



All I Want Is You

Elizabeth Anthony

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An innocent girl1920. Seventeen-year-old Sophie is a scullery maid at a large country house, Belfield Hall, but what she truly desires is to dance on stage in London.

Caught up in a dangerous gameGlamorous Lady Beatrice offers her assistance, though not without an ulterior motive. A new heir - the seductively handsome Lord Ashley - is about to arrive at the Hall: a man that Beatrice will do anything to ensnare...even if she has to exploit her young maid.

Of forbidden passionWhat she doesn't know is that Sophie has met Ash once before. And as Lady Beatrice's devious plan unravels, Sophie has two choices: refuse to be a mere plaything for the man she loves so desperately, or give in to the thrill of unimaginable sexual pleasure...

Set in a country house in the 1920s, this tale of forbidden love between a kitchen maid and her aristocratic master is perfect for fans of *Downton Abbey* and E.L. James' *Fifty Shades of Grey*.

All I Want Is You Details

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From Reader Review All I Want Is You for online ebook

Stacia (the 2010 club) says

Introducing the bastard child of Tipping the Velvet and Downton Abbey

This isn't necessarily a bad thing. I like TTV and DA. *All I Want is You* had a certain sort of appeal which kept me glued to the pages. I love stories where a young girl meets an older man and we have to wait years for the man to notice that she's finally grown up.

However, I don't think I have it in me to champion for another "author's got balls" moment twice in one week. My patience is wearing a little thin. I blame Allegiant.

The good news : This is the ending that I'd wished for The Luxe series to have.

The bad news : I got to erase the bad news for this step! (see edit below)

The good news : This was a sensual, captivating read.

The bad news : The characters carried out the back-and-forth indecision about three misunderstandings too long.

The good news : The writing was flawless.

The bad news : I was somewhat confused by the mash-up of literary fiction, historical romance, childlike innocence, and dark erotic themes. If I'd known going into the read that the story would have ups and downs similar to Tipping the Velvet, I might have enjoyed it in a more thorough manner, instead of trying to analyze the constant mood shifts.

Who would enjoy this book?

Fans of stories with scarred heroes who need a woman to break through their walls. The chemistry was gorgeous, and the prose was lush. I will say that the nod to a Downton Abbey setting was not so much the draw, since Sophie was all over the place throughout the story.

I liked that the hero had his alpha moments when it came to his sexual desires, but still had sort of the quiet and mysterious recluse thing going on. Ash was extremely protective and kind, then he'd break out with these "you're mine" moments which gave me the delicious type of chills. He was a great balance of honorable and devious.

The draw truly is in the sensuality and chemistry between Ash and Sophie.

My complaints are few, but they are not minor.

As mentioned earlier, I didn't know what I was getting into and something about the cohesiveness between style shifts didn't always work for me. While I have no issues reading f/f stories (and have enjoyed several in

the past, including the aforementioned TTV), the part of the story featuring the f/f interlude felt clunky and awkward. I would have preferred this part of the story to have been used as a vehicle to explore Sophie's sexuality, instead used as a strange way to show how Sophie was being used by the upper class. Actually, I probably would have preferred in this instance for the "outside" conflict between Ash and Sophie to have come from some other idea entirely. There was enough to draw from in the conflict department from Ash's past.

edit Complaint number 2 is no longer valid after finding out that there is a second book coming soon!

Final thoughts :

I think *All I Want is You* was worth the read, even if just for the sake of getting to watch Sophie write to Ash over the years and dream of a day when she would see him again. When we got to see these two together, it was very rewarding indeed.

This book provided from the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

***Angela* says**

I was really excited to read this book. Although I am not a huge historical fiction/romance fan, I am a huge fan of Downton Abbey and this book appeared to fit that bill. It started out just as I hoped: I was sucked into the story and the description of the characters and setting. It was dark and steamy, totally intriguing and original. It was headed for a 4+ rating!

