



Mary's Christmas Knight

Moriah Densley

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Could a rogue be her knight in shining armor?

Mary Cavendish's corset is already too tight. All the lovely Christmas food is tempting her, and that's bad news for her dream of attracting a "knight on a white charger" — not that volunteering at the parish hospital is how she expects to meet him. Enter a mysterious Christmas Eve patient, who is none other than the famous Shakespearean actor Sir Wesley Samuel Darcy. Mary finds him arrogant, too forward... and maddeningly handsome.

When Mary learns Sir Wesley has been invited to spend Christmas with her family at Rougemont, she vows to resist the charming London rogue. Wesley thinks finding the perfect present for Miss Cavendish will tempt her — she's not as prim as she pretends to be. Mary turned down six proposals last Season, and she's not about to give in to a rake. But if Mary can't resist the sugarplums, how can she resist the dashing Sir Wesley?

Mary's Christmas Knight Details

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From Reader Review Mary's Christmas Knight for online ebook

Jodi Ciorciari-marinich says

I have read Moriah's other books and this one did not disappoint. the love story was great plus the heroine was likeable because she wasnt perfect. I only wish the story was longer would have liked to see the whole story play out further

Lady Wesley says

Cute story, but I want my HEA! It just stops like a Georgette Heyer novel.

Nicole Laverdure says

Sweet and charming Christmas novella!

I have just read Moriah Densley's new novella "Mary's Christmas Knight" and I find it charming! This Christmas-themed novella fits chronologically between Song for Sophia and The King of Threadneedle Street, her previous books. I loved her characters; the story was funny and delightful to read! Sir Wesley Darcy, a famous actor, has been robbed and his shoulder is injured, so he ends up, on Christmas Eve, at the hospital where Mary is a volunteer worker and a nurse. As soon as she meets him, she finds Wesley an arrogant man. But she cannot resist to be tempted by this handsome Rake and she does not want to fall to his seductive charm. Mary is still a woman in need of tenderness and passion, will she be tempted? Will she let her heart fall for this handsome man? Will Mary resist Wesley? You will have to read this short novella to find all the answers. The story-line was very well written. I am never disappointed with Ms. Densley stories which keep me captivated until the end. She is an excellent writer and one of my favorite authors. This Christmas novella is filled with tenderness and charm. Get yourself be pulled into Mary and Wesley's story, it's the perfect Christmas novella to put you in a festive mood.

Laurel Johnson says

What a delightful story. Mary wants a knight on a white charger, but gets Darcy, who is really such a man. I love the way Moriah developed the characters and storyline. There was no dragging it. Mary's tender heart towards the sick she is tending to her brashness to Sir Wesley were a great contrast. It is such an upbeat love story and I can't wait to read more about Mary and Sir Wesley. I recommend this book to everyone.

Kate Reed says

Loved this book! Poor Mary thinks she needs to lose a few pounds (who doesn't think that some days?!?) and with her corset too tight she runs into a theater legend and takes an instant dislike to him. He on the other

hand is enchanted and thinks she is perfect the way she is.

Fortunately, the author doesn't leave it at that - we get to see the internal debates and the growth that the characters go through. We get to see the understanding that comes when you get to know the real person and stop taking them at face value. It's a lesson that never gets old, and I loved the way it was presented in this book (even if that wasn't the authors intent!)

A feel good read that I highly recommend to anyone!

Moon Love says

Mary Cavendish is someone I met in Song for Sophia. The good news is you don't have to read that book first in order to know what's going on. Her figure isn't like her sisters' or aunt's and she's trying to resist all the temptations the holidays bring with delicious food and get down to her dream corset size. Mary could be almost any woman who isn't happy with her body. It's really easy to sympathize with her, as most of us have been in her shoes. She volunteers and gives her all at the hospital where she meets the (in)famous Sir Wesley Darcy to whom she has an attraction she can't deny as much as she tries and would like to. Sir Wesley on the other hand while definitely more experienced than Mary is attracted to her and more than willing to be honorable about his intentions while being slightly ungentlemanly. He just can't resist her. I really enjoyed the dialogues between the two. I also felt my mouth water with Ms. Densley's luscious descriptions of the Christmas feast and treats Mary was trying to resist. My pasta dinner just didn't cut it after that.

