



Lovers and Ladies

Jo Beverley

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In these two delectable novels, someone craves to be married and loses sight of the joys of true love—until their heart is opened unexpectedly...

The Fortune Hunter : A stunning beauty rejects the charming suitor who isn't wealthy enough to save her impoverished family. But she can't so easily dismiss the memory of their sweet shared kiss.

Deirdre and Don Juan : The dashing Earl of Everdon is most eager to marry someone-anyone-who will bear him an heir. But when he meets a quiet, well-bred lady who fits the bill, he must resort to an amorous dance of deception to gain her acceptance to his proposal.

Lovers and Ladies Details

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Author : Jo Beverley

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Nelly says

S Jo Beverley mám společné minimálně dvě věci: obě milujeme knížky a především pak Jane Austenovou, již autorka touto knihou vzdává hold. Kniha obsahuje dvě novely, kdy se postupně seznamujeme s postavami, které nás provádějí svým osudem - a nebyla by to pocta autorce jedných z největších romantických příběhů, kdyby nešlo především o lásku.

<http://nel-ly.blog.cz/1401/recenze-mi...>

Maudley says

Oldies, but goodies!

Cary says

2 nice stories made better by the connections of people from previous stories making the world seem real and full of people. I appreciated the cleanliness of this book very much.

Mel says

I don't like animosity to love tropes, so no joy for me. Conflict can be interesting, but hatred towards each other for ridiculous reasons is just stupid IMHO. I will say the end of The Fortune Hunter was pretty hilarious, I love it when everyone gets what they deserve.

Mag says

Ok

The newer price just too high. I paid less for the paperback and didn't get any credit for getting the e format. So we have gone green, no tree killing, paper saved we should have cut not just the middle man but the second and third, what up.

Ok about the book it's great... I also have the hard copy do I get some bar close credit... I believe in profit, but this is getting out of line...

penelopewanders says

Lovers and Ladies

This is actually two separate novels - The Fortune Hunter is the first, and in this case it is not some down at the heel rogue seeking to marry a heiress, but rather the heroine seeking a fortune. She has decided the only way to help her family is to look very high, or perhaps deep, to find someone - no matter the social circle- be it in trade or the aristocracy- wealthy enough to get her family back on their feet and allow her sisters to marry for love.

Her strong antipathy to Harry Crisp's suit is a bit unclear to me, but on the whole it's a very appealing little story, the writing eliciting many a chuckle.

The second, Deirdre and Don Juan, is somewhat similar in that Don's suit is not taken any more seriously than Harry's in the previous novel. Deirdre has decided to espouse the cause of a genius, although it is clear to all that the genius in question loves best how she smooths his existence and deals with the tedious details of day to day business - with hardly a glance at the person who facilitates his life. Don Juan sets out to find a bride - any being as good as the next. He finds himself, rather predictably, of course, given the genre, appreciating more and more the woman fate (and his mother) has pointed the way to, and ends up realizing that she is indeed the woman for him. His task is to show her he needs her as much, or rather more, than her genius does. Beverley's prose is a pleasure, and these two novels make for a very entertaining read.

Katja says

Two of Jo Bev's early stories, and they are very sweet. "The Fortune Hunter" in particular had a lot of humor in it, although it was in no way a comedy and the humor was also very sweet. I'm glad that I read these stories.

The Eleventh Hour says

This is not really a review, just my scattered thoughts on finishing the book.

So, I'm not a huge fan of Jo Beverley's heroines. Almost all of them tend to be very...shrill. They think they know best, which is cool, but they often form their opinions on nothing but misguided spite, malice and stupidity, which makes it hard for me to root for them. So it goes with the heroines of this book, a double book comprised of two of Jo Bev's traditional regency stories, I'm left wondering: why would **anyone** want anything to do with these heroines? I'm normally super into the heroines and adore female characters, but...these heroines are so downright cruel to the heroes. For pretty much the dumbest of reasons. There were so many Big Misunderstandings and TSTL moments on the heroines's end (all centered around the steadfast refusal of both heroines to clearly communicate with the hero) that I just eye-rolled my way through most of the book. I was hoping both heroes would catch a clue and just find smarter, more awesome women to love. Alas, it didn't happen. This will be my last Jo Beverley, as she just doesn't write characters or stories that I enjoy.