And then I don't know what happened. The story takes a twist (a predictable twist) and suddenly Sophie has a completely different personality. By the end, I was forcing myself to finish reading. Sophie flip-flopped so many times I got whiplash and I really ended up not liking or caring about her at all. And the ending? Awful. Although it doesn't say it anywhere, I am guessing there is more to this story, but I don't really care to continue.

In conclusion, I have to give it 2 stars because the first half was really good, but I was so disappointed by the second half. I won't read any more if this is a series, but I won't rule this author out because the first half was near perfect.

ARC courtesy of Redhook Books, provided by Netgalley in exchange for an honest review. Thank you!

Tina says

4 Stars!

***Special thanks to the author for granting me access to the ARC via NetGalley**

A wonderful read! I have a few complaints about the story, but for the most part I thoroughly enjoyed it. The novel wasn't exactly what I expected (not in a bad way), but it did ring true to what was presented in the synopsis. For the most part, whatever you expect to come from a 1920s erotic romance, you'll most likely get

it. Now...let's get into character discussion, shall we?

Sophie Our leading lady is, for the most part, not a strong independent character. However, she isn't completely weak either. She's mostly kept to herself for her life so far since Will was her only friend growing up and Nell was the only worker at Belfield Hall who was more than happy to befriend her. Being the scullery maid that she is with not much social interaction, you pretty much have a quiet innocent girl who does what she's told. But, as I mentioned earlier, she isn't completely weak as she has proven to defend herself and strive to get what she wants (i.e. getting someone to help take her mom to the hospital, fighting back a worker coming on to her, and working to achieve her dream of becoming a dancer). While I liked her character for most of the novel, I was utterly frustrated with her as the end was approaching. (view spoiler) The actions/decisions she made approaching the end (view spoiler) were a bit impulsive not well thought out as to how it would affect others (specifically Ash).

Speaking of **Ash**, he was also a likable character. There wasn't really much that made me love him, but I found his feelings towards Sophie very endearing (even if they do seem a bit cold without knowing the backstory). He's one of those men who has a whole bunch of rumors that follow him and it's unclear what's true and what isn't (one of them being that he's a bad man), but underneath all those labels and stories is a man with heart. Like most leading male characters in romance novels, Ash has his own demons that he doesn't reveal until later in the book which makes him a character to be sympathized. His character, actions, and motives are constantly questioned throughout the book, but rest assured that his heart is in the right place.

As for the romance/erotica of this book, it was nice. The romance felt a tiny bit flat for me just because it seemed a bit rash in the beginning. I can understand Sophie obsessing over the guy in the beginning, but I can't see her loving him that fast. I don't doubt that she loves him (in fact, I accept it in the end), but I think her "I love you" was realized a bit too quickly. As for the sex scenes, they were certainly steamy and sexy. I was definitely surprised that there was f/f action since the synopsis didn't mention anything about it, but if you're open to all kinds of sex relationships, you certainly won't mind the f/f, m/f, and slight bondage action that goes on in the book. The book wasn't completely filled with sex, sex, sex, but I'd say it fills up maybe 30-35% of it while the rest is romance/drama.

The writing style was appropriate for the setting of the novel. It was eloquently written and made me feel like I was actually in that time era. I wasn't expecting for the synopsis to only cover roughly 34% of the novel. I'd say 33% is the beginning that explains/leads to her situation that is explained by the synopsis, the synopsis covers 34% is the resolution/other conflict that arises. Even though I usually hate it when a story doesn't start and end where the synopsis leads us to believe it will start and end, I still enjoyed reading this novel.

Overall, I really liked this book (hence the "I really liked it" rating). The ending was a bit predictable once the final conflict was revealed (view spoiler) which was a bit of a downfall for me, but I still liked it. If it weren't for the fact that there's going to be a sequel to this book, I probably would've rated this book a 3 for a cliché stand alone ending. Nonetheless, I would still recommend this book for those who enjoy erotic historical romance novels. It's well written, the sex scenes can get steamy, and the romance can be gushy and sweet.

