



# Meet Me In Scotland

*Patience Griffin*

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**Meet Me In Scotland** Patience Griffin

**You can run from your problems, but you can't hide from love in the Scottish seaside town of Gandiegow....**

When a video of her calling *happily ever after* “a foolish fantasy” goes viral, marriage therapist Emma Castle is out of a job—and off to Scotland. The tiny town of Gandiegow is the perfect place to ride out the media storm and to catch up with her childhood friend Claire. But also in Gandiegow is the one man she hoped never to see again.

She's successfully avoided Gabriel MacGregor since Claire and Dominic's wedding, only to find he's now the village doctor—and just as tall, dark, and devilish as ever. Claire and Dominic's blissful marriage, however, is not what it used to be. Soon Emma and Gabriel find themselves taking sides even as the sparks begin to fly between them. Can Emma help her friends—or regain her career—as she struggles with her own happily ever after?

## Meet Me In Scotland Details

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# From Reader Review Meet Me In Scotland for online ebook

## Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews says

Amanda's review posted on Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews

Meet me in Scotland is the new story in the Kilts and Quilts series by Patience Griffin, and it is great to be back in Gandiegow. This is a small community in the highlands of Scotland and everyone knows everyone's business. Emma Castle is going there to visit her best friend Claire Russo and also hideout after a video of her goes viral put a black mark on her career. She's caught on tape denouncing marriage and true love and that can be disastrous for a marriage counselor. While she is there she hopes to avoid Gabriel MacGregor but can't do that considering he is the town's doctor. They have rubbed each other the wrong way ever since Clair and Dominic's wedding and definite sparks fly when they get near each other.

What Emma didn't realize is that her problems became secondary to her friend's when she walks into a battle of wills between Dominic and Claire. Gabriel is hoping that Emma can work some counseling miracle and get those two to stop feuding. Before you know it, Emma and Gabriel have picked sides and they are even more at odds. The ladies of the quilting group enlist Emma to make the doctor's new quilt and find her listening to others and their problems. One person in particular is Cait, from book 1, who is dealing with her son Mattie's mutism and really hopes Emma will help him. Mattie is a child who's seen great loss in his short life and is someone dear and your heart goes out to him. I'm so glad that his story is part of this one and you see the progress he has made.

I love it when you get two couples and their story in one book and that's what we have here in Meet me in Scotland. You have the new budding relationship and a marriage at a crossroads. There are a lot of things in play during the course of the story with Claire trying hard to get her husband to change his mind, Emma dealing with everyone wanting her time, Gabriel fighting his attraction and trying to be a good doctor, and Dominic trying to get his restaurant off the ground. Each of them reevaluates their life and what they want from themselves and from others. I thoroughly enjoy this story and how things changed for everyone over the course of the book. I like seeing the townspeople, especially the quilt ladies, take part of the budding romance and steer things themselves. Scotland is one of my favorite places to visit and Patience Griffin makes me feel I'm there again.

Review copy provided for an honest review

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## Jenelle says

\*\*\*\*\*Thank you NetGalley for an Advanced Copy of this title. Review to come soon\*\*\*\*\*

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## Morgan says

So, it's pretty typical when it comes to it's "happily ever after" trope and everyone is happy in the end. But before you get that, you have to go through a typhoon of stereotypical drama and a lot of freaking mood swings. Get this! Men will go through it too!

The story starts out with Egghead Emma (I do adore that nickname) losing a career that her parents forced her into after she voices her opinion on the internet that marriage doesn't work in the long-run. Can't say that I blame her. Look at her sociopath parents. My God! It's like they're robots! It's a nice twist where the parents aren't prudes, but they are completely heartless. I'm surprised that Emma can possess emotions.

When she retreats to her best friend's village to recover, she's only thrown in a whirlpool of problems. I swear there were times I wanted to toss Claire into the ocean. I get that she wanted a baby. Many women do in real life, but I just love how the author brings up another stereotype jabbing at their female readers about their reproductive organs shriveling up in their early thirties. Like that's what's supposed to define a woman? There's many abandoned kids around the world. Just adopt one! Jesus Christ!

Speaking of our Lord Savior, I understand this is Scotland and they're going to have a church/preacher. But I felt like I was being dragged to church just like my childhood memories. The priest is likeable, but I felt like this was just being shoved down my throat. Don't they get tourists or visitors that aren't religious or are of a different belief? I'm sure modern UK have those!

