



Knight's Possession

Carole Mortimer

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Knight's Possession Details

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From Reader Review Knight's Possession for online ebook

StMargarets says

Bookshop owner heroine is jilted at her engagement party and her stepbrother hero, who has been smitten since they first met, leaps to the rescue with an engagement of convenience. Turns out the heroine's ex also defrauded her of money and is already married. Heroine is too ashamed to tell the hero this when he doesn't understand why she won't give the engagement ring back. (He's given her a shiny diamond)

Heroine also doesn't tell him that she suspects her ex ransacked her apartment and that he threatened her on another occasion.

So heroine is a bit of an idiot - we're used to those kinds of heroines.

But this heroine can't love anyone because she was so damaged in childhood. (And I believe her - her mother divorced her father when she was young and then she had a series of uncles and a stepfather who tried to molest her. The hero's father is her mother's third husband and is a nice guy.)

I still don't think the heroine is feeling much love by the end of the story. Her reconciliation with her mother, after all the bitterness and hatred didn't ring true to me. Same with her feelings about the hero. Oh, I think he genuinely loved her - but I think she was just tired of fighting the world on her own. She had more affectionate thoughts about the teddy bear than she did the hero.

So I felt sorry for the hero in this one - and the heroine for that matter. She was one messed up lady. Oh, as for justice, the police are now on the ex's case and hopefully he'll end up in jail - but CM doesn't tie off that thread.

There is plenty of drama in this one - but lots of negative emotion - hence two stars from me.

Chitra *CJ* says

“Knight’s Possession” is the story of Laurel and Reece.

A stepbrother romance between a devoted hero, a dumb heroine and an evil OM- with loads of paternal drama!

When Laurel’s dbag of a fiancé skips his engagement, her brother comes to the rescue and announces she has chosen him and broken the engagement. However, much to her chagrin she realizes that he wants to make it real!

The heroine is heavily affected by her past with her mother and obstinate. She fought everything the hero did (sans hanky panky), did not tell about the blackmail to him and kept engaging to the shitty Giles in talks in order to thwart him- but instead always getting into trouble.

I really enjoyed the OTT devoted and caring hero and did not enjoy the way the heroine made him beg for the smallest of affections. Everything is resolved in the end(suddenly).

SWE

2/5

Dianna says

Lauren has a bookshop, and is therefore the most awesome person in the world. If she wants to make it a little difficult for hands down, one of the nicest heroes EVER, then I can't fault her for it.

Yay for her that she gets the nicest hero in the world EVER in the end. Reece is a 200 pound peach who one time makes a joke and asks Lauren if she's calling him fat. I loved Reece to death.

The only problem I really had with this book, after I decided that I was not even going to defend my deeply uncritical and biased admiration of Lauren, was Mortimer's prose style. She drove me crazy. She seems to have this rule that if there's dialogue it must be tagged. This is the bit of dialogue from Reece that broke me:

'In that case I'll go home and change, come back and take you back to your flat and then we can be off,' he organised.

Dear Glob, Mortimer, I can TELL what he's doing!! He's just made a sequentially organised LIST of actions!!!

It hurt, but I got over it. Love Reece! Forgive Lauren her prickliness, she sells books!

Lu Bielefeld *read.laugh.love* says

ok

Leona says

Wow. I truly enjoyed this book..when CM gets it right, she really gets it right. This is a story about love, trust and family. It has a unique twist in that it is the heroine who delivers the asshat moments since she wants to remain emotionally detached from everyone and everything.

This book has a wonderful hero, a great story line and two people that respect each other and act rationally throughout the story.

Jacqueline says

I finished this but I really didn't like the heroine. She was just too bitchy and fought the hero too hard for basically no reason.

Corandra says

"Amor sin compromiso"

RebeccaL says

I really enjoyed the book. The characters do act like adults. I read too many HP books where the hero is harsh and sometimes even very rude towards the heroine when he declared at the end that he is actually in love with the heroine from the start. And there are too many HP's heroine that are too unwilling to stand up for themselves and told the hero what they want. This book I can clearly see the hero loves the heroine very much. He never backs out from showing his love no matter how the heroine tried to push him away. I also like the fact that even the heroine enjoyed their physical relationship, she did not become irrational when she contemplated what she is after in her life or thinking logically if being with the hero is truly what she wanted. Regardless she was not aware she was in love and her logic sometimes seemed flawed, I like the fact that she really tried to think things through.

Chantal ♥? says

What a great find! Loved it. They had a lot of emotions running here. Just wished we would have found out about the psycho ex-fiance. So glad she never slept with that Bastard. Hero was awesome. One of the best.

boogenhagen says

Re Knight's Possession - CM brings us an h who can't love due to seeing her mother pretty much wreck her life with inappropriate relationships and chasing after the wrong man and an H who is sooo in love with the h, he will do anything to bully her into a relationship.

