



# Virtue and Valor

*Collette Cameron*

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*Can love unite a reluctant earl and a disenchanted beauty?*

Bartholomew Yancy never expected to inherit an English earldom and had no intention of marrying. Now, the Earl of Ramsbury and last in his line, he's obligated to resign his position as England's War Secretary, find a wife, and produce an heir. Only one woman holds the least appeal: Isobel Ferguson, an exquisite Scotswoman. Brought to Scotland to mediate between feuding clans, he doggedly woos her.

Disillusioned with men pursuing her for her attractiveness, rather than her unusual intellect, Isobel has all but abandoned any hope of finding a husband in the Highlands. Not only does she believe Yancy no different than her other suitors, he's a notorious rake. She's been told he's practically betrothed. Therefore, his interest in her cannot possibly be honorable, and so she shuns his attentions.

When Isobel is mistakenly abducted by a band of rogue Scots, Yancy risks his life to rescue her. To salvage her compromised reputation, her brother and father insist she marry him. Yancy readily agrees, but Isobel—knowing full well she's fated for spinsterhood by refusing his offer—won't be coerced into marriage.

## Virtue and Valor Details

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# From Reader Review Virtue and Valor for online ebook

## Liette Bougie says

Virtue and Valor is the second book in Ms. Cameron's Highland Heather Romancing a Scot Series. I have to admit that I haven't read the first book but, after reading this one, I'm planning to read it along with the next one(s). Ms. Cameron pulled me right into the story through her elegant and descriptive writing and I felt as if I was there, watching the events unfold. When an author manages to make me feel that way, it's a good sign, a very good sign.

Virtue and Valor is the story of Isobel Ferguson, the sister of the Scottish Laird Ewan McTavish, and of Yancy Bartholomew, the Earl of Ramsbury, and current War Secretary of England and friend of the laird. It's refreshing to meet a heroine who, although she isn't quite conventional, still follows some of the dictates of the time period where she belongs. I fell for Yancy who, because he inherited his father's title, needs to resign from his function at Prinny's court, find a wife and beget an heir – but not before he's performed what might be his last mission: to investigate the unrest between various Scottish clans before it turns into a war. And while he's visiting his friend, why not using the opportunity to test the water where Isobel is concerned – she would, after all, make a fine wife. Unfortunately for him, although Isobel has always been in love with him, she's also been misled in believing Yancy is promised to another young lady. A kidnapping later and an escape finally bring them together... I'm not saying more.

I've enjoyed following Isobel and Yancy in their struggles to accept what life has been throwing their way to finally realize they belong to each other. This novel has a bit of everything – suspense, action, romance, history. Enough to please everyone, I believe.

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## Joann Maggio says

Virtue and Valor ?????????? written by Collette Cameron  
(Highland Heather Romancing a Scot #2)

Bartholomew Yancy, Earl of Ramsbury and England's War Secretary is ready to resign and get to producing his heir. For years Yancy's sights have been on Isobel Ferguson the sister of his best friend. Yancy does not understand Isobel's disdain for him. They at one time did rub along fine but as of last year she has despised him.

Isobel is not the usual as a woman of the times. She is intrigued by archaeology, is a master of language and very strong willed. All of which is perfect to Yancy and he finds himself vulnerable to her charms.

Yancy arrives at Craiglocky Keep at the behest of the King and believing this to be his last assignment before he resigns his post. He is hoping to woo Isobel and propose marriage. Isobel, however, is under the impression Yancy is betrothed to another and finds him a rogue trying to compromise her. Isobel as a child has had a strong feeling and has been in love with Yancy for years.

Only Ms Cameron by her skilled writing and narrative could sweep you away in this heartfelt romance. You

feel you are in the book and the characters come alive as only she can do for her readers. I loved this book. Many twists and turns finally the end is worth it.

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## **April says**

#2 in the "Highland Heather Romancing the Scot", but can be read as a stand alone.

Fast paced, passion filled tale of love and romance.

I love everything about this book and this series, from the setting, to the characters to the storyline. Yes, I enjoy Highlanders and their perty Lasses! Once again, Ms. Cameron has shown her fans what it's like to read a deliciously wicked tale and come away with a very good feeling. Well written with plenty of twists and turns, passionate kisses, with a compelling, intriguing story. Well done! I can't wait for the next installment of "Highland Heather Romancing the Scot ". Oh, the secondary characters aren't to shabby either. A must read and a keeper! This one's been a long time coming, but well worth the wait, I believe!

