



## The Devil Duke Takes a Bride

*Rachel Van Dyken*

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## **The Devil Duke Takes a Bride** Rachel Van Dyken

Who said being bad wasn't oh so good?

Benedict Devlyn, Duke of Banbury, has one thing on his mind and it isn't marriage. But things take a turn for the worse when his menacing aunt throws a hitch in his plans to remain the most sinful and talked about man in the ton. After all, a man cannot keep the reputation of being The Devil Duke when he is leg-shackled to some simpering spinster.

But his aunt, bless her heart, thinks she's dying, and believes her nephew's behavior is the only thing standing in the way between her entrance to heaven or hell. So she very lovingly and selflessly sets him up. With his childhood nemesis.

A young woman who, though she claims it was an accident, has nearly killed him thrice through her lack of grace and manners. It matters not that the minute he sets eyes on her at the Christmas ball, his blood boils with lust. He refuses to allow himself to fall prey to his aunt's ministrations.

That is, until he is compromised and stuck in an engagement to a girl who claims she'd rather jump from a moving carriage than marry him. Funny thing that, for the very minute she says no, he finds his heart very much wants to say yes. When she doesn't leap at the chance to marry him, he sets about to not only prove that he's worthy of her favor, but also worthy of her heart.

## **The Devil Duke Takes a Bride Details**

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## **From Reader Review The Devil Duke Takes a Bride for online ebook**

### **Donna says**

Great book.

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### **January says**

Benedict and Katherine have a rocky relationship. After all, she's tried to kill him no less than three times... well, maybe "tried" isn't the best word to use, but her clumsiness is definitely a hazard to his health. But you know when there's that much animosity between characters, there has to be wedding bells in the future! ;) This is another good one by this author. Lots of fun banter between the characters, and the addition of cameo appearances by all the other Renwick House characters just made it more enjoyable. And just the right mix of drama and misunderstandings keep this a light and fun read.

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### **Samantha says**

I love the house of renwick series and the characters are so well written you would be glad to count them as friends my only complaint is the book was over to soon and i would have loved to spend longer immersed in the world of renwick.

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### **J. says**

Take two fun and passionate people, add Aunt Agatha's meddlesome manipulations and Rachel Van Dyken's whimsical touch, shake vigorously... and laugh out loud. The fun's in the situational humor, the wry twist in the author's wordsmithing, and the relational sparks flying as the hero and heroine sort out their differences.

Almost all books published these days, whether ebooks or on paper from the Six Sisters, have a certain number of errors that would have benefitted from another round of copy edits. This book is no different; however, the smattering of errors did not impede my enjoyment of the story. And it wouldn't surprise me if Aunt Agatha hadn't planted a few of those, just to get the more straightlaced reviewers fuming.

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### **Krystle says**

Best of the series!! I loved the humor, dry sarcasm, bantering back and forth! The only downfall of this book... it was WAY too short!! ;)

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## **Carisa says**

Love this book and author !!!

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## **Alisa says**

Benedict Devlyn, Duke of Banbury needs a wife... or so his meddlesome, incorrigible Aunt Agatha says! Insists, in fact! And Agatha has picked out the perfect wife for him... Lady Katherine Bourne.

It has been three years since Benedict and Katherine have seen each other -- he thinks she is "as clumsy as she is mad" and she thinks he is dull and hopes she won't be ruined just by merely associating with him. Not your recipe for perfect love.

When she sees him, she apologizes for past incidences when she almost killed him (accidentally, of course!) - he asks her to dance - she gets her foot caught and twisted in the bottom of her skirt - he helps her out onto the balcony - she loses her balance and kicks him in the head - he falls backward - she tries to see if he is okay and lands on top of him - and before she can extricate herself from that position, they are "discovered" in their accidental compromising position! And everyone is asking when they are going to be married -- in fact, Agatha is insisting on it!

Benedict is determined NOT to marry Katherine - until he realizes she doesn't want to marry him! He is elated and offended at the same time! Agatha and Katherine's parents reach an agreement - he has two weeks (until the Kringle Ball) to change her mind.

It isn't long before he finds himself wanting to marry her -- She provokes, enflames, and intrigues him! He feels totally out of control. Then he gets invited to a 4-day house party by Lord Marks. He accepts hoping to put Katherine in disastrous situations so he can be reminded of all the reasons he doesn't like her. Nothing goes according to plan, and it doesn't even take the full two weeks for both to be irrevocably in love with the other!

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## **Sophie Barnes says**

A breathtaking fairy tale romance that delivered all the way to the end

Benedict Devlyn, Duke of Banbury (known to many as the Devil Duke) has an aunt who's eager to see him wed before she departs for the afterlife, so she cunningly devises a plan that will not only reform her ill-humored, womanizing & gambling rake of a nephew, but put him on a path that will ultimately lead to true love.

Lady Katherine is probably the clumsiest woman ever to set foot in London, and though she has known Benedict since childhood, the two haven't seen or spoken to each other in recent years - mostly because he blames her for almost killing him three times, though she insists it happened by accident. But when she awkwardly trips and falls on top of him at the grandest ball of the Christmas holidays, she promptly finds herself compromised and soon thereafter, engaged to the very man she'd like to avoid more than any other(the horror! =))

What follows is a delightful tale of how these two, seemingly mismatched people, who argue at every given opportunity, gradually become aware not only of their attraction for one another, but that they share a bond from their childhood years that cannot be ignored, and that if they give each other a chance, there's an opportunity for a love so powerful that it will be impossible for either of them to walk away.

