



The Groom's Gamble

Jade Lee

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An original novella linked to Jade Lee's hot new Regency bride series, a prequel to *What the Groom Wants*.

Caroline Lyncott, great granddaughter of the Duke of Bucklynde, has a secret. Years ago she was attacked and still bears the terrible scars. To escape the scandal and the reminders, she left everything behind to become housekeeper to a Scottish brother and sister. Gregory Murray, the Earl Of Hartfell, has a secret as well – he harbors a deep attraction to his housekeeper, Mrs. Lyncott. He knows she has a past, but doesn't know how to fix the pain that still haunts her. His investigation leads him to the darkest London gaming hell and a villain too powerful to destroy. Can his love overcome her desperate past? Can she risk her heart despite the evil that still haunts her nightmares?

The Groom's Gamble Details

Date : Published January 7th 2014 by Sourcebooks Casablanca

ISBN :

Author : Jade Lee

Format : Kindle Edition 104 pages

Genre : Romance, Historical Romance, Novella, Historical, Regency

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From Reader Review The Groom's Gamble for online ebook

LadyCalico says

Better than I expected. An original story, well developed main characters, and well-written, engrossing prose that moved along in a smooth, fast-moving flow. However, as a novella that is a lead in to another book, loose ends were left hanging, and the story of Lady Anne and Stefan Pike, which played such a large role in the beginning of the book just disappeared after a while. Apparently, we will continue the story of Demon Damon in the next book, but I don't know about Lady Anne--maybe another book after that?

Danielle says

This historical e- book novella was really good I thought. It wasn't bad for a novella, though I did wish this story was a little bit longer, I didn't hate it or felt like it rushed through like some novella tend to do to get the point. Do I wish there was a little bit more development and angst? Yes. Do I wish it went into the history of Caroline's and Gregory's relationship and how that developed over time? Yes, it was clear that they both had feelings for each other for years before they became intimately involved, and I would have loved to see more tension and angst between the pair. Just go a little more in depth. And just see more moments between them.

Aside from that, I really did love everything else. It was such a sweet, tender yet very sexy story between Gregory and Caroline. I loved the had a history together. I loved the whole class difference to make it seem that their relationship was forbidden in society. I loved between them. The dance scene between them was very sensual and sexy, and really upped the tension between them. All their love scenes were really good. So sexy and passionate and just full of connection between them. I loved how much they needed and wanted one another. They really did belong together. I loved sweet and caring he was with her. I loved the moment where they were lying in bed and he's holding her and she's telling him about her past and how she got scarred. In the moment he was really there for her and supported and showed her to him her scars didn't matter. He loved her regardless. Those were some of my favorite moments of the story.

I would definitely read this again, and though I wished it was longer and had a little more to it, I did enjoy it very much. It hit all the emotional marks for me as did the sexy, passionate scenes. I loved how they were blended together to make a complete love story. It kept my interest. I loved them as characters and as a couple. It was just a nice quick read that had the perfect amount of passion and emotion blended together to create this story.

Nancy Steinle gummel says

The Groom's Gamble by Jade Lee is a prequel to a series of book. It's a cute historical romance. Lady Anne had a gypsy named Mr. Pike help her try to contact her dead sister Cora. Caroline, Mrs Lyncott, the housekeeper returns to her room and hears a noise. She goes to investigate and finds a gypsy thief in Lady Anne's room. She goes to scream and the thief grabs her throat and begins to choke her. Meanwhile, the Earl's dog barks and attacks the thief. Lord Gregory hears the dog as he returns home and rushes to see what happened. He saves Caroline from a certain death. He attacks the thief knocking the thief out. Gregory calls for help. Carolina secretly likes the earl and the same goes for the earl, he's infatuated with her. Figure out

how far the infatuation will go as Gregory makes Caroline, the granddaughter of a duke, Lady Anne's companion and they go out for a season in London.

