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Captured in 1388 in the act of stealing back his own cattle, young Sir William Scott faces hanging, then gets one other choice--to marry immediately his captor's eldest daughter, the lady Margaret Murray, known by all as Muckle-Mouth Meggie. With the line between England and Scotland shifting daily, the Earl of Douglas wants to win back every inch of Scotland that the English have claimed; whereas the equally powerful English Percies (under Hotspur) want to win back the land between Northumberland and Edinburgh; and the Murray family is caught in the middle, shifting its alliances to try to survive. Uncertain whether she is English or Scottish and abruptly married to Sir William who is staunchly loyal to the cause of Scottish independence but who also has promised he'll never take up arms against her family, Meg Murray learns two things: first, Will's word is his bond; second, her favorite brother is spying on Douglas for Hotspur. As Sir Will faces the dilemma of honoring his word to the unscrupulous Murray without betraying Douglas, Meg must choose between betraying the husband with whom she is rapidly falling in love, or betraying her own family and best-loved brother.

Border Wedding Details

Date : Published March 1st 2008 by Forever

ISBN : 9780446197984

Author : Amanda Scott

Format : Mass Market Paperback 392 pages

Genre : Romance, Historical Romance, Historical, Historical Fiction

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From Reader Review Border Wedding for online ebook

Lita Bouquard says

As other reviews stated this is more historical fiction with a lot lot lot of Highland history. The romance is minimal and there is a disturbing part dealing with abuse.

The main character Meg is plain and the eldest daughter of a Boorish Scot and clever mother. Through plotting they take advantage of a situation involving the eldest son of a neighboring clan. He is give a choice - punishment or Meg.

Meg is quiet, determined, independent and loyal to her husband as he helps protect Scotland from the English. I was surprised there are 2 more books and I am not sure if I want to read more.

Maria Elmvang says

Wow.... that was a decidedly terrible book.

The first proof that something was wrong came when I discovered that the main character's name was different on the dust jacket than in the book itself. I'm not going to blame the author for that one though, as it's probably more likely to be the fault of her editor/publisher than of herself.

I started this book almost 3 months ago. It's not a long book - just under 400 pages in fact - but just utterly uninteresting. I liked it well enough while reading it, but never disappeared completely into it, and it was far too easy to put it down and pick up something else instead. It was as if it couldn't figure out what kind of book it wanted to be. Was it a period romance? Erotica? Period suspense? A spy novel? Or something else entirely?

I could have forgiven it for all of that though, and fully intended to give it 2 stars for being "OK" until the big reveal 50 pages before the end.

Cutting the rest for spoilers...
(view spoiler)

I seldom give out 1-star ratings to books, but unfortunately this one really deserved it. And it's the first in a trilogy? Save me.

J.D. Stroube says

I am going to be honest...

I could not finish this book. I do not truly think that it is a bad book, but instead it is not my...type.

I was bored, but I feel that it has more to do with the type of plot and writing style that I prefer. I tend to only enjoy romance novels that have a bit of humor to them, and this book did not fullfill that requirement.

If you like the typical romance without a lot of laughs...you may actually enjoy this book. I personally did not...

Kate Ayre says

While the historical details are believable, the author's lack of interest in writing an orgasmic experience for the female heroine is off putting. If you're reading this because you enjoy stories where a woman is made the focus of a man's affection and thus she finds her release, speed read. The male gets his cookies off every time! But our poor, ugly duckling turned beautiful swan gets NOTHING! He fantasizes about pleasing her but at the end of the story does nothing. A little too much realism! Come on! That's not why we read these books.

Kazia says

It was rather more suspenseful and eventful than romantic, which wasn't a fault. Rather it emphasized a more realness to Meg as an arranged wife during that period. I liked her and the fact that although plain/simple/homely, Wat grew to love her.

Liz says

I read this series backward (the 3rd one first and then the second and then this one). This was my least favorite book out of all of these. The romance was dry and disappointing and there was too much violence without enough sweet guy.

Sandra Dagg says

This is the first book of a trilogy, and I enjoyed it very much. The characters were very real to me, and the story line held my interest throughout the book. I admit to being a bit confused at times by the political characters in the story, but that's due only to my lack of knowledge in the history of medieval Scotland & England. I would recommend this book to anyone interested in medieval romance...it's definitely worth reading!

Joann says

This was good in the fact it had alot of history of England vs Scotland, however there was barely any descriptions of the characters-Sir Walter Scott and Meg are the primary characters. They were wed right off the bat, so there was no sexual chemistry. On top of that Meg is awful defiant towards her husband (I can see a little of that but not as much as in here). The storyline is good if you like more history and less romance. It also had a very predictable ending. I gave it 3 stars mainly for the well written history, and how she included facts at the beginning. I liked that.

Elizabeth says

This was dismally medievally-realistic. Not a good thing in a romance novel where we like our heroes to not be selfish, inconsiderate lovers. Wat figures things out for himself in some dream haze but we never see it come to fruition in the book. Strange! Too much confusing politics, couple was never together, it was just boring!!

