



El secreto de su amante

Lynne Graham, Alejandra Estevez Martin (Translator)

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Hiding from the Greek...

The ink is barely dry on Giorgios Letsos's divorce papers, but there's only one thing on this unstoppable Greek's mind: finding Billie Smith, his mistress before his marriage. But the sweet, pliable woman he once knew slams the door in his face!

Billie fought hard to heal her broken heart after Gio chose to marry someone else. When he storms back into her life, she's determined not to fall for his seduction again. Especially now that she has a secret to protect...their son.

But she hadn't counted on just how badly he wants her back in his bed!

El secreto de su amante Details

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From Reader Review El secreto de su amante for online ebook

Rgreader says

Classic Lynne Graham. A wonderful second chance at love romance with the right touch of angst.

The Secret His Mistress Carried is why I read Harlequin Presents. The heroine is modern but not an unlikable bitch. She has her flaws but they don't ruin the book. The hero is devious, over the top and clueless about love alpha. His grovel is well done as is the heroine's. I totally enjoyed this modern day fairytale!!

Vashti says

This has got to be one of the best romances that LG has written in years. Loved everything about it. Heroine, Billie, was a strong character, and Gio, the hero, I believed loved Billie all along from their days when she was his mistress.

Alex is The Romance Fox says

I gave this one 4 stars only because I adored Billie, the heroine. She may have been a doormat when she was the hero's mistress for two years but she certainly grew some backbone when she left him, after he informed her that he was going to marry the "right kind of woman".

So, two years on, hero has divorced the so called perfect wife, who is actually the most odious and bitchy woman ever.....and goes knocking on Billie's door, where she has built a life for herself and the hero's secret son....yes, he wants her back in his life, as his mistress and no not as his wife.....

What a sod.....I so disliked Gio....he takes the alpha-male to a new, so not nice level!!!!
But wait, when he discovers he has a son.....something he never wanted to have as he told Billie years before...he suddenly wants him!!!!!! Totally unbelievable....arrogant, unrepentant.....check this out...when he demands that Billie drop everything and go with him to Greece....

"I need to think about all this," Billie admitted tightly. "You're talking about turning my life upside down."

"And my own," Gio added softly. "None of this was on my bucket list either."

Too bad his family love her.....I so wanted him to grovel....not enough grovelling from him was my feeling.....

But hey, Billie loves him and in his way I guess he loves her too.....so let me leave the three of them to their HEA.....he better be good to her!!!! Or I will come looking for Gio and slap his damn face!!!!

KatieV says

I'd given up on Graham, but this one is more like her oldies. It reminded me quite a bit of one of my old skool Graham favs *Tempestuous Reunion*. Although this one was definitely different enough to stand on its own.

One of my favorite HP tropes is the mistress taken for granted. And boy did Gio deliver on that score. He was even worse than the H in *Tempestuous Reunion* in that he was so out of touch with his feelings that he **STILL** didn't realize what the h meant to him even after she left him. He searched for her from day one, but his intention when he found her was to stick her right back into the comfortable mistress slot (or 'drawer' as Billie so aptly put it).

I really liked the heroine, Billie. She had an endearing personality although she wasn't a perfect person. It's my feeling that she would have eventually contacted Gio re: the secret baby. She was very young and I felt that lack of maturity and tremendous hurt led her to believe she was right to hide the child. However, she was starting to feel guilt about that and second guess her decision on that front. I do respect her decision to leave the hero when he married, although I wasn't totally on board with her hiding the pregnancy. Gio wasn't exactly nurturing father material though. I feel she truly believed he wouldn't want the child and might have even have pushed for an abortion. I also loved that she took and sold one of the valuable pieces of "mistress jewelry" so her child would have a home and she'd have a way to support herself. I can understand the stubborn pride that leads most of the heroines to leave **EVERYTHING** behind (Billie left all but the one piece). It has to be so insulting to the asshole heroes to see the gifts discarded, but I did love that she at least had a bit of practical concern when it came to her and the child's future survival.

What was hard to take was the fact that the H was such a snob. He really was more of an anti-hero than a hero. He was ashamed of the heroine's lack of sophistication (much like the hero in *Tempestuous Reunion*). It was painful to read about how he kept her as a dirty little secret and SERIOUSLY expected her to remain as his mistress even though he was getting married. He needed to be taken down LOTS of notches. I really wish he'd have broken his best friend's nose for making fun of her for her lack of knowledge about "fine art".

What kept this from being a 5 star was the fact that his redemption was so subtle. I had to re-read the last half for it to sink in exactly when/how he started to see what an ass he was. It wasn't a dramatic climax. Plus I was greatly offended when he was so incensed that when he thought she had a child by another man that he was willing to just walk away. I don't think he would have (for long anyway) but I'd have liked to have seen this confirmed in print.