Ally says

Live now, it's the only thing you have

Setting / Time / Genre: Regency, London

Length: 104 pages

Series: Yes

Sexy times: A few. Not terribly descriptive at all. Well done though. Heat level is a 2.25

Plan on reading more by the author: Oh hells to the yesses

Super Short Synopsis: So there's this woman, distant relation to a duke, who is a housekeeper for a man and his sister. The sister deserves more than a throat punch as she gets up to all sorts of sh!t and the guy is definitely in love with the housekeeper who has the manners of a lady. Said housekeeper was attacked as a teen and it affects her dreadfully. They fall in love, things happen, it's a short book so now that much can happen and the book ends.

Heroine: Caroline is truly amazing. She gets that all she has is what is happening now and embraces it like the bad a\$\$ she is. She is wise beyond her many years. Stalwart, a little stubborn, she does cave over something I am not terribly happy about, but that's my sh!t and not hers. I would have liked to have seen a full blown version of this to learn more about her. She is that good of a character.

Hero: Gregory. Scientific dude. Falling for his housekeeper is not his idea of good. He's super concerned about his sister which I commend. We really don't learn much about him. He just kinda is the hero. The story is more about Caroline than anyone else. He's a great foil for her. That said, he ponies up and does the right thing.

Why it did or didn't work for me: It worked. It was too short. I definitely would like to read more by this author. And lastly, Gregory's sister, throat punch. B!tch. Dishonorable. And placing other people in bad positions. And oh, I could just go on. If she gets her own book, this woman is not reading it. Rant over. Ok, not really. Spoiled rotten brat is how I would characterize her. Ugh.

J. Kahele says

Blurb:

Caroline Lyncott, great granddaughter of the Duke of Bucklynde, has a secret. Years ago she was attacked and still bears the terrible scars. To escape the scandal and the reminders, she left everything behind to become

housekeeper to a Scottish brother and sister. Gregory Murray, the Earl Of Hartfell, has a secret as well – he harbors a deep attraction to his housekeeper, Mrs. Lyncott. He knows she has a past, but doesn't know how to fix the pain that still haunts her. His investigation leads him to the darkest London gaming hell and a villain too powerful to destroy. Can his love overcome her desperate past? Can she risk her heart despite the evil that still haunts her nightmares?

Caroline Lyncott is a housekeeper for Gregory, the Earl of Hartfell and has been crushing on for a while now. Little does she know, that she intrigues him just as well. When Gregory switches her job from housekeeper, to a companion for his sister, who tends to get herself into trouble, things begin to get interesting.

The characters Caroline and Gregory were written so well, their connection was so deep and you could feel it from the very first dance they had together. I love the way the author took her time, to let the romance between the two bloom in a natural way.

Joycee says

Ah ha ha ha ha!

I thought the title word was groom in the sense of a horse caretaker, not a man who is to wed.

Enjoyed this so much (even though I didn't think the male cover model on the edition I read was all that - how shallow, eh?) I now want to move on to "What the Groom Wants" (sequel).

Tiffany says

This story was great! I loved reading about Caroline and Gregory. They made a great couple. I really liked how Caroline was able to overcome her past and remain strong. Also how Gregory made her feel beautiful and confident. The only thing was I wished their story was longer. They were such a sweet couple.

Victoria says

Is a great book to read

Tonileg says

Historical English romance about a well born damaged housekeeper who falls in love with her titled Scottish boss and there is a sweet HEA.

Miss Caroline Lyncott goes about as a 'Mrs.' because of her housekeeper title but she is also the great granddaughter of the Duke of Bucklyndem but that family has never acknowledged her existence although her mother worked hard to educate her like other well born gentleman's daughters. Lord

Gregory Murray, the Earl Of Hartfell has been attracted to his housekeeper for some time, but only when there is an awful incident in his London home where he saves Mrs. Lyncott.'s life does their relationship change and develop into something more like lovers.

I liked this plot in The Heir (Duke's Obsession, #1) but this was more angst-y with the past torture and the tough childhood as a poor gentleman's daughter in London.

Decent short story that I would read this author again.

104 pages and kindle freebie

2 stars

Rosemary K says

Caroline Lyncott is the great granddaughter of the Duke of Bucklynde, but this family connection is more of a hindrance than a help. She is an educated and talented lady who has never been introduced to polite society. Now she is the housekeeper for Lord Hartfell.