Gabriel's character was iffy for me as well. How does someone with wild oats just automatically become a choirboy? I get that he wants to settle down for once, but it boggles my mind that it takes more than two-thirds of the story for him and Emma to boink each other. There were sexual scenes, but no sex mostly. There seemed to be an ironic twist where the men were cutting their women off from sex. That's actually hilarious to see an odd trope like that when it's surrounded to all of this predictable stereotypes in the story.

I was sorely disappointed in the women's friendship of this story. They seemed to be like a wolf pack led by Deydie, their alpha, instead of just molding perfectly together. The one friend relationship that pissed me off was between Claire and Emma. Your friend loses her job, is publicly humiliated by her parents, and is seeking sympathy and all you do is dump your marital problems on her. She also tells Gabriel that Emma's been around the block. I know Emma lied about her sex life because of her parents, but that is no reason to go slut-shaming someone and telling a guy that she isn't looking for love. "Oh, boo hoo! My ovaries are shriveling up despite the fact that I'm still a young healthy woman and my husband's business is going to hell! I want a baby!" Get. Over. It. I would have divorced her if I was Dominic. The Father in Heaven, the village, or my closest friends wouldn't have stopped me from leaving.

Call me cynical, but I kind of wished the marriage went to the brink of falling apart. Claire should have gone to a sperm bank and get pregnant just to spite her husband. Or Dominic should have slept with a barmaid or something. Emma should have just pissed her parents off in front of a live audience about telling her damaging childhood. Gabriel should have thrown caution to the wind and fucked Emma behind the altar. (Looks up to the skies and waits for that lightning bolt to strike.)

This book didn't wet my knickers. I would have been slightly turned on by Claire waltzing around naked in the kitchens if she didn't open her stupid mouth. Everything in this book was a cockblock for me. But I suppose the reader is supposed to have patience like the author's name. (Ha! I made a punny!)

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## Georgette says

I have just closed the book on the last page of Meet Me in Scotland by Patience Griffin, the 2nd in the Kilts & Quilts series that takes place in the village of Gandiegow and my heart is full. As I suspected some of the characters have moved on to take up residence from the first book in the series to a front and center while

others have taken more of a secondary role to introduce another set of new inhabitants of this magical place with its harsh weather and challenges of real life and how both good and bad things are worked through. I found the life long friendship of Claire and Emma have been drawn back together for one reason, but of course well intended interventions and manipulations have unforeseen consequences and like a skein of wool become entangled and untangled and entangled through it all in many many ways. I think anyone who found escape in To Scotland with Love will not be disappointed with this book, and there is yet another addition to this easy and riveting read, due for publication in the Summer of 2015.

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### **Annette says**

I wanted to like this book. I truly did want to like this book.

Emma lies to nearly everyone she knows. Claire treats her husband as though he and his feelings are not important to her. But, his sperm is important to her. Deydie is an elderly woman who treats people rudely because she can. Her reasons for rudeness are rather obscure.

The women in this book are not exactly women I would admire.

Emma has come to this small Scottish town to hide from what she considers to be a huge career mistake. She will stay with her best friend Claire until she figures out what she will do in the future. She is unwilling to recognize that Gabriel, the town doctor, is a good and dedicated man.

Claire wants a baby. The fact that the restaurant she and her husband own is barely scraping by and her husband is terrified they will fail makes no difference to her. Dominic should do what she wants because she wants it. Whatever Dominic says to her is ignored.

Deydie has lived in this town forever and she intends to make sure no interlopers sully the area. The doctor, Gabriel, is from Edinburgh but he is an outlander and unwelcome.

The description of the plot sounded interesting. I am a sucker for anything Scottish and I wanted this romance to be – romantic.

For me it simply did not do it.

I know there are readers who will like the conflict and be very happy with this book. I am simply not one of them. It is just me.

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### **Suzanne says**

Emma Castle's famous parents were into counselling. They appeared on TV and wrote books. They spoke of relationships, sex and marriage with celebrity authority and were very successful. They expected their daughter Emma to be a part of that world. Emma was videotaped saying that she did not believe in marriage

even though she was a marriage counselor. The video went viral. Emma decided to visit her best friend Claire in a small village in Scotland to get her life back together. Claire and Dom had the only successful marriage she knew of. It would be so great to get support from Claire. Trouble started at the airport when Claire did not come to get her but sent Dom's best friend Gabriel. Oh no! Ten years ago at Claire and Dom's wedding, Gabriel called her Egghead Emma. Gabriel was now the village doctor. Emma knew that her visit was doomed. To make things worse, when Emma arrived Claire and her husband Dom were having serious marital problems. What had Emma gotten herself into? Enjoy another visit to the fishing village of Gandiglow and see how life plays out.