\* Received for an honest review\*

Rating: 4.5

Heat rating: Mild

Reviewed by: AprilR

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## **Rhonda says**

### **TOTALLY CAPTIVATING ROMANCE**

Collette Cameron is one of my most favored treasured of authors. She never disappoints, and the same is with Virtue and Valor, book two in Romancing the Scot series. Although it is book two it can be read as a stand-alone. This fabulous book is filled with page turning passion, romance, action, and will leave you wanting to begin the next in the series. Collette Cameron never leaves a reader feeling as if something was missing, but leaves the reader feeling as if they were a part of the story themselves.

The hero, Bartholomew Yancy, not being the firstborn, had no plans to marry but instead chose a career as England's War Secretary. But things do not always go as planned as he finds when he unexpectedly inherits an earldom. Now he must resign his career and marry and produce heirs.

Only one woman comes to his mind when he thinks of marriage, Isobel Ferguson, who was sent to Scotland to mediate the feuds and upsets between clans. This is one lady who is daring and loves to do unconventional things such as ride astride and go exploring. She does feed a pull towards the hero but rumors abound that Bartholomew is no different than men in her past showing interest in her for her beauty, never giving a thought as to whether or not she has a brain. She ignores any attention he sends her way because she has no tolerance for men who think beauty is the only thing a lady has to offer.

Isobel is abducted by a band of outlaw Scots and Bartholomew rushes to rescue her, resulting in her father and brother insisting upon a wedding. Bartholomew has no hesitance and agrees, but Isobel will in no way be railroaded into marriage. The banter between the couple definitely pulls the reader into the story.

I highly recommend to anyone who loves reading romance, Virtue and Valor and any other books written by Collette Cameron. She leaves the reader always looking forward to the next new release.

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## **Cerian says**

Originally published at Rookie Romance.

Yancy and Isobel's story is one I've been looking forward to for a while. I love how this story blends in the characters from previous books as well.

Yancy has decided it's time to let go of his roguish ways and find a suitable miss to marry. Whenever he contemplates marriage it is always Isobel Ferguson who comes to his mind. Yancy thinks that the interest he's seen from Isobel in the past will make her an easy choice and that her placid and perfect ways will make her an ideal countess. He's about to find out he's so wrong.

Isobel once had a hopeless infatuation with her brother's close friend, the Earl of Ramsbury. Since her hopes were dashed and her eyes opened to the scoundrel that he is, she has tried her hardest to ignore the feelings he stirs within her. Unfortunately her heart refuses to listen to her head. Isobel is a fun and independent heroine who often hides her true feelings under a demure demanourm but Yancy certainly brings out her fiery side.

I loved how Yancy and Isobel's relationship develops. It starts out a bit antagonistic, although Yancy has no idea why and does his best to charm Isobel. It's great to see Yancy start to realise that Isobel is actually a very intelligent woman and to see him acknowledge her as such. I loved their chemistry and that Isobel can't quite resist Yancy no matter how hard she tries.

This is a fun story that starts out quite light hearted before the plot takes a turn for the more serious. I enjoyed the circumstances that brought Yancy and Isobel together, even if it felt like my heart was in my throat at times! There's excitement, danger and passion woven throughout the pages and this story is another fab addition to the series

\*I received a review copy for my honest opinion. Thank you!

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## **Jennifer says**

1.5 star rounded to 2.

Ok, here's the deal. I'm tired of stories where the H (a term I use loosely in this instance) is a manwhore who decides that the h is the One for him and gives her no other option but to agree. And of course she does

because he's just irresistible.

There is a lot that's ambiguous in this story. We don't know if he continues to have his liaisons after he starts expressing interest in her. The author really does not paint that aspect of his life in a very favorable light, so who knows? He doesn't deserve the h, but does that stop him from pursuing her? No. At least he does go the distance and try to show his love for her.

Then there's the h who couldn't help how the H makes her feel. How her body reacted to merely being in his presence. How she couldn't help noticing how handsome he was. We get it. He's good looking and you can't help but be a huge bag of hormones. Ugh. She kept complaining of how she had to suffer the attentions of lots of men, but she secretly did the same things to the H.