This one gets a lot of good reviews and those who don't like the story usually blame the very emotionally cold h for not liking it. I am not a big fan of this very emo dramatic book, but my take is a bit different.

The story starts with the h setting up a display during the Christmas rush of her busy bookshop. The H shows up to take her to task for having an engagement party and only inviting her mother and his father (the h's mum's husband, making the H her stepbrother,) four days earlier when the party had been planned for weeks.

The H is very angry that the h isn't the warm, wonderful, family orientated person that the h's mum is. The h rebuffs the H pretty strongly and he retaliates with a punishing kiss. Then he asks the h how she can marry another man when she reacts to his kisses. The H leaves and the h reflects that she is marrying cause she isn't in love with her fiance. They get along comfortably and he doesn't want kids, which is a big deal for her.

We also learn that the H and h met when she wrecked into his car. The h was in hospital and the H invited his dad to visit - where he met the h's mum and they were married within the month. The h, thinking this is another man her mum is using, treats the H and his father and her mum very distantly and it comes out that the h's mum divorced her dad and her beloved brother went with the dad, thus isolating the h with her mum, who made the h feel rejected.

Then the mum began her man hunt and the h was subjected to a number of strange men in her life for a number of years. In between relationships, the mum kept changing residences with the h's possessions getting smaller and smaller every time. The mum would tell her the h's things got lost and the h resents that enormously.

The mum married for a second time and the husband was a pedophile, he made suggestive comments to the h and tried to corner her into bad situations. The mum eventually divorced the man, but the damage had been done. Now the H wants the h to reconcile with her mum and her half brother, but the h sees their abandonment as a betrayal and doesn't really want anything to do with them.

The engagement party goes on and the fiancé sends a note dumping the h, the H jumps in as the h's new fiancé and the h is too shaken up to protest. We then find out that the fiancé is a con artist and stole £10000 of her money, which was meant to renew the lease on her shop. The h had given the fiancé permission to write checks on her account and he stole it all to support his wife and son.

The fiancé also wants the h to return the engagement ring, but the h tells him he won't get it back until her money is repaid. The h threatens the police, but doesn't follow through. The H then shows up and the h doesn't tell him what's going on. The H and h are then spending a lot of time with the mum and dad and the truth about the mother's second husband comes to the H's attention. The H sets out to seduce the h and they fall into bed.

Then the h finds her flat ransacked. The ex fiancé was trying to find the ring, as it is his wife's favorite and the h can't stay in her flat anymore so she moves in with the H. They keep sleeping together but the h is pretty clear about it being sex only and the H is very angry cause he holds her to be responsible for his being in love with her.

The h has had enough by this point, especially when her mum is expecting to be fully involved in wedding plans and the mum wants the half brother to participate too, as she has been in contact with him all these years but the brother never wrote to the h and she feels it is yet another betrayal. She decides to move into a hotel, the H wants her to stay for Christmas but he also found out about the stolen money when he gives the ring back to the ex fiancé.

Things come to a conclusion when the mum and h discuss the past and it turns out the mum was short of money cause the father stopped sending support. The mum did not want to be married to man who cheated and was always restless. (I found this somewhat unusual for HPLandia where distant marriages go on for years, but it was an interesting change.)

The brother thought he owed his loyalty to his dad, so he went with him and never contacted the h again. The mum had to sell off the h's things to pay the rent and she married the pedophile to try and support the h. The mum went without food to buy the h's books and so the upshot is the h is guilted into forgiving her mum and being BFF's now.

The h and H reconcile with the h doing a 180 and being sorry for rejecting his love and now wants the H to

let her assistant run the bookshop, (he paid her lease for the next year,) and she will be his adoring slave and mother of his kids for a true HPLandia style HEA with all forgiven, the h bullied into being an abject doormat and one big happy family.

The story is well written and it is very emotionally dramatic, but I found the h being held responsible for the feelings of the H and the guilt heaped on her for not wanting to be around a very messed up mum to be a little too much. This is a purely philosophical difference in world views that make me dislike this one.

I just don't think people are responsible for "making someone be in love with them", the H is a bully and also in my book, there is NO reason to subject your kid to years of transient relationships. Call me a moralistic prude, but to see a parent run through one man after another and forcing the kid to call them all "Uncle" is not a parenting plus. The h had a right to her feelings.