Written with humor (I laughed half way through it), some truly wonderful characters and a fascinating plot, Rachel Van Dyken proves that she is most deserving of being the bestselling author that she is.

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### **InD'tale Magazine says**

3.5/5.0

The Devil Duke Takes a Bride is light-hearted Regency romance with plenty of zany comedy-of-errors moments.

Read full review in the 2013 June issue of InD'tale Magazine.

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### **Alanna Jenkins says**

I absolutely love Rachel van Dyken, her books are always excellent reads. Her House Of Renwick series is a fan favourite and I am no exception, so when I found out that she had written another story that concerned such well-loved characters I was over the moon and downloaded it to my Kindle instantly.

The Devil Duke Takes A Bride follows the Duke of Banbury, a man whose reputation in society goes beyond that of a rake and dips into the realms of making him someone to be feared. He is notorious for ruining the reputations of young girls, and as such as has been nicknamed 'The Devil Duke'. His aunt, who continually believes herself to be on her death bed, asks the Duke (Benedict) to settle down and get himself a wife before she dies. He is dead set against the idea, but his aunt's plans work when himself in a compromising situation with Katherine, trapping him in an engagement with someone who has plagued his life since childhood. She is against the idea of marriage to Benedict and makes her views plain to him from the start, which in turn encourages feelings of lust and want in him that lead him to see Katherine in a different light and slowly come round to his aunt's way of thinking. Question is, can he make Katherine see that he is willing to redeem himself for her?

Benedict was a great male lead – he was portrayed as something beyond your typical rake, not just willing to ruin a woman's reputation but notorious for being the spawn of the devil himself. He started off as a stand-offish, arrogant and proud beyond compare of what his reputation had become. However, the transition from this to a man who was deeply in love with someone as appealing as Katherine wasn't a stretch of the imagination, as (like most of these male leads) his vulnerability is hidden beyond the surface and he was endearing as a man who was head over heels and not always sure how to handle it.

Katherine was a feisty female lead, initially portrayed as clumsy and awkward, this later became one of her most charming qualities. Being (what some would call) a typical woman, she showed the right of a woman to change her mind, as she realised that her perceptions of love and experiencing real love where actually two very different things. Watching her deal with this transition made her very relatable as a character, even to a

modern day woman like myself.

On the whole I really enjoyed this story but there were two small things which prevented me from giving it 5 out of 5 as I have done with many other Rachel van Dyken novels. The first was the speed at which the relationship between the two protagonists developed; it was a fantastically written relationship and watching it progress made for a very entertaining read, but it felt like one minute they were putting up with each other for the sake of perception and reputation and the next they were head over heels. This is something that I'm used to reading given the types of novels I read, but what made this stand out for me was the speedy transition that Katherine made from one way of thinking to another – it seemed almost instantaneous given that a third person was involved in the equation. The second was the lack of appearances made by other House Of Renwick characters; they were dotted here and there throughout the story but I expected them to be more prominent – they're appearances almost felt like token gestures.

Taken as its own story, this book was a great easy read and I continue to enjoy the books that Rachel van Dyken produces.

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### **Tifferz says**

Rachel Van Dyken has done it again! The Devil Duke Takes a Bride is a dazzling story that has lingered with me and will be read again! It has the following and more~ witty banter, laughter, many scandals, hope, love, lots of mistakes, remorse, stolen kisses and a sneaky aunt Agatha. Ms. Van Dyken has weaved a heartfelt story that is fun but grows a bit complex! I totally fell in love with this sassy story. Katherine had me laughing oh the thins this girl does! She is also strong, sassy and clumsy! The Devil Duke is such a rogue, but he is so much more. I think he grew and learned through the story. I found aunt Agatha to be a delightful addition to this story. She is outrageous, full of love and sharp! It is always luxury to read a story by Rachel Van Dyken. I look forward to reading Baldwin's story! Hope you plan on writing it!

FYI~ this does not contain any sex or swearing!

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### **\*MariaA\* says**

4.75 stars...An amazing HR comedy with lots of LOL moments!! Loved it!!  
Hey..i just now remember it was A CLEAN ONE and I didn't even miss the sex since it was immensely enjoyable as is!!

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### **Katherine Bone says**

Rachel Van Dyken masters witty dialogue in The Devil Duke Takes a Bride! Loved the repartee between Lady Katherine and Benedict Devlyn, Duke of Banbury, the devil duke!!! Neither want to marry each other but they've been secretly pledged to do so since they were children. One has tried to kill the other three times, or is it four? So how does one cry off before one of them dies? This adventure into the conflicting lives of two people fighting fate was rollicking good fun! Brava, Ms. Van Dyken. You've done it again!

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**Kathy \* Bookworm Nation says**

This has been on my kindle for ages and I finally got around to reading it. It's a cute "enemies to lovers" story, has some charming moments. Never quite came to like our Hero. I did like their banter and again there are some fun moments. It did feel like it was more falling in lust, than falling in love. Overall, it was just okay for me.

Content: Steamy clean, no sex, but plenty of innuendo, petting, mistresses, but he at least wants to protect her and wait for marriage before consummating anything, so there is that. Mild language, no violence.

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**Miranda says**

I have a new favorite author! Rachel Van Dyken absolutely is a wonderful writer. I thought this book was wonderful. I laughed throughout the story. Loved the banter between characters. I would definitely recommend this for others to read.

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