To help his sister find a suitor the Lord asks her to become Lady Anne's companion. She agrees. Caroline loves the handsome lord but she has a secret. If it's revealed, what will happen to her? Will she ever find love? Jade Lee has written a well plotted novella that is the prequel to her February release, What the Groom Wants. I love Caroline and Gregory as well as the rest of the delightful supporting characters that Jade has created. Caroline is such a strong willed woman. She has a logical mind that is more than a match for Gregory. The love and the desire between these two is romantic and at the same time very sensual. I love the thread of suspense running through the story. It was impossible to put this book down. Jade Lee is a talented author. I love her writing.

Minx -The Genre Minx Book Reviews says

It was a sweet Novella. It had some madness in it..

“Give me a child,” she suddenly whispered. “Please, give me something of you before this ends.” She thought nothing could stop their headlong progress up the stairs. She was wrong, because at her words, he came to a dead stop. He stared, his eyes unfathomable in the darkness. “You mean that, don’t you?” “Yes,” she whispered. “How would you survive? How would you care for yourself or your child? A babe out of wedlock.” “I don’t know,” she said in all honesty. “And maybe I would regret it. But no man will have me as an honest wife. What other way am I to have a child?”

Damn girl! Make him put a ring on it! That was just crazy. Give me a child....give me something of you before this ends.....seriously?! Mega eye rolls on this!! Steal his shirt and keep it in a ziplock baggie (or whatever they had available in those days) so it smells like him, much better psycho idea.

It has a nice ending and it is worth reading but this just had to be said....*make him work for it chica, he likes you already!*

Andrea says

[heroine was disfigured by a crazy sort-of-ex who carved his initials in her skin in a rage and what do you know, the initials turn out to be the hero's initials, too! *rolls eyes* (hide spoiler)]

Vicki says

The Groom's Gamble is a really nice read. I read it through Sourcebooks Casablanca and I am so glad they shared this book this month.

A regency romance that has the kind and giving Earl that happens to be attracted to his very proper and ladylike housekeeper. He can see that she has been raised as a lady and is not sure of the circumstances that would lead her to gain employment as a housekeeper, but he is happy that she is in his home.

The romance is sweet and I really enjoyed meeting Gregory and Caroline. Both very endearing characters that have to either choose a more clandestine way of being together or ignore the sparks that they feel for one another.

Even promoting her to his sister's companion leaves Caroline aware of their class difference and she is happy with any morsel of attention he tosses her way. He also tries to resist their pull. Caroline has a painful past that she believes makes her unable to ever have a husband. When Gregory sees the reminder of that past, she is afraid that he will never feel for her the way she feels for her. She sees herself as ruined, and fights both herself and Gregory on this.

What an enjoyable read this was. If you like regency romances, this is a good choice. Jade Lee tells a simple story in a very entertaining way.

Melanie Adkins says

Lady Anne Hartfell and her brother Lord Gregory Hartfell are as different as night and day. While Lord Gregory prefers the simple pleasures of life, his sister Lady Anne is all about the occult. Though they are unique, their home is managed by a very secretive woman, Caroline Lynncott. She hides her past to escape it and live a quiet existence. Lord Gregory believes he can see through Mrs. Lynncott to the real her. Will she let him or will she run again?

The story is one of strength, love and happiness. It seems so simple, yet it takes a great deal to gain these three items. I enjoyed the solid writing and the characters you can relate to. It did a beautiful job of showing there is more than one side to a person. We must look beyond the facade to see what's really there. Warm and caring, this is a perfect pick-me-up for any time of the day! Ms. Lee doesn't disappoint with this work. You'll love it as much as I did.

The only issue I found was the book seemed rushed. Even for a novella, it seemed as though everything took place way too quickly.

I gave this one 5 cheers out of 5 because the story is simply beautiful. ~Copy of book provided by author in exchange for a fair review~

Diana Aden says

This was my first exposure to author Jade Lee. The Groom's Gamble is the prequel novella to her Bridal Favors series. Two strong characters who withhold secrets from one another. Other characters who I assume will be in following works. It was a sweet, sexy read. Loved the dynamics between Gregory and Caroline. Very satisfied with the happy ending. Put a smile on my face.

Reasons I enjoyed this book:

Steamy; Easy-to-read; Wonderful characters; Page-turner; Romantic