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## **Leigh says**

I'm all for funny scenarios-- like Blue's scenes in a beaver costume from Susan Elizabeth Phillips' *Natural Born Charmer*. However to make outlandish funny an author has to convince the reader to suspend belief, and in *Meet Me In Scotland*, Patience Griffin fails at that.

The book pops from one strange premise to another -- the only half-way touching scenario is about the heroine counseling a young boy.

I'm putting the rest under spoilers --

Emma is a marriage counselor who doesn't believe in love. She also been living a lie. For years, to win her parents approval -- they're sex therapists, she pretended to have a very active and varied sex life. She even continued the pretense with her best friend, Claire

So after her career implodes she runs to Scotland and to Claire-- whose marriage is floundering because she wants a baby and her husband says they can't afford it--which they can't.

Claire's solution -- go out and spend money they don't have on sexy underwear to seduce him. She also prances around the kitchen of their café type establishment in provocative clothing. There is even one scene where Claire looks down at her breasts and says something like "girls you let me down" so she ramps up the sexual inciting clothes -- or should I say lack of clothes. When that doesn't work, she lies to the village, and destroys what little business her husband has built.

The village--- well think busy-body central casting. . .

Emma is caught in the middle. She feels like a failure as a marriage counselor, and of course Claire is not really open to advise.

Emma's love interest is the village's new doctor and also Claire's husband's best friend. Claire and the doctor already have a history of animosity and it is further exacerbated by their friends' marital discord.

In summary, I found the characters unlikeable--truly caricature and the scenarios unbelievable.

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### **Carol Stanley-Snow says**

A very good, sweet, funny read. Loved all the characters and most especially the quilters. They are too funny!

I think, if you like a read that goes smoothly along and has a good ending, this book is for you.

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### **Brenda says**

#### **Oh glory, I do love the Scots!**

And this story shows just how well they can love. Gabriel and Emma, like most normal people, have problems but love, real love, helps show them they were meant to be together. Patience has done it again, a grand love story and I've fallen in love with Scotland all over again! I am also very hungry for Dominic and Claire have me craving Italian food and scones!

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### **Krissys says**

Meet Me In Scotland I received a print and digital copy from Netgalley and Berkley in exchange for an honest review. Meet Me in Scotland is fantastic! I loved it from beginning to end. I think a lot of women reading this book can relate to the feeling of being jaded by love and their past experiences that they wish they could leave behind them. That's what Emma is going through when she arrives in Scotland to escape her own disappointment in the concept in love. But of course life is what happens when you're busy making plans and in enters Doctor Sexy who turns her world on its head. I had a blast with Gabriel and Emma, they're a sweet couple and Patience is the kind of writer that can easily make you believe in love again.

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### **OpenBookSociety.com says**

<http://openbooksociety.com/article/me...>

Brought to you by OBS reviewer Andra

I felt empathy for Emma at the get go, making the career blunder she made, which led her to run away from her life as a marriage therapist. This empathetic pull is what got me interested in the story. However, right off the bat we see that Emma has a chip on her shoulder regarding what happened a decade ago with Gabriel. All I have to say is...Let it go Emma, let it go! And as time passes, Emma does.

Gabriel is portrayed as one hot Scottish rogue turned doctor! And he is definitely depicted as swoon worthy. When I read his dialogue I can hear the Scottish brogue in his voice (okay...so I have a vivid imagination). So sexy!

Poor Emma, as time passes how can she not help but start to think about Gabriel?

“Proper English ladies do not drool over handsome Scottish rogues.”

I think from this point on, it is a lost cause. No matter how hard Emma tries to resist, and for that matter no matter how hard Gabriel tries to resist, they are intrigued enough by each other that the attraction will win out. And with the town folk up to something.....well, the reader will need to discover this for themselves but I imagine this is the way of town folk of small, seaboard villages in Scotland. Meddlesome but well meaning.

As life continues on in Gandiegow, as Emma is convalescing as a result of a sprained ankle (yes....she needs boots!) one evening while the good doctor is looking after her, even to the point of sleeping in the same room, she thinks:

“How in bloody hell am I supposed to get any sleep tonight with the sexiest man in Scotland not six feet away? All toasty in his bed...in matching pajama bottoms. Oh, gads!”