Overall, the undeserving, rake of an H, a libido driven h, and a whole set of ridiculous circumstances culminate in a love match marriage that was unconvincing. I enjoyed the writing style and dual povs, as always, but the character development was missing. Merely mentioning the backstory that turned the rake into a rake wasn't enough. And he needed a lot more of a transformation instead of just suddenly realizing that he loves the h and that's a good thing. Plus, the h's discovery that makes her amenable to the H again doesn't answer her question of whether a rake would make a faithful husband.

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## **Dee Deacon Foster says**

Isobel Ferguson is unlike many other females. She is intelligent, loves to ride astride & most of all loves exploring the rocks & caves for artifacts - all things that the men in the Highland's overlook. But then she really only has feelings for one man - a good friend of her brother's. A man she thought she could come to love (who is she kidding a man she already loves) but has discovered is a totally cad. A man who hopefully she will not have to see for a very long time.

Bartholomew Yancy, Earl of Ramsey & Prinny's War Secretary as vowed only to wed when he absolutely has to. What he hasn't told his anyone is he's decided he is ready to wed & no one but a particular Scotswoman will do. What he can't understand, that despite the friendly beginning, is why she holds him in complete disdain. But he's determined to win her over & the perfect opportunity presents itself when Prinny sends him to the Highlands to settle some clan disputes.

Fate was not smiling on Isobel when she finds out that Yancy has arrived & when he begins ordering her around without explanation she sets out to defy him. A defiance that could cost her her virtue if not her life. As Isobel is mistaken for another & taken captive, Yancy races to save her. Will he find her in time? If he does can he understand what she has against him? Will Isobel give in to temptation or will she remember what she thinks she knows?

I received this book as an ARC for an honest review....another excellent story from the talented Collette Cameron. Ms. Cameron has the wonderful talent of pulling you into the story as if you were there. You'll experience the frustration, the hope, the danger & the joy right along with the characters. And when you're done you'll be anxiously waiting for the next story.

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## **Jonel Boyko says**

Once again Cameron has created a regency romance that takes you away from the everyday and back in time to a world that captures your heart and soul. Her eloquent and elegant writing sets the tone for this story of suspense, romance, and so much more. Her descriptions and narrative served to develop the setting in such a manner that my imagination was easily joining the characters in Scotland, all the while keeping me on my toes with this realistic suspense and captivating romance.

Isobel was such a multifaceted and fascinating heroine. The combination of prim and proper lady with headstrong, adventurous woman made for an unforgettable main character. I found the archaeology to be an intriguing aspect of Isobel's character. It took her out of the realm of ordinary regency heroine, making her even more memorable. At the same time, she was the perfect match for Yancy. Their battle of the wills, combined with the trouble Isobel found herself in served to highlight the tenderness that lay behind Yancy's War Secretary persona. The peeks at his vulnerability made me love him even more. And Cameron didn't stop her character development with this loveable pair. We got to know their friends and family well, creating an entire crew that I felt as if I knew personally, and would love to continue getting to know through further works in this series.

Cameron never fails to make me laugh, while at the same time warming my heart and taking me back in time. This captivating novel is no exception. I thoroughly enjoyed every moment of it and wouldn't hesitate to recommend it to others. And just a note for those who haven't read Cameron's work before, this is part of a series but can also easily be read as a standalone novel.

Please note that I received a complimentary copy of this work in exchange for an honest review.

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## **Vikki Vaught says**

### **Vikki's Musings**

This is the first book by Collette Cameron I have read, and it will not be the last. I enjoyed her witty dialogue and the intrigue in *Virtue and Valor*. This is an excellent example of a Scottish regency historical with a good feel of the time period.

Bartholomew Yancy, Earl of Ramsbury is in need of a wife, and he wants Isobel Ferguson, the sister to Viscount Sethwick, Laird of Craiglocky Keep, a man he has called friend since their school days. When the opportunity arises for him to travel to Craiglocky in service of the Prince Regent, he immediately accepts.

However, his pursuit will not be easy. The lass has given him a cold shoulder since the previous Christmas. Isobel Ferguson has been in love with Yancy since a young girl of nine, but she learned at her sister's Christmastide ball that he has an agreement to wed his ward, a young woman he knows in an intimate way. When Yancy arrives at her brother's keep, she must control her emotions. He must never know how she feels. Her pride will not allow it.