4 stars really doesn't say how much I liked this novella. 4.5 is more realistic. I'd love to give the novella five stars but I've docked 0.5 for two reasons: 1. I was overwhelmed and confused by all the names bandied about in regards to those present at Rougemont. And the second reason was because it was over too soon. I know, it's a novella so I wasn't going to get a 300 page book, but I want to know what happens next with Mary and Sir Wesley Darcy! The plus side is that there will be more to their story so all I have to do is wait. Humph. I do not like waiting, but since The King of Threadneedle Street will be coming out within a month I think I'll manage somehow.

Teresa Jones says

Oh what to say about this book! I devoured it in just a few hours one afternoon and still am thinking about the story. Moriah has done it again with this wonderful Christmas novella about a society spinster and society celebrity.

In this book we follow the Christmas adventure of the lovely Mary Cavendish, a character whom I immediately fell in love with. She is trying to avoid the "spinster" mark, while keeping herself busy in a local hospital and awaiting someone that truly cherishes her and understands that she is more than a ball gown and a dowry. Not to mention she is constantly obsessing about not indulging to much in holiday delights as she is trying to achieve a more society friendly figure.

On Christmas Eve, she finds herself working at the hospital when after a rough go of things the oh so handsome Darcy lands in her care. While she finds him nothing short of scandalous, she cannot in good

consciousness not take care of his wounds and send him on his way.

Just when Mary thinks that she will go home and spend Christmas in the bosom of her family she discovers that the holiday is not going to go as she has planned when the handsome Darcy finds his way into her holiday plans. Together they must learn to put aside the social expectations if they really want to find out who each other truly is on the inside, while enjoying the holiday joys around them.

I completely enjoyed this book and I couldn't put it down. Moriah built these characters beautifully and the world around them comes alive and keeps the story in period and exciting. I am so looking forward to see what she comes up with next!

Amy says

This is the second book from Moriah I have had the pleasure of reading. I loved it! I felt I could relate to Mary with her eating habit. I love the writing style. I can't wait for Mary's full novel to release. I want more of her and Wes! I recommend this book! It's only 99 pennies so it's worth the buy! I love the Rougemont series!

Denise Van plew says

A heartwarming sweet romance that picks you up and brightens any day. Tis the season for giving and Mary the lady she is of her time does give. She gives of her time to the hospital and also herself to her family when at home. It is Christmas eve and she is helping at the hospital but also wanting to get to Christmas midnight services. Not realizing until to late her misinterpretation of gestures and comments by the doctor realizes the gift left was more than likely not welcomed. On top of that it is revealed he is Jewish and has no moves to ask her to services. She also has a misconception of herself all to easily done by someone with a big heart and not vain. What she sees of herself is not what someone else will see. No services for her because in comes a emergency, but sadly one that can not be saved. But after the fact I would say Mary herself is the one who is about to be saved by Wesley when she comes to his aide. When finished they find themselves going to the same destination and oh what an interesting ride to her home it turns out to be. Being that he is invited to the holidays, a sweet play by play begins and it is most enchanting to read. He is drawn to her and sees so much more then even most of her family does. Very intriguing indeed the want and desire and over a short period of time sweeps her off her feet by his charm and sincerity. Story such a nice flow to it and just the right opener for this series and the sweet beginning of Mary and Wesley.

Maree Repa says

I really loved this short romantic Christmas story. It was very well written for its set time. A beautiful story for this time of the year.

Wendy *Sebella Blue* Mitchell says

One would think that Mary Cavendish was a saint in training with her volunteer work at the parish hospital, the Cockington Beautification Committee, and anywhere else that she can fit in her schedule. While she is indeed a lady filled with charity and compassion, she is also a woman with an urgent need to curtail her appetite for sumptuous holiday treats that attack her ever expanding waistline. With a corset designed to rob her of her ability to breathe and her quest to find a "knight on a white horse" to wed, it is imperative that she look her best.

Acclaimed Shakespearean actor, Sir Wesley Darcy is not having a good start to his holiday. Enduring a robbery attempt, an overturned carriage, and a painful shoulder injury, Wesley now finds himself in a hospital on Christmas Eve being treated by a woman who makes it more than clear that she finds him to be quite the cad. Sensing the passion underneath her innocent exterior, Wesley is beyond pleased to find that his enticing nurse will also be spending the holidays at Rougemont. Despite their innocuous beginnings, he intends to win Mary's heart and show her the adventures that have been sorely lacking in her life.