All I have to say to that is....I totally agree! How could one relax with such a hunk of a Scotsman in the same room?

And lest we forget....Gabriel is certainly smitten with Emma as well....

“Maybe he would have to face the truth. His resolve meant nothing when it came to her. He could believe himself a big, strapping Scot all he wanted, but the truth was, whenever she was near, he was a pussy-whipped laddie. And she didn’t even know how she affected him.”

I chuckled when Gabriel thought the following –

“For the luvagod, how many different, good-smelling shampoos does she own?”

All Gabriel has ever professed to want in a simple Scottish lassie to wed and produce his bairn, but from the looks of things, that will most likely not happen. He unknowingly falls for Emma....against his rather loud declarations to the contrary.

I enjoyed the storyline of Claire and Dominic. They are having difficulties in their seemingly perfect marriage. And Claire is happy to see Emma as she needs the moral support. Claire wants a child NOW and Dominic wants to wait. As can be predicted, the reasoning is not evident to begin with, but the journey to discover the true reasons is filled with fun filled events. At one point, the townsfolk take Claire’s side...so what did she tell them about Dominic to garner their support and subsequent shunning of Dominic. And then Dominic becomes a hero to the new mothers in town, so then Claire feels baffled.

Delving into the relationship between Emma and her parents certainly explains a lot about why Emma professes to NOT believe in love, marriage, etc. I truly had empathy for Emma and what she must have gone through as a child. Luckily with the help of a good doctor (Gabriel...and the pun was intended), Emma is finally able to speak her own mind and break free of her odd parents. The hoops they try and get Emma to jump through lead to some interesting reading.

I loved the evolution of a new Emma, finally taking control of her life. When she finally comes clean with Claire, Dominic, her parents and last but not least, Gabriel – a huge sigh of relief came out of this reader, knowing that Emma could then truly begin the life she is entitled to. I also liked her finally realizing that boots are perfectly fine to wear!

This second book in the Kilts & Quilts series is a good read and one that will precipitate my reading the first in the series as well as any subsequent books in the series.

\*OBS would like to thank the publisher for supplying a free copy of this title in exchange for an honest



### **Janice Hougland says**

I've not been a huge fan of contemporary romances before, but reading this one by Ms. Griffin has definitely made me change my mind about contemporaries. And because the setting was in Scotland...well, let's just say I was curious and bought the book, and then I loved the story! Ms. Griffin has a no-nonsense, plain-spoken writing style that made this story so easy to read and understand and enjoy. Gabriel and Emma are an "opposites attract" couple in this romance, and it was fun to see how they ran circles around each other and with the close-knit village folk – to finally reach their happy ending. It is definitely a sigh-worthy story and now I want to read more by Ms. Griffin.

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### **Bethany Smith says**

Totally and completely love this story, was such a fun and delightful read and one that I no doubt will pick up again. The characters are likable and real with good hearts even if a bit lacking in judgement but that is what makes us all human right? I really like the setting that Patience has given for the story's backdrop, the coast in Scotland's Highland...what I wouldn't give to visit there sometime in my lifetime. I have a feeling that if there ever were a small town by the name of Gandiegow, I'd be home.

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### **Sharon says**

Another delightful visit to Gandiegow. Emma Castle is a marriage therapist whose inappropriate comments went viral on You Tube. She flees to Scotland to hide and seek comfort from her best friend Claire Russo only to discover Claire's marriage is in a crisis of its own. She is met up at the airport by Gabriel and the sparks fly. Although I could pretty much figure out the entire plot, I enjoyed the telling of the story and nearly read it in one sitting. The comedy of errors and misunderstandings were well done. The antics of Claire, Dom and the town reminded me a little of McClintock! Deydie is my favorite character of all as well as the ladies of the quilt group. Emma was a feisty heroine and her dance with Gabriel was fun to read. I'm glad Mattie and Cait made a second appearance. My only quibble was the crassness of the language at the very beginning. I was a little taken aback by the graphicness of it and wasn't sure I'd be interested in staying with it until the end. I'm glad I did.

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### **Kathi says**

#### **YOU SAID.....WHAT!**

This book focused on well-defined characters, each having major decisions to be worked through....marriage, parenthood, identity, deceit, muteness, outsiders and love. What more could you ask! Griffin's ability to translate feelings draws the reader into the many frustrations that surface and yet I would have liked a little more time spent in developing the ending. I felt it was a bit rushed. I love this town! What a wonderful escape! The first thing I did when I finished the book....look for the sequel!

