



A Gentleman of Substance

Deborah Hale

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A secret child -- A secret love... When Lucy Rushton's lover was killed in battle, she wed his brother, the formidable viscount Drake Strickland, to protect her unborn child. The marriage tore her heart, yet after their vows were sealed, Lucy saw another side of her stern husband -- a compassionate gentleman of substance who lured her in ways Jeremy never had!

Duty-bound to care for lovely Lucy, Drake never expected sharing his home would warm his cold, bare life. And when her eyes flashed with provocative beauty, sending an irresistible invitation, he longed to believe his wife's heart was wholly his.

A Gentleman of Substance Details

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From Reader Review A Gentleman of Substance for online ebook

Patricia Burroughs says

Feb 26, 2015

I just reread this book three years later. I didn't remember reading it the first time, not a single place, not a single word. I never had that vague, this is familiar moment. Weird.

And this time I'm giving it four stars instead of the three I gave it last time.

~~~~~

Dec 28, 2011

This ebook was riddled with glitches that Harlequin should have caught. Fortunately, nothing that was absolutely confusing or pulled me totally out of the story, but still, more errors than I could begin to point out.

That's not why I gave it three stars. The three stars are for the good story and characters. Not great, but very interesting and sometimes moving.

~~~~~

Ana Breen says

Una historia que engancha y con personajes muy tiernos ?

Brenda says

Ahhhhh 4 estrellas por sorprenderme :)

Debo decir que no daba 2 centavos; me dio curiosidad porque la tapa me hacia acordar a Darcy.

Me sorprendieron los giros que tuvo la historia, no siguieron las típicas conductas.

Me gustó mucho ♥

Mariana says

Nunca había leído algo de esta autora, y realmente tengo que admitir que este libro pudo engancharme desde la primera página. Me encantó el personaje de Drake, siempre fuerte, siempre manteniendo firme el honor, aunque no haya sido interpretado de esa forma por Lucy, nuestra protagonista femenina. Lucy aborrece a Drake por creerlo el instigador del asesinato del hombre que ama, el hermano de Drake, muerto en un campo

de batalla.

De repente, Lucy se encuentra sola, a la espera de un hijo y devastada por la muerte de la persona que ama. Ahí aparecerá entonces, dejando una huella imborrable el amor verdadero de la mano de Drake Strickland.

Lourdes says

OMG!! I really fell in love with Drake and his story. As soon as I came across it and read the synopsis of the book, knew it was a "must read" for me and I am not at all disappointed. I think it was a beautifully written story. One of a broken man who happens to find love with the most unexpected woman, in the most unexpected of places and just by fulfilling another one of his gentlemanly duties. When the cousin refers in the story to him being "A Gentleman of Substance" she might refer to his money and position, but he is so much more than that. In one word: lovely.

Victoria Delcourt says

It is a good book, even if I am not a fan of "misunderstanding" stories. I prefer characters who are able to speak with each other and grow accustomed with their new situation in life wisely. All that drama could have been speared with one single, honest conversation. However, it is a 4 star book. The story is well written, with rich historical background. I recommend it to regency novels lovers, but if you are looking for funny, romantic ballroom romance with dashing, charming rogue hero don't choose this one.

Drucilla says

[I'm not sure how I feel about the revelation that Jeremy fathered more than one child. The story could have worked without it. (hide spoiler)]

Karla says

I hadn't read a romance in awhile, and rarely a Harlequin, so this was more of a curiosity piece for me when I picked it up. I enjoyed it immensely - the story was sweet, the characters a bit simplistic in parts (especially Lucy's "I'm so unworthy" attitude towards the end), but affecting nonetheless. Recommended for a fast, pleasantly formulaic read.

HÜLYA says

Yeni bir Harlequin Historical yazar? ilk defa kitab?n? okudum..Yazar? kalemini be?endim çok ak?c? yaz?yor..Çeviride ba?ar?l? idi..The Goodreads'de puan? 5/3,60 yani kitap be?enilmi?..Bende be?enerek okudum..Ama benim de?er yarg?lar?ma ters dü?tü..Ba?ka bir erke?in çocu?una hamile olan bir genç kad?n bebe?inin karde?ide olsa onun ile evlenmesi biraz ters geldi bana..Yine de kitab? keyifle okudum..

