



## The Duke Who Knew Too Much

*Grace Callaway*

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## **The Duke Who Knew Too Much** Grace Callaway

### **A Stranger to Love**

Alaric McLeod, Duke of Strathaven, is known as the Devil Duke for his wicked ways. Tormented by his past, Alaric knows better than to trust a woman yet finds himself ensnared by a spirited, virtuous virgin—who accuses him of a crime he didn't commit. Is she his foe... or his salvation?

### **A Novice to Desire**

Emma Kent is an independent country miss cast adrift in the *ton*. When a depraved encounter with an arrogant rake lands her in intrigue, Emma's honor compels her to do the right thing. But desire challenges her quest for justice, and she must decide: can she trust her heart to discover the truth?

### **Bound by Passion and Peril**

Alaric and Emma engage in a battle of wits and will. As their attraction flares, the true enemy stalks their every move. With danger looming, will they solve the mystery and find true love—before it's too late?

## **The Duke Who Knew Too Much Details**

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Author : Grace Callaway

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## **From Reader Review The Duke Who Knew Too Much for online ebook**

### **Jessa says**

This was probably more like a 3.75, but the smut was so good and I'm a sucker for a reformed rake who is really just desperate to finally be loved by someone. I only wish there was less of a whodunnit mystery in the plot.

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### **Lee Hall says**

Grace, this book is incredible! Easily in my top five historical romances EVER. I am head over heels for Alaric!!!!

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### **MG says**

This is one I have read and re-read. Such an interesting, compelling story that brings the reader in from the start and makes you want to see how things work out.

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### **Alisa says**

FREE on Amazon 05/12/18.

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### **Michelle says**

Wow this is an amazing book! I seriously enjoyed the romance, mystery, action, twists and turns. I already liked Emma from reading Her Protector's Pleasure. I wasn't too sure about Alaric because he seemed very snide when we first meet him but he really grew on me and I ended up loving him. He reminds me a bit of Nicholas, Ambrose and Paul from Callaway's Mayhem in Mayfair series and was a mixture of all three. He is incredibly arrogant, possessive, domineering and stubborn but somehow it all works for him. He has been through some seriously terrible things such as an abusive guardian and a crazy jealous wife. He always needed to be in control because so many things in his past were completely out of his control. Emma is stubborn, a bit reckless, a bit naïve, determined, caring, and loving. She has worked so hard to take care of her family when they were at a low point and her caring personality is exactly what Alaric needs. There was some intense chemistry between them. Barriers had to be broken down for Alaric to develop in any way and he wasn't going to give up control easily. I saw how much he had come to care for Emma. Yeah he was a little over possessive and domineering but that is just him keeping control. Once he started opening up a bit I really saw a man who has been suffering for so long and needed reprieve. Emma definitely is right for him as he is for her.

The plot was crazy. Basically there have been two attempts on Alaric's life and Emma, her brother, Ambrose, and Alaric's brother work together to try to solve this deadly mystery. I seriously loved this plotline. It was so intriguing. The ending was a humdinger. I didn't see it coming even though I know Grace Callaway loves throwing in a plot twist at the ends of each one of her stories. Let's just say there is this crazy \*beep\* who really needs to chill out. I was flipping out a bit and was pretty angry about this said \*beep\*. It doesn't matter anymore because Alaric and Emma are living in their happily ever after.

Overall: 5 stars. Another wonderful novel by Grace Callaway. She never ceases to surprise me with epic romances and mysteries all around.

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### **Claudia says**

After reading the second book in this series (M for Marquess), I knew, I had to read this one as well and I was not disappointed.

although there are some events which seems remarkable similiar in both books, the characters and how their relationships develop are so different, that this did not minimize my enjoyment at all.

Alaric is a great hero - dark, brooding and totally misunderstood. I loved how he showed his regard and his feelings, without realizing it.

Emma was a bit harder for me to like than Thea, which is a bit surprising as I normally love heroines, who have a temper and are able to look after themselves. but Emma seemed reckless and if not for Alaric, she would have had some not very enjoyable situations to deal with.

Also was her behaviour for that time not really aproppriate at some times but I could live with that as it seemed to fit nevertheless.

the mystery was also very well done and brought a lot of tension with it.

the chemistry between these two is great and there were some hot scenes in this book. like in the second book, they fit in perfectly.

I love the way how Grace Callaway ends her books. this is such a refreshing way because normally I always feel a bit unsatisfied with the end. here you find a well done conclusion and a great epilogue, which leaves you totally satisfied.

all in all a perfect book for lovers of sensual historical romances

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### **Nelle says**

Oh my word! This was off the charts hot! Emma is introduced to the world of kinky sex rather reluctantly but she finds very quickly that she likes it! Strathaven is under investigation for the death of his mistress. Emma is one of the witnessess but she is forced to see that what she saw wasn't real.

These two meet and the chemistry is spicy! The suspense is well done, lots of plot twists to keep you on your toes!