Moriah Densley has fast become one of my favorite new authors. Her stories are very reminiscent of the great Johanna Lindsay's Mallory series and Catherine Coulter's Brides series. Her characters are fun and immeasurably likable. Historically factual, Moriah's books fly by so quickly, I am always shocked and sad when they end for too quickly. I love the fact that characters from her precious stories are revisited, and in this short but wonderfully fulfilling book that the entire Cavendish clan makes an appearance. Mary is a wonderful heroine. She has her share of insecurities, but puts on a brave front that sometimes comes across as being a bit staid to her family. The dashing Wesley sees past this and is instantly captivated by her curves and sharp wit. They were absolutely perfect together. This is a sweet, lighthearted, romantic and beautifully written tale that is sure to bring a smile to even the most sour of Scrooges this holiday season.

Carol *Young at Heart Oldie* says

****4.5 Charming Stars****

I'm always delighted when I discover a new author who captures my imagination with her wonderful writing, her originality and her vibrant characters and Moriah Densley did just that. I loved this engaging novella!

Mary is an unconventional heroine, volunteering as a nurse at the local parish hospital. It is plain to see that she genuinely cares about her patients showing them real kindness, compassion and respect and their love for her in return is obvious.. Her insecurities about her fuller figure are only too familiar and easy to sympathise with. After all, most of us have probably had concerns about our bodies sometime in our lives.

Despite his scandalous reputation and his initial boorish behaviour, I couldn't help but like Wesley and his droll sense of humour. Of course, the molten-chocolate voice, the remarkable sea-god eyes and the block-shaped pectorals the size of lamb roasts had nothing to do with it. To be fair, he does have reason to be ill-tempered, what with being mobbed by admirers at the train station, waylaid by a stagecoach robber and then, to top it all, having his injury tended by the most argumentative of women. I love that he recognises Mary's worth and is honest about his feelings for her and not willing to give up the chase.

Their romance was an enchanting blend of...

Sharp, witty banter:

She sighed. “Must we do this on the floor, or is there a chance of moving the procedure to the bed, like civilized people?”

He made a sound like humf. “There is seldom much civilized about it whether I do it on the floor or a bed. But I’ve never had any complaints.” His vainglorious smirk turned into a salacious leer, which she found unnecessary.

“My, my. I do believe I’ve just been scandalized by a bawdy joke.” This time she poked him in the ribs with the needle. “Oh, my poor maiden ears.”

Tender, romantic moments:

“What if you’ve enchanted me? Stopped time so that two days feels longer. Long enough to recognize a sympathetic soul. Long enough to know I don’t want to leave you.”

Lush, sensual moments:

Her skin shivered with a nervous energy the same time a warmth radiated from the inside out, growing hotter by the minute. The contradicting sensations seemed to pull time in both directions.

Sweet, gentle moments:

She returned to find Rebecca Montegue laughing, in magical baby peals that probably summoned pixies and springtime. Granted, she didn’t know any better. Then Mary saw why: Sir Wesley puffed out his cheeks and crossed his eyes, then blew air in a rude noise Rebecca found hilarious.

My only criticism is that the novella ended on a cliff-hanger and it wasn’t until I read more about the Rougemont series at the end of the story that I discovered that Mary and Wesley’s story continues in MARRIED QUITE CONTRARY coming in February 2014. I would have appreciated some indication in the book blurb that this was a prequel which would be continued.

I was enchanted by this sweet, romantic story and will definitely be reading more of the Rougemont series.

REVIEW RATING: 4.5/5 STARS

Rougemont series (click on the book cover for more details):

Lindsey says

A very fun story with two sarcastic fun loving characters. I wish it was longer but I've learned there will be more of this story coming out next year. Which makes me happy because I was not happy with abrupt end to the story.

I like this author's style of writing and I look forward to reading more from her.

Janice Hougland says

Oh, how I love this author's descriptive writing style! I've always considered myself the queen of short sentences and use as few words as possible to explain myself, but this author has me beat, hands down. She speaks to my heart with her writing and with such wit...I found myself chuckling throughout this short romance. The love scene in the library in this novella had me holding my breath and then exhaling loudly with a thumping heart...I swear I was swooning! The way it ended has me believing there's got to be another story that comes after this...and I can't wait for it to be released! I am so glad I was introduced to Ms. Densley and her books a few months ago. I intend on reading everything she writes. Readers will not be disappointed in her stories a single iota.

Katrina Passick Lumsden says

Hmm. A part of me thinks I should rate this higher, but you know what? Without an ending, I can't bring myself to do it. This novella cost as much as the two full-length novels in this series, and while I liked both characters, there just wasn't enough here to justify the price or the time spent reading it. It just ends...on a rather cliffhangerish note. There's barely even any romance. So yeah, a little disappointing.