That being said, I absolutely can't wait to see what's to come in book 2!

P.S. Can we please kill off Beatrice? If not, can we at least give her a bitch slap? I absolutely hate her (as I'm sure you're supposed to). Seriously, no one likes a chick who's bitter about not catching a duke.

Kara says

I'm really going to try to keep this brief, but we all know "brief" isn't really my thing so...

The first half of this book was pretty decent. It sets up a solid picture of being in the lower class in turn of the century England. The writing is pretty simplistic, but it fit the voice of the thirteen year old narrator.

After working at a Downton Abbey type mansion for a few years, Sophie is unwittingly pulled into sexual escapades with some of the staff. Sophie has a low profile in the house - except for her roommate, most of the other staff doesn't like her, so she keeps to herself. As such, she's much more sheltered than most. So when one of the other staff members comes on to her, she really doesn't know what to do or think.

Overall I thought this line of the story was well done. It was rather unexpected how it happened, and it wasn't clear what the motives of either of her partners were. I must say that I felt for someone as naive as Sophie, she didn't seem to be too shaken about unintentionally becoming sexually active. It was just kind of "gee that happened and I had no idea it was going to but even though it was weird I liked it alright, so I guess I'm having sex now." (view spoiler)

Then she beings an uncomfortably twisted relationship with one of the ladies of the house. It's clear Lady Beatrice is using her, but not to what end. As a reader, this was a really interesting plot line and I was excited to see where it was going.

Unfortunately where it was going was straight to 50 Shades of Grey.

When Ash first shows up, even though I could see the turn, I was still intrigued. Earlier that day I'd been talking about the wondrous magic that is Henry Cavill; once they said his eyes were the bluest she'd ever seen or whatever, I'd already cast Henry, so I was willing to put up with a lot.

I mean for the love of everything good and holy in this world:

This face can save just about anything:

Seriously. I can't even think right now. Jesus. What was I talking about?....

Oh right, this book.

[Sidebar - while I'm grateful he did not ruin his career by starring in 50 Shades of Grey, I would totally have fucking seen that movie. As many times as the theater would let me in before I was banned. But that's neither here nor there]

So despite me reading a sex book starring him:

I still came to loathe this book. Do you know how hard you have to work to make me hate the idea of sex with that man?

In the first chapter he appears in, Ash is more than an asshole, more than a douchebag. He's an aggressively dislikeable character. I haven't hated a character this fiercely in a long time. Perhaps since the aforementioned Christian. Or Abby, who we all know needed a sorority girl style junk punch IMO. But even those two, while they irritated me, I didn't viscerally hate them in the way I hated Ash. In his first few scenes, he manages to reduce Sophie to little more than an expendable piece of ass, then demands her continued presence under the "what better things do you have to do" line of reasoning. Their initial sex scene almost made me cry - and not in a good way. Because at this point I still felt for Sophie as a character, and I could only imagine being treated that way by someone you've idolized for so long.

Which is fine as a plot line, were I not to be sold, a la Christian Grey, on how terribly romantic this all is. And that gets me to a larger point beyond the scope of this book. Christian, Travis and all the other heros of similar type books that I can't bring myself to read, are the type of self important assholes who walk around treating women - and people in general - as nothing more than means to their personal ends. And then somewhere a long the line some broad - who can't fucking tie her own shoes without needing a man to rescue her from The Big Bad Shoelaces that are out to destroy her - looks at him twice and he becomes a decent human being. Yet, rather than fall on his knees and thank the heavens from being saved from a life whole of almost incurable assholism, he uses her like he uses all the other people in his life. Except he says (and that's all he does his talk, because his actions paint a different picture) he cares about her and is amazed by her and all that shit, so it's okay.

