



## The Dark Earl

*Virginia Henley*

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**The Dark Earl** Virginia Henley

**A sensual new Victorian romance from the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Irish Duke*.** When Lady Harriet Hamilton and Viscount Thomas meet, Thomas finds her outspoken, and yet, quite a beauty. But Thomas is committed to restoring the family holdings, not chasing a wife. If only Harry wasn't making herself right at home...

## The Dark Earl Details

Date : Published September 6th 2011 by Signet (first published September 2011)

ISBN : 9780451234643

Author : Virginia Henley

Format : Paperback 416 pages

Genre : Romance, Historical Romance, Historical, Historical Fiction

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## **From Reader Review The Dark Earl for online ebook**

### **LibraryDanielle says**

I was totally not impressed with this. Harry the main female, pushes society's rules to cause trouble, not out if any "ideals" like you're supposed to believe. 'lets wear short skirts to the Queen's ball!' and thomas, the male, is a hypocritical jerk. he doesn't like Harry because she's a "rebel" but wants her because of her money.

there were also some rather gratuitous tacky sex scenes, like at the first ball, the debutante who's parents were throwing the ball gives head to Harry's younger brother for the hell of it. really?

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### **Katie Kuykendall says**

Absolutely loved it! I found myself unable to put it down. I even read it to my client who was enthralled with it and asked me to read more books like this to her. A wonderful book!

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### **Alex says**

The main characters barely interacted

### **Follow me!**

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### **Magpie says**

Meryl review August 2017

Inoffensive fun - formulaic entry into the crowded historical romance field, suffering a little in comparison to Eloisa James who captures the escapist, erotic nature of her subject matter and writes extremely well to boot. Harry and Thomas are minor aristocracy whose love life encounters a few ups and downs. Have gained a new phrase in "bugger and balls!" And may be gleefully using in the very near future. 3 stars for the richness of the scenery and Thomas's attributes, 2 stars for the clunky dialogue.

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### **♥ Sam ♥ ~S2~Im made of awesomness says**

<http://samsawesomness.blogspot.com/20...>

COME SEE MY REVIEW!

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### **Lucy Qhuay says**

It is a great pity that I can't give more stars to this book.

However, there were several things that got on my last damn nerves! -.-'

First, I thought that the first meeting of the protagonists, that happened when the heroine, Harriet, was barely a child, was a bad start for their story.

I mean, I'm not seeing myself falling in love with a person that called me bitch or that accused me of theft. But whatever, some years passed and by the time that they meet again, the hero, Thomas, is almost 30 and Harriet is almost 20.

Once again, their meeting was bad. Thomas strongly disapproves of Harriet's behaviour (she is rather rebel for the time) and seems not to have her in a high esteem.

From that point on, he starts to court her and I can only think that he does that because she is a rich heiress, daughter of members of the high nobility and he needs her money, since his father lost everything gambling so, in spite of inheriting the title of duke, he will not inherit wealth.

Harriet recognizes that she is attracted to Thomas, since he is a very handsome man, but she doesn't like that he is so "straitlaced" and controlled, so she turns her attentions to other suitors that are paying court to her. However, I hated the fact that, instead of thinking about their character, first she only thought about their title and their possessions.

So, she was switching suitors for a while until she came to the conclusion that she was in love with Thomas. Once again, her feelings and later, Thomas's feelings when he says that he is in love with her seem too forced for my liking. I can't see how they passed from "She has no shame! I don't like her!" and "He is much too controlled and controlling for me!" to "I love you!".

But this is just me thinking that the author didn't develop their relationship in the right way.

There were some other things that I didn't like but I'm not going to say it because this review would have 2 meters.

Overall, this book is ok. There is nothing special.

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### **Reba Dom says**

This was a good read. Not fantastic but a good, easy book to read. The characters were funny, deep, and charismatic. The story line was well written with just enough details to be good but not too much to be boring. Well worth the read.

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### **Trudi Jorda says**

I have to admit with a Heroine named Harry short for Harriet who speaks a bit too openly for Victorian Times (note- not a Regency) LOL the book is full of fun, scares and a closer look at Victorian times. I would actually recommend this book to those who have a good sense of history, humor and unconventionality!

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### **ms bookjunkie says**

4.5 stars

I do so love VH's historicals. She writes earthy heroines, hunky heroes, and vivid, rich, lush, sensual/scandalous history. Love love love!

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### **Nancy says**

A good read; follows the formula for these types of novels and doesn't disappoint or surprise. If you're a fan of the genre, then I recommend. A quick, easy read perfect when you need something light.

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### **Elis Madison says**

This is the third in the series, following The Irish Duke. This is the story of Louisa's daughter, Harriet (Harry), who falls in love with an estate, and then with its (eventual) owner, Thomas Anson, the (eventual) Earl of Lichfield. Again, these are historical people; I can't say how accurate the details are, though.

There are a couple misunderstandings and secrets that create a bit of drama, but this isn't a riveting story. 2.5 stars.

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### **Caroline says**

So boring. I thought I might expire from the tedium. Just walk away.

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### **S says**

Well, I guess I \*have\* read this book a while back, in trade. I just finished reading it as an ebook, too, thinking that I \*didn't\* finish reading this the last time.

Harry is a bit trying at times. She may be why I had forgotten I've read to the end before.

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### **Bookaholics says**

The Dark Earl by Virginia Henley  
Historical Romance -Sept. 6th, 2011  
3 stars

Thanks to his father, the Earl of Lichfield, Thomas Anson watches as everything in Shugborough is auctioned off and the family's hunting lodge nearby burned to the ground for insurance money. Angry and bitter, he vows to restore Shugborough back to its former glory no matter the cost. When he meets the precocious and willful Harry (Harriet's nickname) daughter of the Duke of Abercorn, he realizes that she is his solution. Harry comes with a considerable dowry and is extremely beautiful as well. But Harry will not marry for anything less than love. She wants what her parents have - a loving marriage. Can Thomas give her his heart?

This book reminds me a lot of Whitney My Love and other romance novels from the late 80's. The writing style is definitely sparser and much more straightforward than the current style, which I prefer. Also, the heroine reminds me of Scarlett O'Hara from Gone With the Wind - she's drop-dead beautiful, very headstrong, very stubborn, and very proud. As much as I admire how she deals with her sister's and former suitor's betrayal, I find it hard to relate or like Harry. She's too different, too out there, and too perfect. The only way I can describe her is that she is the ideal heroine from the last decade. Thomas Anson is very detached and focused. He just wants Shugborough back and Harry is the means to an end. It takes him a long time to realize that he loves Harry very much, which cause problems between Harry and Thomas. The main conflict between the two characters is very soap-operatic. You can definitely see trouble coming from far away.

Formulaic and with a different writing style, this book is recommended for those who love the sweeping romances of the 80's.

Reviewed by Pauline from the Bookaholics Romance Club

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### **Tammy says**

I enjoyed this book quite a bit. The only reasons I decided not to give it 5 stars is because I had issues with how the girls behaved. Very un-Victorian like, and not just a little bit, but a lot. Also a little un-lady like. However the love story at the heart of the book was enough for me to overlook these faults. I know a book is good when it sticks with me for a day or two after I've finished it as this one has.

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