I'd recommend this to fans of the old skool Graham HPs, but can understand how others may hate it because of the hero. He wasn't exactly endearing, but he did have an actual tragic past that went further than the lame 'one woman hurt me 100 years ago and now I'm ANGRY' excuse we so often see.

For some reason I just get a kick out of the jackass tycoon who gets taken down a peg or two when the mistress dares to ditch him. If you like that and enjoy a wallbanger, this is a good read.

Jenny says

Gio and Billie have an affair but when he decides to marry a woman of his social background and keep Billie as his mistress she disappears from his life. Alone and pregnant she builds a career and a new life for herself and her son. Two years later Gio is a divorced man. When he finds Billie again he is determined to make her his again and when he finds out he has a son he demands marriage as well.

Good read. It was sexy but it was not very angst. I liked the hero even if he was an oblivious moron and his interaction with his baby boy was adorable. Heroine was sweet warm and so nice. She has a heart of gold. I would not treat my husband's evil shrewish ex-wife with such class but Billie is a better person than I am! lol I loved the ending. Awesome job Lynne Graham!

Shari Kay says

Can't do it...just can't
<https://www.goodreads.com/review/show...>

Jacqueline says

Lynne Graham junkie that I am, I thought this was a nice little story. It was amusing how blind the hero was. He had married another woman two years earlier while expecting Billie, the heroine to continue as his mistress. After his marriage fails he finally finds her again and can't understand why she left him. She keeps going 'but you married another woman!' and he just can't see what difference that should have made. They have this conversation in different ways throughout the book. She doesn't just roll over for him and he eventually figures out the error of his ways. A fun little title for LG fans.

Becky says

[Gio makes virginal Billie his mistress. he tries to take her out once with his fancy friends but she doesn't know the name of a Venetian artist Canaletto (are you kidding?), he stops taking her out in public since she's not good enough, much like Tempestuous Reunion. Classist pig. After two years, he decides he has to marry

KC 2.0 says

I enjoyed this, but felt there could have been more angst considering the storyline. Gio broke Billie's heart yet I didn't feel her anguish. Billie primarily concerned herself in the present with protecting her secret and resisting Gio's bedroom charms. Valid concerns, but the author's choice to brush Billie's feelings under the rug reduced the emotional impact of Gio's betrayal and seemed to give him a pass. It didn't help that Gio, after reentering her life, initially failed to express any remorse or even recognized how much he'd hurt Billie. That bothered me, but he did redeem himself enough by the time the story concluded.

Billie surprised me with her behavior early on, (view spoiler), but considering her feelings for Gio it kind of made sense as the story progressed. At least she had the grace to acknowledge it was a stupid thing to do! I also liked how Billie stood up for herself, and how she handled the truth about Theo's paternity which showed a new maturity and a selfless love for her son.

Gio turned out to be a smitten hero and that's how I like 'em! Underneath his arrogance and ruthlessness lay a vulnerable man, especially concerning Billie. He was a protective father too, and I loved how he didn't hesitate to claim his son.

Both lead characters matured during the course of the story, expressing remorse for their past mistakes, and in turn strengthened their love. I can definitely see their happy ending sticking for the long run.

Kiki says

As for my cheating shelves, hero intended on cheating on his wife with heroine. He wanted heroine to be his mistress while he married someone suitable which heroine wasn't. He had EVERY intention to cheat on both his wife and heroine and if he could plan that ahead I don't see why he wouldn't have had cheated on the wife with someone else specially when he can justify it by saying she was an awful person.

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As far as the romance goes, I didn't find any. I did find his OTT alpha double-standards BS. But no romance. He fully expected the heroine to accept the fact that she's not good enough to be his wife, he WILL marry calypso, I mean Calista while Billie would be his side chick, his dirty little secret. If he knew about the baby he'd marry her FOR the baby, just like he did in the end, not for her. He seemed her again for making her a mistress so spending time with Calista taught him nothing. ?She by herself wasn't good enough and if Calista was even slightly tolerable and agreed to give him a kid, he'd still be married to her. So nothing he did redeemed him in my eye, then again he only did farther manipulation and almost screwed Billie over. ?If he had a celibate marriage I'd have understood, but no, he didn't and Billie was as pure as driven snow, so this guy was rather a cad, and unforgivable one at that. If he only knew Calista was shallow and liar? He'd have picked another bride who'd come from impeccable parentage. Not Billie, never Billie. ?My skillet refuses to be marred by his touch! Rant over!

boogenhagen says

This is one of the best LG's I have read in years. The style, story and characters are highly reminiscent of LG's The Spanish Groom and Tempestuous Reunion halcyon days.