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### **Candace Nagy says**

The Duke Who Knew too Much by Grace Callaway, has made the list of being one of my favourite books! The only fault I found with this story, is that it ended. The writing is exemplary, I was on the edge of my seat throughout the entire book. The plot was big, and a lot happened. There is quite a few characters but it all works. Everything went so smoothly and moved at a great pace. The characters were AMAZING! Alaric and Emma are the strong type of characters that completely capture your attention from beginning to end. You can't help but love them. The sexual tension between them was, wow! Emma as a heroine, I absolutely adored her. She is the perfect match for Alaric. Alaric is the perfect amount of possessive, alpha male that I like. Seriously nothing in this story is over done or under done. I loved it all. Most importantly, this is a story that I could read time and time again. I highly recommend this book, and can't praise it enough!

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### **Gilgamesha says**

Loved the plot and characters. Emma is the cutest character I have ever come across. Callaway has the marvelous skill of creating true depths for her characters. The erotic aspects were reduced in this book but the romance was beautiful. Alaric is a misunderstood, tormented, and lonely individual. In order to protect his loved ones from the fate he suffered from he keeps them at an arms length and has built many walls around him self. But Emma dons a cloak of invisibility and penetrates his defenses and makes home right in his heart. It is cute the excuses Alaric makes to himself to make Emma his wife (he is sure he wants her in his life from the very beginning). The Kent family is again a joy to read about, each of them unique and endearing in their own way. I also enjoyed reading about the couples from the previous books, although cheesy at times, they were a treat. But the heart of this book is Emma and Alaric's budding relationship and the way Alaric overcomes his doubts and embraces love, and the way Emma discovers many layers of Alaric's past and personality made for a delightful read.

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### **Bubu says**

I gave this book its second star only because it made me laugh...unintentionally, I believe. How else should I read this:

His grip on his temper slipped. "Like hell we are. You spied on me and falsely accused me of murder. Then you instigated that kiss—"

"What?" she said indignantly. "You're the one who started it."

"You licked your damned lip in invitation!"

And then **not** picture this:

There were actually a few scenes that left me in stitches. But seriously, what's with all the lip licking these days, anyway?

I've DNF'ed a few books lately, so I was determined to read this through. Well, at least I had a couple of laughs. But, oh man, rarely have I come across a more unlikable couple with Emma Kent and Alaric McLoed. Especially, Alaric! I mean, hey, how can I not fall in love with a hero who shags his mistress in the second chapter whilst thinking of Emma, our heroine. That's the only way he can shag his mistress, by the way, because - you know - his mistress isn't Emma.

“Yes, ram me with your big cock!” Moaning, Clara ground against him, meeting his thrusts. “I’m going to spend—” What would Miss Kent be like in her crisis? Would she beg for her release? More likely than not the little termagant would demand it. Well, if she was a good lass, he would give it to her. He saw her big brown eyes melting with desire, heard her breathless voice chanting his name as he drilled himself inside her snug sheath, deeper and deeper still, taking what was his, what she’d never given to any man before ...

Very tastefully done...**NOT!**. Of course, Alaric is a tortured, wronged and overall completely misunderstood man. Have I also mentioned that he's a whiny, moany bitch, wallowing in self-pity for most of the book and treating everybody like shit? No? Well, now I have.

Now, to Emma. Emma, our heroine, our strong, willful, feisty heroine...or should I say, our 'I-want-to-smash-her-head-against-the-wall'-heroine, wants to be a detective in her brother's agency, because she's good at talking to female suspects/witnesses and her intuition is spot on. This is Regency Era, by the way, in case we've forgotten that we're talking about a Historical Romance. Now, I've given other - equally anachronistic - books five stars. What's the difference? Laziness. The plot, the characterisation, the prose. All lazy, boring and predictable. At least the other books were well written, had lovable characters or simply...**something**. Here we have Emma who is so one-dimensional that her outbursts of self-righteousness are truly hilarious. And I mean it! She's not the sharpest knife in the drawer. Kidding! That's an understatement. Sometimes I was just simply floored by her stupidity. This is her reaction when Alaric tells her that someone's tried to poison him:

She blinked. “You were poisoned too? But you’re ... not dead.”

Sigh!

I soldiered on! I prayed, begged, almost cried for anything faintly redeemable in Emma and Alaric. Nope, didn't happen. What did happen were some unintentionally funny, 'steamy' sex scenes.

She knew him well enough now to recognize the stillness of the predator the moment before the strike.

Yet she couldn't resist saying, “Pester you? I’m trying to communicate with you— that’s what people do when they’re courting. How will we know if we’re suited if we can’t carry on a normal conversation?”

“You want us to communicate?” She gave an emphatic nod. “Bend over my desk.”

“Pardon?”

“I believe I was quite clear.” His eyes gleamed with challenge. “Face my desk and place your hands there. Do not move them unless I give you leave to do so.”

And there I was laughing again. The second star was well earned!