Melanie (Moviemavengal) says

The first of the two stories started out very strong, but had what felt like a rushed ending.

The second of the stories -- with Don Juan and Deidre, was my favorite of the two. I'm sort of partial to the

rake marries a plain, practical heroine and proves to her she's desirable trope.

Gloria says

This was a combined edition of two of the authors previous works. I had a little trouble getting into the first story, and I found that heroine a bit tedious, found myself thinking that the hero might be better off without her.

I liked the second story better, I really enjoyed the supporting characters as well. Both mothers were delightful. It had a sweet plot.

Ana T. says

Now for the first time in a single volume: two long unavailable yet beloved romance classics from a New York Times bestselling favorite.

In these two delectable novels, someone craves to be married and loses sight of the joys of true love-until their heart is opened unexpectedly...

The Fortune Hunter-A stunning beauty rejects the charming suitor who isn't wealthy enough to save her impoverished family. But she can't so easily dismiss the memory of their sweet shared kiss.

Deirdre and Don Juan-The dashing Earl of Everdon is most eager to marry someone-anyone-who will bear him an heir. But when he meets a quiet, well-bred lady who fits the bill, he must resort to an amorous dance of deception to gain her acceptance to his proposal.

Although I have read a lot of trad regencies lately and I have read quite a few of Beverley's novels in the past this is the first time I read her traditional regencies. They are part of a series and due to publishers rights these two that were reprinted now are the last two in the series. Although I am very curious about the secondary couples, that are presumably main characters in previous books, I found that these could be read as standalone so all is well.

The first story was about a young beauty that is decided to marry for money and save her family from poverty. She attracts the attention of a young man that she thinks is not rich enough for her and departs for London to catch a husband. Predictably the young man was in fact very rich and the old banker who is pursuing her ends up falling in love with another. I thought that first proposal scene where Amy gets mad with Harry was a bit too violent and really all his friends had no reason to try and bring them together as they didn't know her all that well. Since this is a light and funny regency Amy eventually accepts Harry's love and all ends well.

Grade: B-

The second story was more interesting I thought. The Earl of Everdon, known as Don Juan, decides to marry.

And nothing better than settling on his mother's mouse of a friend. He is sure she will be grateful for the attention and after the marriage will leave him alone to pursue his interests. Unfortunately Deirdre was just trying to go through her season without a proposal so she could go back home and finally marry the man she wants and that her parents don't want. She was so sure she would get away with it she made a deal with her parents, if she doesn't get a proposal she can marry her heart's desire but if she does she has to accept it. You can see how she feels Don Juan just ruined her life. Of course since she is not interested Everdon's interest is picked and he decides to seduce her and convince her that the man she thinks she loves really just wants a housekeeper. It was funny to follow his attempts at seduction and Deirdre trying to resist him. In the end he does realize that he has fallen in love with her but he still has to convince her of that.

Grade: B

Sashi says

The book is about 2 sets of different stories. The first will be Harry with Amethyst @ Amy and the second story is about Don Juan and Deirdre. Amy is from a rich family but after the death of her parents the family started being affected by financially. She has one elder sister who needs to be married, and younger twins which is Jasper and Jacinth who is still young. She finds that by marrying a rich man could solve all their problems and starting laying out plans for it. However she will bump into Harry and will eventually fall in love with him. She however will not say it and will reject the marriage proposal from Harry. The story will progress with her finally admitting that she loves Harry.

Whereas in the second story Deirdre is a wallflower and plain thus she will not receive marriage proposal at home which will make her to appear in London society. Don Juan is a man who his wife as run away. However after 10 years he will learn that his wife has passed away and he need to marry in order for a heir. Rather then getting trapped with the marriage mart he chooses Deirdre to be his wife. However his plan will get backfired when Deirdre claims that she loves another man. The story then revolves on how Don Juan will persuade Deirdre to love and marry him.