Elis Madison says

Amanda Scott just might one of those authors who hits all my happy spots. She writes about history—family history. She's a Scott, as in descended of the various "Sir Walter's," and she's done plenty of digging into the family lore, especially dating back prior to, say, the 1700's. Those stories tend to paint broader pictures than the hero/ine's obsessions over whether their spouse loves them too, or whether "society" will ostracize them over this or that. Plus the clothing isn't quite as silly (though women still had to deal with some idiocies).

Seriously, that poor woman probably smacked people in the face every time she turned her head.

The story here is based on a comic poem by Lady Louisa Stuart, called "Ugly Meg, or the Robber's Marriage." Scott finds a way to blend Meg (the poem's ill-favored heroine) with actual family history about a Walter Scott who lived in 1388.

In the poem, from what I can glean, a reiver gets caught by Iagan Murray and is given a choice: He can hang for his crime or marry Iagan's eldest daughter, who, according to the poem, has a big nose, and a bigger mouth. The reiver has the good sense to marry and ends up appreciating his bride, who has a generous nature (and, apparently, a decent body).

In the story, Scott suggests that the reiver is the Sir Walter Scott who lived in 1388. We don't know who his actual wife was, so it works. He marries "Muckle-Mouth Meg" to save himself and his men.

He and Meg have to sort some things out in terms of who is going to rule the roost (Scott is also true to history here—Meg is dismayingly willing to bend rather than voice her opinion at times, but Scott finds ways for her to show all her cards when it counts.) There were occasions when the pacing was a bit off, but once Scott added in the border tensions of the time, and the tragic conflict between James Douglas and "Hotspur" Percy (not to mention a bit of espionage and incest) I was flipping pages madly, excited to know what happened next. I

I'll admit to a bit of dismay about the ending. (view spoiler) It was probably accurate, historically, but it did kind of spoil the HEA. I'm hoping the sequel, *Border Lass*, will give us a bit more justice.

For this one, a solid 4.5 stars, and a spot on my "keeper" shelf, if only because of the depth of her research, and the wonderful new words she introduces. Seriously, "Prickmedainty?" Yup, this is my toes curling.

Ava Brightly ? says

this was touted as a romance but i think it falls more in line with straight up historical fiction w/a bit of romance on the side. while the facts of Scotland's political rumblings in the 1300's (and beyond) are wholly fascinating for this genealogist, i still wish the author had accomplished more "show" and less "tell" on the history side of it to make the plot more engaging. overall, historically speaking and for the events of the time, her research shines.

Amanda Scott is an accomplished writer to date and ive been told her writing has matured and developed in subsequent books, as is usually the case. i will definitely be reading more of her in the future.

Melody Black says

I didn't like this book very much. First of all, the sex scenes are not up to par of what you would expect in a romance novel and second the characters just seemed dismal. I also didn't like how the story was written. I was quite bored with it and I ended up scanning the rest of the book.

Courtney says

When Sir Walter Scott is caught in the act of stealing back his own cattle, he is given a choice by his captor: marry his captor's eldest daughter, Margaret, or hang - and his men hang with him. Wat chooses to marry Meg. The story that follows is that of their falling in love, persevering through their forced marriage, prejudices against each other, and violent politics of the Scottish borders on the 14th century.

I had mixed feelings about this book. It's an interesting story, and I kept reading it to find out what was going to happen, but I had a hard time for several reasons. First, Scott (the author, not the character) embroils her story in the politics of the period - who is loyal to whom, who is spying on whom, and who is intermarried to which family and regards themselves as English or Scottish. It got very confusing. Aside from that, the other thing that was off-putting in this story was, quite frankly, the hero's attitude toward having sex with the heroine, his wife. True to attitudes of the time period, Wat is only concerned with his own pleasure and with getting off. Unfortunately, this realism is not necessarily desirable in a romance novel. I want to be able to empathize with the heroine, and that means she can't be left hanging at the end of each sexual encounter with her husband! She may not know what she's missing, but I as the reader do, and it is very frustrating. Granted, Wat concedes that he's been a prig and resolves to make sure she comes every time he does - before he does, even - but that concession comes 50 pages from the end of the novel, and the reader never sees him do anything about it.

Come to think of it, the last two chapters seem almost like Scott was trying to finish her story and keep it under 400 pages, thereby condensing at least 100 pages' worth of story into 20.

If I hadn't been so confused about the politics (which, granted, may have been easier to follow if I hadn't taken a week-long break in the middle of the novel), frustrated over the lack of sexual resolution for the heroine, and disappointed by the rushed ending, I would be more than happy to give the novel 5 stars. As it

is, I'm not willing to drop to 3.5, but will give it 4 stars. I may or may not be reading the sequel, *Border Lass*, when it comes out in September.

Rebekah says

Rapey disguised as seduction/learning to love. I quit not very far in but I'm estimating an 8.5 on the rape scale for the rest of the story. Also, when I want to read a stupid Highland romance book, I want stupid Highland romance, not a demonstration of your research into the politics of the era. Yawn.

Jennifer says

This was a pretty simple and straight forward romance. What I think Scott did best in this book was portray a young man not ready for marriage and forced into one who finds that having someone around with a warm, soft body isn't so bad. Walter, our young hero, felt his age (25), not a 25 year-old who thinks and acts like a 40 year-old. There wasn't a lot of graphic sex and the romance between the hero and heroine was sweetly done.