Nenya says

[she's too harsh with Drake, specially as he is doing her a huge favor by *saving* her! (hide spoiler)]

Susan says

Very good Regency period story. I really like the way the two characters - Lucy and Drake - overcame their hurdles in order to see each other as they really were, not who they thought they were.

Spoilers:

Lucy's slow realization that the ghost she put on the pedestal was in fact not so worthy was well done and not rushed. Over and over Drake proved to her that their marriage of convenience was anything but. I really liked the situations each faced in proving that towards each other.

There were a few lame things in the story - at the end Lucy readily agrees to have a child with Drake after going through a grueling labor with her first child. I know of NO woman who immediately thought what a great idea to have more children after this ordeal but perhaps her brain was addled from exhaustion ;). Another instance was Lucy climbing down from a second story window via tied together sheets, while being close to her due date. No way, no how.

Overall though, it was a fine read and one I would recommend.

Carol Storm says

Few romance writers possess the scope and versatility of Deborah Hale. *A GENTLEMAN OF SUBSTANCE* is a perfect combination of two very different types of love story. On the one hand, the social world of the hero, Drake Strickland, is something out of a Jane Austen novel or a Noel Coward play. Drake's relations are all brittle, bitter, decadent, but incredibly skilled in verbal combat. The wit and humor of the early scenes of Drake's family sets the reader up for a satire with barbed elegance.

But the heroine of this novel, Lucy Rushton, is from an entirely different world. In the early scenes, she is at the opposite extreme from Drake and his family -- Lucy is pure emotion, pure feeling, and her tragic story grips the reader emotionally rather than intellectually.

There's something terribly urgent and dramatic about this story. Lucy Rushton is a girl in trouble who needs a husband. Drake Strickland is a man of honor who is determined to make up for his dead younger brother's selfish mistake. But what makes this story so moving and believable is how things aren't perfect between them at first. It takes time for things to heat up between them, but the wait is definitely worth it!

Lucy may be poor and hurt and vulnerable, but she has enormous understanding of people and she's totally in touch with her emotions. Drake may be rich and powerful, but he's lonely and doesn't know how to show his feelings. This is the basic problem in all great romance novels, but few authors combine gradual

understanding with growing sexual tension in the subtle, suggestive way that Deborah Hale achieves in this novel. There are so many interesting background issues too -- Drake's no-good relatives are both colorful and obnoxious. They hate the fact that he's found a wife who might truly love him and might provide him with an heir! Lucy wants to help her husband deal with them, but also with his workers and his mining ventures.

Lucy is such a wonderful heroine. The more you get to know her the more you see she's so much more than just a foolish girl who gave up her virginity impulsively to the wrong man at the wrong time. She deserves a second chance, and by the time the book is over you really see that Drake needed saving as well. Lucy goes from being cast off and unwanted, weeping and helpless, to being the cherished and adored lady of the manor, someone who is at the very center of her husband's life.

Sigh!

?Elizabeth says

Una historia entretenida, de rápida lectura.

Ti says

A wee bit melodramatic, but a good solid read.

Kat says

3.5 stars

An enjoyable melodrama filled with honor and secrets, but not far-fetched in the manner of some romance novels. This had a rather gothic bent, which I like, and the main characters of Lucy and Drake were delightful to watch and they slowly overcome the miscommunications and hidden passions inherent in such stories. The plot between Drake's relatives to break apart the couple and thus have access to Drake's fortune is a little dubious, but thankfully both Drake and Lucy exhibit the wit to see through and overcome those obstacles before they became too outlandish. The physicality of the romance is relatively restrained with only one sex scene depicted so for those of you who enjoy a romance but would rather not dwell on graphic description, you may find this enjoyable.