I personally enjoyed the second story more then the first one because it is more witty. I kept reading the book with a smile plastered on my face which makes me look like a crazy women but then truly it is a marvelous funny story. I like how Don Juan put his mind to woo the girl he love. As for the first story I felt the author could have elaborated more on the ending. It looks like an ending that was done in a rush. Other then that the first story was also equally good.

Al says

This comprised 2 books by Jo Beverley. The Fortune Hunter and Deidre and Don Juan. The stories were interesting in that she explored beauty from the opposite sides of the spectrum.

In The Fortune Hunter, the female character's beauty was such that it was being used to capture a husband of means to save her family from being destitute.

In Deidre and Don Juan, the female character was described as plain and unassuming. She was picked by 2 male characters for their perception that she wouldn't interfere in how they conduct their lives.

In both cases, both ladies surprised their male counterparts as well as themselves in proving that beauty runs deeper than that of the superficial.

A solid 2 1/2 stars

Kathy Martin says

The collected edition of two of Jo Beverley's early Regency romances was a nice reminder of how much fun Regency romances can be.

THE FORTUNE HUNTER (1991) tells about the romance between Amy de Lacy and Harry Crisp. Amy's family has fallen on hard times and she feels that it is up to her to better her family's situation. Amy is blessed, or cursed, with exceptional beauty. She finds it embarrassing to be stared at but decides to use her looks to marry a fortune. She gets caught in a storm on her way to the local nabob's house and finds herself taking shelter at the hunting lodge rented by Harry Crisp and two of his friends.

Harry is a wealthy young man who has recently begun to look for a wife because his father has been ill. He isn't, however, the flashy kind of wealthy which leads Amy to reject any kind of relationship with him. Her heart isn't so sure of her decision but she has decided to disregard it in favor of her head. We end up with a stubborn young woman who is determined to follow her plan despite the fact that her family wants her happiness and not her sacrifice. Harry and Amy have a lot of trials to go through before they reach their happy ending.

DEIRDRE AND DON JUAN (1993) plays with a different trope. Mark Renfew, Earl of Everdon, has a well-earned reputation as a Don Juan. The fact he was abandoned by his wife who fled to Europe with a lover has kept him safe from marriage-minded mamas. But now he receives word that his wife has passed away and he wants to find a second wife on his own before he becomes the target of debutantes hunting for a husband and a fortune.

He decides to focus his attention on Lady Deirdre Stowe, daughter of the Earl of Harby, and an acquaintance of his mother who shares her interest in needlework. Deirdre is thin and plain and dealing with her mother's outrageous choices for her wardrobe which don't suit her at all.

Everything should be fine. Except Deirdre has already met a man that she would prefer to marry. She has a deal with her mother that she will be given permission to marry him if she doesn't receive an offer during her London Season. Don's proposal wrecks her plans but she can't turn him down according to the deal she made with her mother.

It doesn't take long for Don to fall in love with Deirdre but it isn't easy for him to convince her that he is the right man for her. I liked that the two of them share a sense of humor. I also liked that he saw all of Deirdre's strengths and loved her for them.

Lynne Tull says

Two books in one! Such a deal. I liked both of them. They were the end of a series of related books by Ms.

Beverley. Not only did we get the stories of these two characters in this set, but we were brought up to date in the stories of the H/H's of the other books.

'The Fortune Hunter' told the story of one poor, but beautiful heroine and her quest to find a rich hero to pull her and her family out of the fire. The hero was handsome, but not particularly rich-the number one priority of the heroine. She drug her heels a little too long for me, but the ending was worth the wait.

'Deirdre and Don Juan' told the story of a 'plain Jane' heroine and a rich and over the top handsome hero. His first wife had run off with another man and had just died. He was free now to marry and start his nursery and he settled on Deidre. She would do, but she thought she was already in love with a jerk. It took her a while (with the help of the hero) to find out that the love of her life was really a jerk and the hero really did love her. All was well and ended well even if it took a few extra pages to get there.

I enjoyed reading all eight related books and recommend them to you along with these two:

Lord Wraybourne's Betrothed

The Stanforth Secrets

The Stolen Bride

If Fancy Be the Food of Love

Emily and the Dark Angel.(The hardest one to find...got it from Paperbackswap.com. My library didn't have it.