Quite simply, Ash uses sex as a weapon. You know what, plenty of people do. I've met at least one such fucker myself. Again, it's not the characterization that pisses me off, but the romanticization. I just don't fucking get it. Sex with the person you love is not supposed to leave you weeping on the floor or, in this case, giving up your hopes and dreams. Maybe I'm a prude, but emotional abuse just isn't a turn on for me. Even if it were by someone that looks like this:

He basically tells Sophie "I want you, you're just a servant so I should be able to have you, and no we're not going to have anything approaching a relationship because I'm me and you're you, so deal with it." Swoon - amirite? GTFOH

And what follows is a Best of 50 Shades of Grey tour. He won't let her touch him during sex because he's damaged or some shit, so he blindfolds her and ties her hands every time they have sex. At one point Sophie wonders if he's going to bring out handcuffs and whips - and I must point out that for a girl as sheltered as Sophie, and considering the time and place - I can't see why she would even know about something like that, but whatever. He spansks her. I shit you not at one point he says "You are mine. Mine!" He of course saves her in a dark alley from being attacked, only to half-rape her his damn self seconds later. His chauffeur also serves as his security guard, whom he dispatches to ~~stalk~~ keep an eye out on Sophie. I really felt like I had already read this book.

And Sophie, while merely sheltered and not stupid like Ana, was so whiny I almost started to reconsider turning down my hatred of Ash. She plays the "I'm no good for you" card even after Ash starts to come around and is willing to consider some sort of live-in-sex arrangement with her. Now, I was willing to give Sophie a pass. She's sixteen for one, and time periods be damned hormones are hormones and I don't believe 16-year-olds a century ago were any less irrational and impulsive than they are now. Plus her reasoning, if melodramatic, was actually understandable. But they went through the same fucking conversation over and

over again. I think they broke up at least four times. It got redundant, and felt like drama for the sake of drama. After a while I couldn't figure out which I hated more - seeing Ash get to use her at his disposal, or the incessant breaking up and running away that Sophie pulled time after time. Honestly, I only kept reading because I read a review and wanted to see what happened in the end.

There's also a lot of other shit that happens, but it's so disjointed and haphazard it's really not worth getting into. Drug dealers and unwanted pregnancies and pimps and marriage schemes and I just cannot even...

My advice - read the first half of the book. It's entertaining. After that - here's what you need to know. They have a lot of sex. And he's damaged. But he loves her "the way that he can" or some shit (I'll rage about that in the next review like this that I have to write. This one is already far too long). And they breakup. But they can't stay away from each other because their connection is just that strong. Don't ask me to explain it. I just read it. First half - three stars. Second half - half a star.

I received a free copy of this book from NetGalley in exchange for my honest, unbiased review.

Mia Asher says

GAHHHHH!!!!!!!!!!!! Downton Abbey meets Fifty??!?! Mind you, I haven't read Fifty but the blurb screams MIAAAAAAAAAA!!!!

Tati Saetre says

Recensione completa QUI

Vorrei non essere critica, e se è per questo nemmeno cattiva. Di solito non lo sono mai, quando leggo. Certo, ci sono libri che non mi appassionano e che non mi piacciono, ma arrivo sempre alla fine, anche se la narrazione è pessima e i personaggi non hanno né arte né parte.

Questo è stato il primo libro letto dopo la maturità, e fatemelo dire senza troppi giri di parole: Elizabeth Anthony non ci ha capito un cazzo.

Mi sono arrabbiata come una iena, leggendolo. La trama non era così promettente, ma ho voluto dargli una speranza: quanti libri sembrano brutti, e poi si rivelano fantastici?

Credevo fosse così anche per Tu sei mia, ma mi sbagliavo di grosso.

