



When A Lady Misbehaves

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AN EROTIC SECRET

As a maid at The Pleasure Emporium, Miss April Jardine has witnessed her share of sinful acts, but nothing as brazen as her own money-making scheme. By blackmailing the gentlemen named in the Madame's private diaries, April can escape a life of drudgery--as long as she avoids the hangman's noose. All goes swimmingly until she crosses paths with Lord Blackheath, the most powerful judge in England. His wicked gaze suggests he is torn between exposing April and seducing her--and April is only too pleased to oblige.

A SCANDALOUS EMBRACE

Blackheath has no doubt that the alluring firebrand could cripple his family's finances and reputation with the bat of an eyelash. And yet...April outshines every dull Society belle he's ever known, and nothing compares to the sensual bliss they share. But trusting this scheming Miss could cost him everything. Will he ever be able to welcome her into his home--and his heart?

When A Lady Misbehaves Details

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Missy Ann says

Made it to page 50.

So very annoyed. I can suspend reality. Vampire? Sure. Werewolf? Ok. Housemaid becomes duchess? No problem.

But this? This was just beyond believability.

Done, the library can have it back.

?Karlyn P? says

This is a such a fun, clever, witty and heart-melting romance. I picked this book up without a clue who the author is, nor had I read any reviews of this book. I based my purchase solely on two things. First, the endorsement by Lisa Kleypas compelled me (I know, I know, I've been burned more times than not when buying books solely on the endorsement!). The second reason was the first few pages just grabbed me. I love historical romances; especially those that can make me both laugh and cry, so I thought I'd give a try. And I really enjoyed it! I will read this author again. Her writing is fresh and so clever. The passion felt so real, the characters were full of life, and the story never had a lull. I'd rate the love scenes and sensuality somewhere around medium warm. Not quite the hot and spicy romances that I prefer, but it was a very satisfying romance story.

This is a great Cinderella-ish type story, with a young, feisty heroine named April (the Dustbin Dutchess) and Riley, the rich, handsome and titled hero. They come from different worlds, but when they collide the sparks really fly. April begins as a kitchen maid at a whorehouse, but daydreams constantly of a better life. She is fascinated by the upper class and follows the gossip rags. She hates that her birth has forced her into servitude and gives her no other options. She is unusual for a servant girl as she is intelligent, morally good, and fairly well educated by her late father. Out of desperation to save her virtue, she plots to make a better life by pretending to be the daughter of a famous courtesan. This sums up chapter 1, and I will stop there.

I would recommend that you read this book before reading too many reviews, as you really don't want the story spoiled for you. This book has several "I didn't see that coming!" moments, which may be revealed in some reviews.

Daneesha says

this was a good book. i didn't like that the hero was so forgiving! ugh! the chick had blackmailed other people for money...because she was tired of her life as a scullery maid. anyway, she tried to blackmail his family. he thought she was a liar from the beginning and hated what she did and yet, he still fell in love with her. he even went to prison for her and then defended her at her own trial. oh he was a peer of the realm and a circuit court judge. but overall, it was a funny and engaging story. i would read another book by this

author.

Amy says

April Jardine is a scullery maid in a "house of ill repute". She steals Madame's diary and decides to blackmail lords of the ton who have been identified in Madame's diary. She meets her match in Riley Hawthorne, Lord Blackheath -- a circuit court judge. Will he discover her crime? And, what will he do if he finds out? Will he have her arrested and thrown in Newgate Prison or does he have some other punishment in mind?

Maricar says

Michelle Marcos is definitely a brilliant author. I find the whole story very engaging and it has depth. I had a big LOL in the scene where the heroine argued his father-in-law in chapter 17, really unexpected, but hilarious. This will be not my last with this author but only the beginning.

Nisha says

April is a commoner working as a maid at the verge of becoming a prostitute. Riley is Marquess who happens to be a barrister. Now how do they meet?

Well, add a diary, some fraud, a bit of mistaken identity, and a crazy bitch who wants to marry Riley. Anyway, this has proved to be quite a story. Its actually really entertaining, with the witty dialogue and some intrigue. It doesn't really follow the general patterns of a regency romance.

Therefore, I absolutely loved it. Now, there was a drawback. While the writing was superb and the characters were quite likable, there was the missing factor of sex. I know, I feel slightly uncultured for this, but considering the entire premise and the Heroine's background, I was expecting something more... titillating. It was surprisingly tame, but an adventure to read.

