



The Marquis Takes a Bride (Cotillion Regency Romance, #2)

Helen Crampton, Marion Chesney

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Miss Jennie Bemyss was in a position that any intelligent young lady would envy. The wealthy Marquis of Charrington has proposed a marriage of convenience, and the handsome Guy Chalmers, whom she has loved since childhood, proposed to aid her in enjoying her freedom to the fullest. Why, then, did she feel so confused?

The Marquis Takes a Bride (Cotillion Regency Romance, #2) Details

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From Reader Review The Marquis Takes a Bride (Cotillion Regency Romance, #2) for online ebook

H says

This gets 1.5 stars for me, and the .5 is because I did enjoy a lot of the marquis's and Jenny's back-and-forth power struggles. It was legitimately funny sometimes, how Jenny tried to spite him but only ended up spiting herself. Other than that, I didn't love it. Not only did it walk the border between a-little-too-much and comfortably vague where intimate matters were concerned (for me, anyway--especially because I was listening rather than reading, which always makes awkward things feel more awkward!), but I feel like I've seen this story before and enjoyed it more elsewhere (the one that largely comes to mind is The Convenient Marriage by Georgette Heyer). But! It did make doing chores this morning a lot more interesting than it usually is, so that's a win.

Janet says

I just re-read this (1-16-2016) Maybe four and a half stars would be better. It's a sad book in places, literally showing the rot in a dying aristocratic family. But there's great humour too. Many many misunderstandings but somehow they're quite believable.

Sylvia says

Regency

Pat says

Cute but a little silly

This was okay for a break from reading anything with true depth of character or plot. Just a silly romantic jaunt but fun for a fluff break.

Damaskcat says

Jennie Benyss has been brought up by her grandparents in a ramshackle and dirty country house. She has never been educated and cannot read and write though she is intelligent. She has always loved her cousin Guy Chalmers and has grown up with him. She hopes to marry him but finds out on her eighteenth birthday that she was betrothed in her cradle to the Marquis of Charrington.

When Guy reveals that it was never in his plans to marry Jennie she reluctantly goes ahead with the marriage to the handsome Marquis and embarks by arrangement on a marriage of convenience. But it soon becomes

clear that more than one person would like to see Jennie out of the picture.

This is a touching romance with plenty of mystery too as various accidents happen which threaten to deprive Jennie of her life. There are several minor sub-plots which keep the reader entertained while the evil plots are being hatched. An entertaining read with a heroine who has a mind of her own and is not afraid of fighting back.

Lady Delacour says

Silly fun story.
Miss Jennies
tantrum throwing
keeps backfiring.
Narrator Anne Flosnik
does pretty good.
Cleanish. Mild Foul Language.

P. says

I found the characterization mediocre. Aren't we supposed to wish someone happy? Didn't.

Jennifer Eckel says

Not one of Chesney's humourous best. Nice read, not worth keeping. To the donation pile.

Smc says

Kindle unlimited. Didn't finish. Stupid heroine.

Pat says

Cute but a little silly

This was okay for a break from reading anything with true depth of character or plot. Just a silly romantic jaunt.

Linda says

Another Great Book

A story of a spoiled young girl, her seemingly cold Marquee and her greedy, sneaky cousin. The story has conflict, suspense and of course romance. All these books keep you intrigued. I'd recommend this book

Grace says

This was an interesting storyline for an early Chesney that depicts a hero who falls in love first. It also featured what I came to associate with Chesney's books -- that of an elegant, intelligent, but highly languid hero who is assumed to be foppish and useless. This type of hero is rarely seen in historical romances, and even less so in the older ones, as I believe the order of the day was to have a rampaging brutal hero hell-bent on preserving his family name or rape. It is a character that Chesney does extremely well and that I personally enjoy. Occasionally, she has a female version of this -- as seen in *Ginny*, and *The Adventuress* (of *House for the Season*). Her notable male derivatives are the heroes in *Deirdre and Desire* (of *Six Sisters*) and to a lesser extent, *Penelope Goes to Portsmouth* (of the *Traveling Matchmaker*) and *Marrying Harriet* (of the *School for Manners*).

Jennie is an extremely neglected, spoiled girl living in a ramshackle aristocratic situation with her ageing grandparents and equally ageing (or dying) servants. She's said to be "spoiled by neglect," which novel concept still lingers in my head long after I've finished this book, and her only delight in an illiterate life is the love of her life, her first cousin Guy Chalmers, who oftentimes drops to try to borrow money from the grandparents. When she turns 18, she finds that she has been betrothed from the cradle to a Marquis of Charrington, who goes by Chemmy. (This was slightly confusing at the beginning to me, as there was already a character of Chalmers, and Jennie Bemyss's last name is not dissimilar. Also because this was the first of her early books to give a nonsensical nickname to a stately persona.)

Chemmy had called initially to beg off the engagement but had fallen in love at first sight with Jennie and insists on going through with the wedding, evincing, however, no particular love or interest in his outward demeanor. Jennie planned on holding her breath until her grandparents changed their mind, but was persuaded by Guy Chalmers to go ahead with the marriage, as society marriages don't mean a thing and they could go on to have incestuous fun.

There follows a series of pull and tug between Chemmy and Jennie, comprising mostly of Chemmy giving in to Jennie's spoiled and rude demands, and Jennie's insistence on matters just to be contrary. Even though the book states that Jennie was made illiterate by her grandparents who considered an uneducated female a fine thing, it must be said that Jennie never made an effort to better herself, though her days in the restricted countryside must have been highly dull, and she doesn't appear to be very intelligent either. She does several things to spite Chemmy -- although his actions were for her benefit -- and when she rails at him, he explains and offers to let her do what she wants, she goes ahead with her own plans and regrets it accordingly.

This goes on for most of the book until Chemmy has had enough and there is a SHOWDOWN -- very much in the romance novel method, where the bridegroom does away with the marriage of convenience and demands his marital rights. The next day, however, as is always the pattern in romance novels, Jennie is

feeling lovey-dovey, but Chemmy has given up on her and allows her everything she wants, including full access to her cousin, who, it eventually turns out, was plotting her downfall in order to get money.

Rated only higher than the Constant Companion because Chemmy really makes up for Jennie's annoying immaturity and stupidity.

Tasneem says

Another M.C. Beaton romance filled with fun and entertainment.

Patrizia says

Un 'romance' leggero, divertente, senza pretese. Giusto quello che ci vuole per passare un week-end in relax

Verity W says

This only confirmed the fact that I think I've had enough of MC Beaton's Regencies. When I first discovered them (with the Six Sisters series) I was so excited and I've worked my way through the School for Manners, and the Travelling Matchmaker, which I really enjoyed all of. As more series have been republished (who knew she'd written so many - and under so many pen names!) I was excited, but I enjoyed the House for a Season not quite as much, and I'm struggling with The Poor Relation Series and some of the standalones have been a disappointment too.

So, as to the book itself, the plot was fairly predictable - but then I've read so many of these now that maybe it's just that that's making it seem that way. I read it, it was fine, it filled some time, I won't read it again but then I don't think it was aiming to be a book that has a big impact on you. I've one more MC Beaton Regency unread on the Kindle, I'll go straight on to it and then call a halt for a while.