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### **Debbie DiFiore says**

I wish I had never read it. Sex scenes with other woman is my biggest hate and after the hero has met the h. And of course he is thinking about heroine while he does it. Just say NO! I wish I had been warned. I skimmed the rest. Thank Goodness it was free and the OW died right after they did the deed. She was gross anyway. I won't read this author again I don't think. I am traumatized. The rest of the book is trying to find the skank's murderer. Honestly the scene was brief but disgustingly me . I should add a star but I won't.

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### **Edwina " I LoveBooks" "Deb" says**

#### **GREAT START TO A NEW SERIES!!**

What a great start to a new series. The series is about the Kent family they were introduced in Grace Callaways "Mayhem in Mayfair" series. Book 3 "Her Protectors Pleasure". They were such great characters they now have their own series.

While at Lady Buckley's ball, Emma Kent wanders into the garden. She hears Lady Clara Osgood begging for the Strathaven to stop!! Emma believes Lady Osgood is being attacked and violated by Alaric James McLeod the Duke of Strathaven. Emma is a virginal Ms. and has no idea of sex games. A few days later Alaric wakes up in his private cabin in the woods and Lady Clara Osgood is dead. When Emma reads this in the new paper she assumes that Alaric has murdered Lady Osgood and Emma goes to the Magistrates office and tells them of what she saw and heard in Lady Buckley's garden between Alaric and Lady Osgood. Emma believes Alaric is the murderer.

After a second attempt on Alaric's life; Kent Investigations gets involved in finding the real murderer. This is another good storyline by GC all the characters are written well and the plots have many twists and turns. The story is fast paced. Never a boring moment. Alaric and Emma's relationship grows as they both begin to trust and respect each other. They grow into a love match with a nice amount of sexual tension between the couple. The story keeps me guessing as to what was happening in an interesting way. I almost had it figured out when I was thrown another surprising twist.

I Highly Recommend *The Duke Who Knew Too Much* and I can't wait for book 2 coming this summer 2015.

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### **SmartBitches says**

#### **Full review at Smart Bitches, Trashy Books**

*The Duke Who Knew Too Much* blends Regency romance, mystery and kink—a formula that I expect will intrigue a lot of readers (especially those looking for more erotic historicals). There are a lot of things going on in this book—a lot—but the author weaves them all together well. The only thing that really irked me was the hero's insistence that he's incapable of feels, mostly because I'm sick of emotionally constipated dukes.

I guess that was the only thing that bothered me about this book, and honestly it wasn't that Alaric wasn't an interesting or fully fleshed-out character. I'm just tired of reading about heroes (especially dukes for some reason) who have some past pain that makes them think they can't ever have a relationship again. A lot of

people have shitty childhoods or bad former relationships, they don't all wander around the moors brooding and screaming "Cathy!" while pulling at their hair. For one thing there aren't enough moors for that, and for another you can be an engaging and interesting hero without being emotionally broken in some way. Maybe I resent the implication that having bad past relationships makes one incapable of having good futures ones (or believing that one can).

*The Duke Who Knew Too Much* is lightly kinky, in line with *Wicked Intentions* by Elizabeth Hoyt. There's some roleplaying, voyeurism and light dominance/submission. Even though Emma is a virgin, the sexual dynamic between her and Alaric works well. This is not *Fifty Shades of Grey*. Alaric doesn't need to tenderly take Emma's virginity before they can "fuck hard." She's also no doe-eyed innocent staring blankly at him while he thinks about dom jeans and putting ginger in her butt (there is no ginger nor butt-play in this book). Both partners are aware of what's going on and consent, enthusiastically, to all of it. Emma fully embraces that this is the type of relationship she's looking for even though she hasn't had any other sexual partners.

One minor complaint—the characters use the word frig instead of fuck. Five seconds with Google told me that this was historically accurate but it sounded weird in my head as I read it.

There's a lot happening in this book—there's romance, mystery, a sexual awakening, the story of two estranged brothers reuniting, and a sadness cave. It's a lot to pack into a single romance but I think the story made it work. I appreciated that the sex in the story was a little more adventurous than I typically find in Regencies and I liked the mystery element immensely. In some ways I was disappointed that Alaric wasn't actually Batman, although I'm sure that would be some serious copyright infringement. His brooding was irritating, but I fully admit to being a little overwhelmed by all the emotionally damaged dukes out there. Maybe these guys should form a support group.

Anyway, readers looking for a good historical mystery/romance or a historical with a little more kink will enjoy *The Duke Who Knew Too Much*. This is also the first book in a series—I know many of your credit cards just winced a little.

- Elyse

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### **Al Del says**

Loved it apart from the sex scenes with married OW, what do you expect from a rake of the highest order. Yeah, yeah he'd been hurt in the past and didn't want to fall in love, so he slept around. Same 'ol story. The heroine was great, feisty, smart and the murder investigation aspect was great.

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### **Sheryl says**

**BLOODY HELL Grace Callaway, you write freakin' AWESOME erotic historical romance!!!**  
**Absolutely LOVED your Mayhem in Mayfair series (some of the BEST erotic historical romance I have EVER read) and now with this, it looks like I have a new series to love!!!! \*SQUEE\* Can't wait for the next book in this series!!!**