When Isobel is kidnapped, Yancy races after her, determined to save her. Once he rescues her, her reputation is in tatters, so he asks her to marry him. After all, he planned to wed her anyway. Even though her family urges her to accept, Isobel turns him down. Will Yancy uncover the reason for her refusal, or will he lose her

without ever learning why?

I thoroughly enjoyed the banter between Yancy and Isobel. Ms. Cameron has woven a charming story with plenty of sexual tension and intrigue. This is an action-packed tale that kept me flipping the pages on my Kindle to see what would happen next.

Now for my reason I did not give *Virtue and Valor* 5 Gold Crowns. I would have liked a bit more depth in the characters, especially Isobel. At times she is very antagonistic to the point that I wanted to shake some sense into her. While on the other hand, Yancy's character is terrific, and I fell in love with him from the very beginning. His character is why I enjoyed the story as much as I did.

Nonetheless, this is a great story, and I will want to read other books by Ms. Cameron. If you enjoy an adventurous tale with enough action to make this a fast read, then you will enjoy *Virtue and Valor*. Happy reading!

I received an ARC from the author in exchange for an honest review.

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## **Monica says**

*Virtue and Valor* is the second book in the series, the story of Isobel Ferguson and Bartholomew Yancy. I think everyone likes a strong, intelligent heroine, and Isobel is definitely that. She's 20 years old and dreams of traveling the world beyond the Scottish Highlands, and is tired of men noticing her for her beauty and not her brains. The only man who's ever turned her head - Yancy, the Earl of Ramsbury and England's War Secretary- turns out to be a rake and already betrothed, despite his flirtations with Isobel. When Yancy comes to Scotland to help Isobel's brother Ewan quell some rebellious uprising among the Scottish clans, she's determined to ignore him, while he's determined to find out why she's suddenly so cold towards him.

Isobel is stubborn and independent and it gets her into a pickle, but one can't help loving her. Yancy's a bit jaded on women, and I had a moment of frustration with him and his hypocritical assumptions, though I know full well the double standard existing between the genders. There were definite sparks flying between these two, verbally and physically, and I loved every minute of it. I was happy that Yancy didn't turn tail and run because Isobel was such a challenge. His perseverance from start to finish was quite romantic.

I always love Ms Cameron's characters and the fact that, although the novels can be read as stand-alones, the characters overlap and we get to see more of what they're doing post-HEA. It's like visiting with old friends, though in *Virtue and Valor* they're pretty much in the background, with the exception of Ewan. Yancy and Harcourt are the last two among their group of eight friends to be blissfully leg-shackled (pretty good statistics, yes?); we get a glimpse of Harcourt's story near the end and in the epilogue. I'm also eager to read Seonaid's story, as she's the last of Isobel's siblings to marry, and also has the "second sight", which I think will make for an excellent dynamic.

The only thing I was unsure of was the dialect of the Highlanders. Some of them were pretty gruff characters, but at times I wondered if it was too much, too rough. Also, there are some intimate scenes but in my opinion they were not overly graphic.

I feel like a bit of a broken record when I review books by Collette Cameron, but they're all so good! The



characters, humor, romantic tension and action are always so enjoyable and they're so easy to read, I just blow through them in no time. I always look forward to her next book.

\*I was given an ARC of this book in exchange for my honest review.

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### **Donna says**

This is a very good book, though not as in depth as some. I loved the hero, Yancy, and heroine, Isobel. He's her brother's friend and she has always loved him. Unfortunately for him, she thinks he's promised to another. She's kidnapped - he rescues her and much more! I don't like to write or read plot spoilers but I recommend this book.

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### **Ellen Pace says**

Virtue and Valor by Collette Cameron. I loved the book. It was original in story, engaging my interest through the whole book. I loved the characters especially Yancy and Harcourt. Isobel was humorous, strong and very likeable. This is the 2nd novel I have read by Collette. and I love it as much as the first one, Highlander's Hope, that I read. I am looking forward to reading more of her books.

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### **Gaele says**

The first I have read from this author, the story is fast paced and engaging, and doesn't require the reader's knowledge of the earlier title. Cameron has an easy hand in character development: I could picture every character I encountered, and I wanted to know more.