Barb says

I didn't like April thru most of the book, but looking at her after Riley defended her in court made the story very likable.

I Craize Books says

One word: SIZZLING

Becky says

When a lady Misbehaves...I originally picked this book because of Lisa Kleypas' endorsement but it was not what I was expecting. I feel you either like it or not, but this book is confusing or maybe I just didn't get it. I did like the unique idea of the story line, but alot of the book really left me wanting something more. The idea of a common born lady striving for a better life, especially having the other option to sell her body, was a really good concept. I like a strong heroine that puts her future in her own hands no matter what it takes but the book fell short with many of the scenes being unrealistic. Here are some of the issues I had with this book:

First April was a liar, how Riley ever could see her inner qualities is beyond me, because throughout the book April was a mean, selfish, and amoral girl. The only insight was her admission of wanting to be included in the family but actions speak louder than words and most of her actions were not one of a nice person. Second, how did she become proficient in shooting archery after ONE short lesson? Or became a sufficient horsewoman after ONE gallop (bareback mind you) through the woods to be able go on a hunt? These types of scenes made the book unrealistic. April's behavior towards her best friend was awful. April's immaturity through most of the book was kind of embarrassing. Third, when did Riley decide he loved her. Here is where I felt the storyline was rushed, I didn't feel him fall in love with her. It was like he woke up one morning and he loved her. And what did she do to deserve that love because I didn't see anything

With that said there were some really good parts, the one that sticks out is when Riley confronts April and says he knows they are not related then kisses her and says that is how he knows. I also enjoyed Agatha, she made a great villain and her chemistry with Northam was perfect.

I did finish this book, but found myself skimming the pages. This is her debut and there is potential there, I just hope her next books (which I bought because of Lisa's endorsement) are better. If this book would have not been so unrealistic it would have been pretty good. But as is falls short.

Jasey says

I really enjoyed this book because it seemed to be really different than most romance. It read like I was watching a movie. Definitely want to read more by this author. April Jardine works as scullery maid at the emporium and dreams of a better life. She finds the madames diary of men she has had affairs with and leaves the emporium and blackmails them for money. She meets Lord Blackheath (the son of someone she wants to blackmail) and he is a powerful English judge. Good storyline. 5

Tabetha Waite says

I thought this book, by a debut author, was very intriguing and original! The story begins with our heroine taking a scandalous journal from her madame. While thinking to make a few, quick pounds from blackmailing the lofty lords in posing as their illegitimate daughter, she gets more than she bargains for when one of them actually believes her! However, his eldest son is not so convinced that she belongs in the family, so things begin to heat up. I was caught from the first chapter and would certainly recommend it!

Alisa Garate says

I get that the guys would fall for a "bad girl" but with his job, I REALLY can't see him trusting her ever so it seemed a little far-fatched...even for a romance!

Sylvia Gonzalez-Cooper says

A maid from Pleasure Emporium steal the Madams diary and pretends to be the illigitamate daughter of several rich noblemen, but falls in love with a supposed half-brother. Unpredicable and well-written.

Maureen Feeney says

I bought this because it had a Lisa Kleypas recommendation on it, but I was sorry I did so. The plot is original as in a scullery maid that works in a brothel and a Duke falling in love with her and I was so looking forward to reading it, but the characters fall flat.

The Hero is Lord Riley Blackheath and then we have April who lies her way into the dukes house pretending to be a long lost daughter from a liason he had with a prostitute. I love it when the poor misfortunate Heroine strives against the odds and makes her future better. But it doesn't work here. It has too many mistakes and though I love fantasy in my books it was all too far fetched for me.

This is where my problems lie, she is accepted immediately and then we are supposed to believe this scullery maid walks, dances and talks like lady, that nobody notices? She cannot ride a horse and after the Hero Riley trots her around on a horse once, she rides side saddle in a hunt? She has never held a bow, yet she wins an archery bet and even fires an arrow through the legs of her rival pinning her dress to the ground? It is winter yet they are spending hours in a cave with no mention of the cold?

There is no chemistry between the H/H and April was not likeable at all. The poor Heroine falling for a titled gent has been done much better and more believable by other authors. On the upside there are a couple of small twists in the story and one or two nice moments with Riley.

Lisa says

I love this series and the whole idea for the plot is ingenious.