What also bothered me was that CM makes the difficulty between the mum and the brother and the h, the h's fault - she was the youngest one there by a wide margin and I really do think children should not be held accountable for the bad decisions of other people when they get hurt and reject the person who hurt them. Again, the h had some valid damage done and reason to exclude these people from her life. I am not a big believer in rewriting the past and the whole mum/kid reunion smacked of it.

The mother may have been right to divorce the dad, I get divorce happens, but she gave up on the h and continued a very inappropriate lifestyle, (it is heavily inferred the mum traded financial support for payment in kind,) all the while telling the h that she had to find a "true love" and be a "good girl".

None of this is openly addressed in the book and the second husband is dismissed as the mum marrying him for a year but he was abusive and the mum left. (The mum says she did not know about the pedophilia, but my guess is she figured it out pretty quickly and debated for a while on whether to sacrifice the h or not. Eventually she did not, but I still think she had a heck of an internal struggle with it until the man became seriously abusive to her.)

Mostly though, I just don't like a book where the h gets blamed for everything. Even with rule #1 in HPLandia, there needs to be some moderation. I don't mind it when it is just the H, but the mum situation was really too much and not fully resolved in my book. The h was presented as an erring supplicant for most of the story and it just irks me that she has to be degenerated when I felt those around her were really more at fault and the h did not want to drink the rewrite history Kool-aid.

The big thing that appeals for most with this book is that there is no doubt the H is totally in love with the h and has been for a long time, I just wished that he reasons for loving her came about from more than she was very hot, he was very in lust and wanted her or at least were better explained. As it stands the story left me with the impression that his love was more lust and yearning, cause the way CM portrays the h is that there isn't much about her manner to love and I still don't think guilt bullying is a way to a believable HEA.

Danielle The Book Huntress (Back to the Books) says

Wow, this book had a sucker punch! Laurel seems so normal when it starts, but she's kind of an emotional mess. I can understand why, and it made me sad that she harbored so much hate in her heart for a person who had only wanted the best for her. And because of those deep wounds from childhood, she had closed her heart to love and caused herself to be manipulated by the man who she selected to marry just because she

didn't think her heart was at risk.

There were some fierce emotional parts in this book. I was so surprised at just how commitment-phobic Laurel was. And what really hit me was how Reece was so patient with her even though she threw his freely-given confession of love back in his face in a very hurtful way.

(Sound of record scratching loudly)

What? A Harlequin Presents hero freely admits love way before the heroine does? Yes. He does! It was refreshing. Even though I felt bad for Reece, I was glad that he persisted in his love for Laurel. She had felt unwanted and unnecessary, rejected for so many years. It was good to know she had someone in her corner.

I liked the fact that Reece lives up to the name of the book. He truly is a Knight. And he takes the chance to go after Laurel when the opportunity becomes available. Also, this pursuit is much like a game of chess. Calculated moves to capture the queen. I'm no chess expert, but at least I know that.

For a short book, there's a lot going on in this book. I liked the textures of it. Not only a good romance, but delving into complicated family relationships. A study in guilt, harbored anger, and the need to forgive and move on. Laurel is as much a victim as a perpetrator in the family drama, but I love that she does own up to her part in the rift with her mother, and realize that Reece is the man for her and she can't afford to let him go.

Good book! I'm happy to explore more of Carole Mortimer's backlist.

sbf20112011 says

This was very good. Not totally amazing in my opinion, but only because it wasn't as angsty as I usually like -- you kind of knew the whole time that the hero was in love with the heroine. He wasn't fighting his feelings or overcoming any other barriers -- all the issues came from the heroine's fear of being in love. I just don't like that angle as much. Still though, that only explains why I didn't absolutely love this one -- I still thought it was very satisfying and readable.

Ashima says

Loved it!!

Leigh says

[Her mother's second husband molested her. (hide spoiler)]

Charlie says

Awwwhhhhhh Reece is lovely - he can sweep me off my feet anytime I think I fell a bit in love with him myself!

Sure Lauren is a bit screwed up which makes her a bit of a biatch towards the H. Her storyline is slightly OTT but hey its a HP book so life is OTT right? What I want to know is what the hell kind of toys did Lauren own in the 80's that mum kept selling them off for £££? I mean come on its the 80's kids weren't exactly rolling in Xboxes and ipads and I can't really imagine a couple of dog eared my little pony's or a bedraggled cabbage patch kid doll was really raking in the spondoolies on the 2nd hand market!

The H did know what he was getting himself into because the h warned him from the start so he does lose a valuable top boyfriend point for blaming the h for making him fall in love with him but other than that he seems like a pretty decent bloke who didn't really have any assbat tendencies. He didn't even make her grovel at the end for breaking his heart! le sigh* I would have liked a cheeky epilogue with them rolling in kiddies and the ex getting his ass hauled off to jail