Gio is a great H and his actions are bad--really, really bad-- but it was beautifully explained and he was so cute in his OTT obsession of keeping Billie at any cost that he earns his redemption in classic LG style.

Billie is one of the best LG h's ever. She isn't a doormat and she makes some really tough decisions and deals with some really hard situations with a lot of grace, dignity and class.

I can't think of any other book in HPlania where the h has to deal with the ex-wife/OW showing up at her wedding that doesn't end up with someone being doused in wine. In this one, not only is clothing saved from

wine stains but the H is the one who boots the jealous evil ex out and the h doesn't fall for the obvious OW ploy of "the Ex is using you but really wants me" trope. She doesn't fall into a pit of despair, she puts aside her doubts and she comes out at the end as the better lady of the two. She also contemplates hiring a hit man to take the H out, but that was part of the fun in this plot.

All in all this book made me happy to see LG writing in her best style, and I know this one is going to be a keeper for years and years.

shms says

[

And then there was the mixed up plot. The h veered betw

StMargarets says

This was highly entertaining! Hero is such a caveman. It was amusing to see what he would do next to our poor heroine who became his mistress at 19 and then was supposed to be accepting of his marriage to a proper woman and remain his bit on the side. Hero is genuinely angry she left him.

Now, two years later, the hero is divorced and has found his mistress. But oops. She has a secret baby - 15 months old.

Hero is so thick he thinks the child is another man's. Then he threatens to take the baby away. Then forces the heroine to marry him, but leaves her alone until their wedding day.

This ends the first half of the story - the antagonistic part where the heroine's angst and confusion is highlighted. The second half concerns the H/h's marriage and how they build a relationship. The hero's emotional hang ups then take center stage and I enjoyed watching him turn from caveman to human.

So, the day of the wedding: it finally penetrates his thick skull that the heroine is angry with him and he'd better mend fences before the ceremony. This is where LG starts showing us the hero's vulnerability. They have sex before the wedding with the heroine in her wedding dress. The heroine sees this as weakness on her part, but it's the hero who needs reassuring.

The heroine shows her strength when the ex-wife shows up at the wedding ceremony. (To the hero's credit, he doesn't know what the hell she is doing there.) Heroine is also able to handle the hero's family and other run ins with the hero's ex.

I did enjoy the hero realizing that he made a mistake with the pre-nup and the lengths he went to tear it up.

Because the heroine was committed to their relationship and because the hero stopped running, they were able to understand each other. This hero really couldn't handle any one leaving him and after hearing his family history she (and the reader) understand.

RomanceLover99 says

I really enjoyed this book. I really liked Billie's character and how she fought to make a better life for her and her son. Gio was okay. Typical alpha Greek billionaire who at first only thinks of himself and his own desires. I know it had a lot to do with how he was raised however, he still annoyed me with wanting to get married to a proper wife but keep Billie as a mistress. Of course Billie says "No" and disappears for 2 years where she builds a life for herself and her son until Gio finally finds her.

For Gio to be so intelligent, the fact that he spent 2 years (while married) looking for Billie after she left was a sure sign he loved her but he was too caught up in finding out he had a son and his physical attraction to Billie to realize just how much he loved her.

Great book. Will definitely recommend!

Vintage says

Gio, Gio, Gio. You are one self-involved, self-centered, egotistical, alpha romero hero. I should hate you and your arrogant self, but like Billie I just can't. Gio and Billie are the kind of hero and heroine that L. Graham does best. Billie is a loving, sweet scatterbrain lower case h while Gio is an uber alpha, arrogant asshat capital H.

The plot has been hashed and rehashed so I will concentrate on the relationship. Billie actually has a spine unlike many, okay most, Harlequin heroines, and leaves Gio when, shock, he plans on marrying a "suitable" woman. Well, we all know what happens when a HERO marries a suitable woman in Harley-land. It is not good. It will not last. Evil Woman alert. She's skinny, 'nuff said.

Even though Gio wears his asshat at an extreme level by actually marrying the OW and telling Billie it's really okay 'cause she can remain as the mistress, Apparently the OW is A-OK with that as she is marrying Gio for his money.

A little outrage, a runaway heroine, a secret baby, a little Greek tycoon blackmail and the magic penis, and there you have it.

Gio is the typical Graham hero in that he is confused, bemused and bedazzled by his little heroine which leads him to do all kinds of stupid things like what he does right before they marry and the pre-nup.

I'm rambling. Probably the Jamesons, but give this a read. Harmless and cute.