Ci troviamo nel 1920, vicino a Londra. Mi piacciono da morire i libri storici, meglio ancora se romanzati. La protagonista è Sophie, e infatti parte tutto proprio da lei: conosciamo bene o male i suoi genitori, sua madre che lavora a Belfied Hall come domestica, che poi si rivela essere l'amante del Conte. Sophie è solo una ragazzina, eppure suo padre decide di partire per la guerra, e non tornare mai più. Mentre sua madre si ammala di nonsocosa, viene licenziata, ed un giorno vomitando e tossendo sangue decide di portare la sua bambina tredicenne a fare shopping. Sì, avete capito proprio bene, shopping.

Si recano ad Oxford, e fra una spruzzata di sangue qui, un vestito comprato di là, sua madre cade riversa a terra. Sophie chiede aiuto, ma nessuno si avvicina, finché non ferma un uomo. Un ragazzo mai visto e conosciuto prima, dovrebbe soltanto aiutarti, no? Nel giro di tre righe questo sconosciuto si occupa della madre di Sophie, pagandole anche il funerale. Dopo, spedisce con non so quali credenziali la piccola a lavorare a Belfied Hall come sguattera, e le dice di scrivergli. Sempre. Sophie per tre anni scrive a questo

uomo mai visto e conosciuto, che sinceramente non le ha nemmeno mai dato un indirizzo. Ma lasciamo stare.

Insomma, Sophie lavora per anni a Belfied Hall. Intanto vede il Conte morire durante la guerra, il suo successore di soli dieci morire avvelenato, e così via. A Belfield Hall arriva la vedova del Conte, che in quattro e quattr'otto organizza dei rapporti lesbo con la sedicenne Sophie. Non parliamo di violenza, tranquilli. Lei è più che consenziente.

La nostra protagonista è in preda agli ormoni, crede quasi di amare Lady Beatrice, finché non le rivela le serve soltanto per uno scopo: cederla al nuovo conto di Belfied Hall come regalo ed amante, così che lui in preda al piacere decida di sposare Lady Beatrice.

E indovinate chi è questo fantomatico nuovo Conte? Quel poveretto di Mr. Maldon, l'uomo che aveva aiutato Sophie anni prima e che si rivela essere in realtà il Duca Ashley, cioè successore ed erede di Belfield Hall.

Lui non è per niente d'accordo con Lady Beatrice, ma Sophie con estrema facilità gli concede la sua innocenza, per poi scappare a Londra.

Passa qualche anno, lei diventa ballerina e il Duca la segue. La vede per caso in una compagnia di ballo, la attacca ad un muro per fare voi immaginate cosa, e poi la lascia lì dicendole che è una puttana. Tutto regolare, direi.

Sophie torna da lui in preda alle lacrime a alla sua migliore amica che nel 1920 si fa di cocaina come se non ci fosse un domani, chiedendogli pietà. Lui la prende sotto la sua protezione, la coccola, fanno sesso sfrenato e... Mi sono rifiutata di continuare a leggere. Arrivata all'87% di lettura, mi sono proprio rifiutata, sennò spaccavo il Kindle contro il muro. La cosa che mi rode di più, è che ci ho speso soldi. Quella che invece mi fa incazzare, è che ci sono così tante autrici talmente brave che restano nei loro angoletti bui per i NO delle case editrici, mentre i libri di Elizabeth Anthony vengono pubblicati come se non ci fosse un domani.

Non ho letto altre opinioni su questo libro, e nemmeno lo farò: mi vergogno anche a dargli una stellina.

Ma ripeto: sono ancora talmente incazzata che dovevo condividere questo mio pensiero con voi.

Pam Victorio says

I'll start with the good. The history is amazing. It did feel quite a bit like Downton Abbey in a way most books that compare themselves to Downton fail. I felt Sophie is very comparable to Daisy or Ivy and I could make comparisons to other staff as well.

The rest of the book kind of fell apart for me. The sex in the beginning was lesbian but not in a loving way. One woman was using poor Sophie to entrap a man so she needed to keep her a virgin while she taught her the art of the sexytimes. Then there was the real love interest. A man with a dark past (oooh) and he kept her hands tied and blindfolded her for the act. She loved him dearly but hated that bit.