Isobel is a wonderful heroine: forthright, determined, intelligent and more than slightly daring. She's not afraid to get her hands dirty, and scoffs at the notion that women are the 'weaker sex'. A complete anomaly in her family and completely different from other Highland women, she's not interested in marriage because her heart is wounded. Wounded by her brother's best friend that she believed herself in love with, and now information has shown him to be a total cad. Discouraged and utterly disinterested, her life only becomes more difficult when that same man arrives to give her orders.

Yancy is known to the family, although he's been working for Prinny as War Secretary. He's not interested in the bevy of women who are available as a close advisor, and has only ever thought one woman suitable: Isobel. When the opportunity arises to travel to Scotland to settle clan disputes, he is determined to make an impression.

These two are adorable together: Isobel so worldly in her desires but naïve in her outlook is convinced that Yancy is utterly changed and ruined by London. Her bratty behavior only added to Yancy's confusion: he doesn't recognize the open and friendly girl he once knew. Of course, he's used to being obeyed, and her refusal frustrates and confuses him, while putting her in danger.

Emotions, reactions and clever dialogue all detail this story: building tension and enjoyment with every paragraph. Isobel is so wanting Yancy to be the man of her dreams, but she soon comes to realize that he is a man, and is willing to make her every dream a reality. I thoroughly enjoyed this story: perfect for fans of

historic romances that are character driven with plenty of action and only a touch of steam.

I received an eArc copy of the title from the author via the Tour Company for purpose of honest review. I was not compensated for this review: all conclusions are my own responsibility.

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### **P.e. lolo says**

I normally don't read these types of books, but I met the author and was given the book so I dove in and gave it a chance. I must say I was pleasantly surprised. The story is full of action, there is plenty of description to make you feel that you are either in the country side of Scotland or eating at the table with the family and friends. The two main characters, Isobel and Yancy are well defined in this book with a little back story that you get caught up on the history between them. Isobel is an educated women for the time and is looking for a man that looks at her as an equally, not one that only sees her looks, and breeding qualities. She enjoyed to be stimulated by heated discussion of politics, or the goings on of the day, and also a good game of chess which did not happen very often. Yancy who is attracted to Isobel is still surprised at each one of his attempts of wanting to be with her. Even when she beats him at chess he is more attracted to her. Not understanding why he is being turned down everything begins to change when she is kidnapped by mistake and instead of waiting for more men he rides off to go find her. This is where the story for me really took off. So I won't give you any more details. Read the book to find out if she gets rescued. A wonderful story that I must caught me up in the story and characters that I was sorry the book came to an end. Could have read more. That is when I know for me that it was a good book. I got this book from the author. I gave it 5 stars. Follow us at [www.1rad-readerreviews.com](http://www.1rad-readerreviews.com)

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### **Crazychriss889 says**

Writing style?

Uhhhh, so awesome!! I simply loved the Scottish brawl in there! And some of the sayings. Adorable!! Other than that, great writing style.

Critique?

What I definitely didn't like?

The political stance in there.

It was mentioned explicitly (yep, not implicitly) that a Scottish independence is nonsense: "Blister and rot, nothing good could come of this nonsense".

Interesting.

I do not approve. I'm not Scottish nor am I English. And yet, I think it's just not okay to only have one stance in there.

Anyhow, other than that I found this enchanting.

It is a rather slow-burning novel, however, meaning that the outcome is of course as expected but it takes quite a while to get there.

Plot?

It's all about one independent woman and a determined nobleman. I'm not sure I would have lasted as long as he does, to be honest. Nevertheless, there is some drama in there, not much heartbreak but some action

and a lot of love and friendship. I especially loved that we got to know so many minor characters. Lovely.

Characters?

Yeah, our heroine doesn't trust easily. I guess, I got it – to some point; however, when she continues to reject our hero, I kinda started to not like her that much.

Other than that, loved that she was so fierce.

Our hero?

Gorgeous lad. He's the guy who saves our damsel in distress.

When it comes to development, I guess, there is some change in there. All in all, I think, it would have been nice if our heroine could have saved herself. Sure, she is quite independent but still, she is also dependant on men... Like, really dependant. Not just financially because hey, that just was the case back then...

To sum this up, I loved it but would have liked to read a bit more of our fiery heroine saving herself.

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