisher say to her that "Sorry mam we will not publish any book that is less than 300 pages in length..If we want people to suffer we want to make them suffer for good". I think they achieved that goal. I know I am being unnecessarily harsh. Give me a pen and paper and ask me to write romance and I fall down flat on my face with in seconds. Sill since I have already read other works and is able to compare the two I guess I am entitled to be a little critical.

I am still persisting on the question as to why the author should bring about so many misunderstandings and inner monologues when all she could have done was tell a simple story as it is. The villans were equally annoying and I really wanted them to get their just desserts but I am disappointed on that behalf also. A frustrating and unsatisfying read which is a sound way to waste some perfectly good free time.

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