The rest is going to be spoilery.

Of course she cures Ash of his need to blindfold and handcuff her. Of course he only uses BDSM because he was sexually assaulted over and over again as a way of gaining information by a German female officer in the war. Of course she loves him dearly but she is lowborn so she leaves him (repeatedly) (and by repeatedly I mean over, and over, and over). The climax and conclusion of the book was worst than the awkward sex in the book. I've never thrown a book at a wall until today. This book was the one that broke me.

Oh and the author used the word moist (MOIST! CRINGE!) to describe our dear innocent annoying MC's vagina twice.

Marta Fernández says

No tenía grandes expectativas en esta novela porque antes de empezar a leerla, curioseé por Goodreads y tenía puntuaciones bastante bajas, pensé que se me iba a hacer cuesta arriba, aunque para mi sorpresa me enganchó desde la primera página.

La autora tiene un estilo muy fluido, sin grandes descripciones y con frases cortas, sí que contextualiza más o menos bien la época aunque eché en falta más referencias a la misma. Digamos que los años veinte no son muy usuales en la romántica, y bueno en tema político y económico le podía haber dado más consistencia y riqueza a la historia, aunque reitero que sí hace unas referencias básicas, en tema de ejército y se ve bien cómo funcionan las unidades domésticas.

La novela empieza con una Sophie muy inocente, perdida y asustada, acaba de quedar sola y un hombre la ayuda consiguiéndole un trabajo y dándole un hombro donde apoyarse, durante muchos meses se dedica a escribir cartas a ese muchacho que la guió en su peor época. Nunca pensó que lo iba a volver a ver.

Durante su estancia como sirvienta conoce a una mujer de la alta clase que la introduce en un mundo lleno de placer y oscuros deseos, le propone un plan un tanto turbio, amenazándola y chantajeándola para ello. La pobre Sophie se mete en la boca del lobo.

El heredero, futuro duque, queda prendado de la inocente y dulce Sophie, no duda en proponerle ser su amante a pesar de que esa relación puede afectarles a ambos.

Ash es un protagonista taciturno, misterioso y atormentado por demonios del pasado, no sabe cómo reaccionar al contacto, al cariño y afecto de Sophie. Y tampoco entiende los celos que le embargan cada vez que un hombre se acerca a ella.

Sophie tiene las cosas muy claras, tanto sus sentimientos como el futuro que quiere. Se buscará su vida como bailarina e intentará comprender a Ash, tomará decisiones duras para ambos, pero creo que ella es la que lleva las riendas de la relación y la más fuerte de ambos. Me ha encantado como protagonista.

Novela romántica histórica con tintes eróticos, en un período de la historia muy poco explotado en este género, así que tiene un punto de originalidad, y le doy otro tanto por el fuerte carácter de la protagonista, difícil de encontrar en la novela erótica y más costoso en una histórica. He disfrutado mucho leyéndola.

Muy buena.

Sophie Gonzales says

This review was originally posted on my blog, and I read the edition published by Hodder & Stoughton in the UK.

I'm a massive fan of Downton Abbey, and of course I loved Fifty Shades of Grey, so I have to admit that I was pretty intrigued when All I Want is You popped through my letterbox. But, then again, I was also weary – historical romance novels which tend to take 'modern liberties' have a track record of getting on my nerves (see my review of Julia Quinn's The Duke and I). How would I end up feeling about this one?

Well, All I Want is You starts like a normal historical novel. In the beginning, Sophie describes her life as a young girl and the lead-up to becoming a maid at a big house. It seems to show more of an accurate portrayal of a servant's life than even Downton Abbey (it's fair to say that the staff at Downton are perhaps a little too spoilt to be believed!). However, these accuracies fade as soon as the expected sexual side of the plot begins to develop.

At first, I found it really hard to accept that all these people could be that forward and blasé about sexuality. Surely they would have been a little more careful about discussing sex in those days, and would have chosen their partners with greater care? This certainly wasn't so in Sophie's version of 1920s England.

And that's the point. All I Want is You isn't supposed to be an accurate historical representation of love, sex and hierarchies in the 1920s – it's supposed to be enjoyed for what it is, and that is a powerful story of forbidden romance. So when I finally managed to wrap my brain around this realisation, I really started to enjoy the novel.

In the end, I managed to finish All I Want is You in about three days, all because I could barely put it down! I became addicted to Sophie and Lord Ashley's love story, and I couldn't wait to find out how they would resolve the many complications getting in the way of their relationship. One of these complications is the seductive and relentless Lady Beatrice, who will do anything to exploit those who get in the way of her plans.

There are plenty of sex scenes in the book and they can be quite graphic, though they are tastefully written. But, be warned, many are not for the squeamish!

In summary, All I Want is You is a wonderful, addictive tale of romance in an alternative 1920s England. If you enjoy an intense love story and don't mind some modern touches blended within a historical period, I'd highly recommend it. My only complaint now is having to wait for book two to find out what happens next!

TFitz says

I learned about this book via an ad on Goodreads that was promoting it as a combination of Downton Abbey and FSOG. I'm a bigger fan of the former than the latter, and the sample chapter was well-written enough to capture my interest (despite being written in first person POV, of which I am not a fan). I had a gift certificate to purchase, otherwise I would not have bought it. 8.89 for an ebook, especially by a relatively unknown author, is way too much. After reading this book, I wouldn't pay more than 2.99 for it.

The book starts off well. You get a good sense of time and place, a young girl (Sophie) in pre-World War I England, forced by circumstances to work as a scullery maid at a Duke's estate. A handsome stranger helps her get the job. He asks her to write to him. The reader knows before Sophie does that they will meet again. The exchange of letters is sweet, the tension builds towards their meeting again when she is a few years older. But then the story takes a path I wasn't expecting, and enters into territories that I, frankly, am just not

interested in reading about. And after the h and H do meet again, everything just fizzles from that point. It's almost as if the first and second half of the book were written by two different people. The ending was very disappointing. I was left thinking, "I just spent three hours reading this for THAT?" It isn't clear if this is the first in a series, or a stand-alone. Doesn't matter. I just didn't feel a strong enough connection with either the h or the H to want to read anything more about them in the future.

I won't reveal any spoilers, but I DO feel that the blurb should have come with the following warning: This book contains f/f sex and non-consensual sex (a woman forced to have sexual relations in public with several men). Also, if you're a FSOG fan, you will be extremely disappointed. This isn't a BDSM book (not that FSOG was a genuine BDSM book either), and you won't find spanking, handcuffs, floggers or canes here. Just a few scenes where the h is tied to the bed and blindfolded.

Thank me for saving you a few dollars. If you're still interested in reading this, wait until the price gets below 3.00. Unlikely it will ever be offered for free. The publisher has to pay for all that expensive (false) advertising somehow!

Killian says

Within a few pages of beginning *All I Want Is You*, I knew this one wasn't going to be my cup of tea. The writing style is not one I enjoy reading. Full of purple prose, full of actions and emotions but no real reasons behind them. But I wanted to see where it was heading instead of just judging it by all that. Unfortunately, it just became more and more not my speed as the story went on.

I didn't like the main characters. Sophie has absolutely no reason to fall in love with "Mr. Maldon", he never seems to have a real reason to be interested in her, and I think everyone knew that Beatrice was going to be bad news from the beginning. Sophies relationship with her never seemed to have a point besides setting up a villain.

And goodness, if there was a drinking game for every time that Sophie ran away from a situation she didn't want to deal with/Lord Ashley... Well, I probably never would have made it to the end of the book. It got pretty ridiculous. Especially the last one. The ending of this book just made me want to throw my Nook across the room. (view spoiler)Do you just WANT to be unhappy? Cause that was the impression I was getting. That and sequel bait. Which I will not be interested in if it happens.

Copy courtesy of Redhook Books, via Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.

elisworldofbooks says

Due stelle mi sembra anche eccessivo.

Mary - Buried Under Romance says

This is the first romance I have ever read that is continuous with the next in the series, *Breathless For You*. The ending of this would have crushed me if it were a standalone, as I'm not fond of non-HEAs. (What's the

point of reading a romance if it the characters are alone and miserable at the end?) Nonetheless, All I Want is You was a rather heart-wrenching story that very much portrays the interplay of politics, power, prestige, passion and sex in a rich historical era, in the vein of The Great Gatsby.

*Review copy from the publisher for an honest review

CrazyForRomance says

Era veramente tantissimo tempo che non mi imbattevo in un libro che rispecchiasse i miei gusti in modo così completo ed era una vita che non mi sentivo in totale armonia con un testo letterario.

Nonostante (anzi forse proprio per quello) il romance parta col narrare, in modo molto particolareggiato, la storia dell'infanzia della piccola Sophie, la sua vita dura, la sofferenza della morte della madre, il suo lavoro presso la dimora del duca di Belfield ad una tenerissima età e di conseguenza la routine quotidiana del lavoro di sgattera, mettendo apparentemente in secondo piano la storia d'amore, l'ho trovato a dir poco perfetto.

Mi sono piaciute anche le scene di vita quotidiana dei domestici e mi ha fatto vedere uno spaccato piuttosto realistico della società del tempo. Ho potuto così assistere alla crescita fisica e psicologica di un personaggio stupendo che col passare degli anni e delle pagine si è evoluto in modo magistrale.

Una figura femminile che mi ha dato molte emozioni differenziandosi dallo stereotipo della donna dei romance -storici e non-. Sophie è una bambina onesta ma non eccessivamente ingenua quando arriva a servizio nella casa del Duca: ha già dovuto affrontare molte prove dolorose e ne incontrerà altre durante la sua permanenza là, facendo scelte a volte discutibili ma che io ho trovato estremamente concrete anche se poco assennate, ma non bisogna dimenticare che parliamo di una ragazzina e quando uno è giovane può commettere qualche errore. Ho adorato la sua forza, la tenacia dei suoi sentimenti e la costanza nel seguire le sue scelte, la determinazione nel perseguire il suo obiettivo cercando di non scendere a compromessi e mantenendo una purezza di fondo nonostante tutto. E poi c'è lui, Mr. Maldon, figura misteriosa e defilata nella prima parte del libro, idealizzata e amata dalla giovane ragazza che aveva aiutato e salvato dalla rovina anni prima e che dopo un breve scambio epistolare, fa perdere le sue tracce nonostante la piccola Sophie continui a scrivergli e a ricordarlo nei suoi pensieri e nel suo cuore. Ma dopo anni di silenzi finalmente il suo ritorno avrà effetti sconvolgenti sulla giovane che ormai è diventata una donna bellissima e innescherà una serie di eventi e intrighi davvero subdoli per non parlare della passione che divamperà tra i due che toccherà, pur nella gradevolezza delle descrizioni, apici molto alti.

Continua su... Crazy for Romance

Anne Dirty Girls' Good Books says

This was under the "erotica" category at NetGalley, and it sounded interesting. For about the first half I enjoyed it, but it's very Danielle Steele like, so it may work for her fans. It's got a lot of anguish. The story is focused on the heroine, Sophie, not the relationship between her and Ash.

I would not consider this story a romance, as I think a happily ever after ending is necessary in a romance.

Sophie she goes through a lot of tough times, yet continues to push away any help he would offer.

At first I was pretty proud of her, but it quickly turned I to a situation where she was cutting off her nose to

spite her face! She ran from safety time and time again. (view spoiler)

I will add that I thought the writing was solid and the editing was good. It just didn't like the ending or the angst.
