



A Summer to Remember

Mary Balogh

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Mary Balogh weaves a tantalizing web of wit and seduction in her new novel—an irresistible tale of two unlikely lovers and one unforgettable summer.

Kit Butler is cool, dangerous, one of London's most infamous bachelors—marriage is the last thing on his mind. But Kit's family has other plans. Desperate to thwart his father's matchmaking, Kit needs a bride...fast. Enter Miss Lauren Edgeworth.

A year after being abandoned at the altar, Lauren has determined that marriage is not for her. When these two fiercely independent souls meet, sparks fly—and a deal is hatched. Lauren will masquerade as Kit's intended if he agrees to provide a passionate, adventurous, unforgettable summer. When summer ends, she will break off the engagement, rendering herself unmarriageable and leaving them both free. Everything is going perfectly—until Kit does the unthinkable: He begins to fall in love. A summer to remember is not enough for him. But how can he convince Lauren to be his...for better, for worse, for the rest of their lives?

A Summer to Remember Details

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From Reader Review A Summer to Remember for online ebook

Andreia Silva says

Os livros da Mary balogh são de facto muito bons no entanto neste não consegui atribuir as 5 estrelas porque achei que pelo meio a história 'secou ' um pouco . Teve a dose certa de romance mas acabou por faltar ali qualquer coisa. Mas de qualquer forma gostei imenso da história.

Duchess Nicole says

A hero who uses a playful, careless demeanor to cover up his hurts and troubles, and a heroine who is desperate for someone to love her *enough*. I love the convincing that takes place, and even more than that, I love the moment of inevitable surrender. Beautiful story.

Jan130 says

Reread Feb 22 2018:

3.5 to 4 stars. Enjoyable reread.

Original review 22 Jan 2017:

A lovely prequel to the Bedwyn series. It sets things up well for some of the Bedwyn books (aka the 'Slightly' series), especially for Freyja's story. We see the other side of Freyja's failed romance with Kit Butler, and it gives more of an insight into Freyja's background. We also see a bit of Wulf and Ralf. Nice! Well worth reading before the other books. I unfortunately read it after the rest of the series, LOL, but I still enjoyed it anyway.

Aside from being a prequel, the book stands up well on its own. Kit has been through some terrible experiences at war, and also with his family. One brother has died and the other (Sydnam, who gets his own story in 'Simply Love') is bitter after surviving horrible injuries at war. Lauren has also had her own challenges in her life, which have led her to hide her real, natural self deep inside while on the surface seeming like a perfect lady. Lauren is the one who got dumped at the altar when Neville's supposedly dead wife reappeared in 'One Night For Love', which is really a prequel to this book. But again, it can easily be read as a standalone. Lauren and Kit slowly fall in love, the barriers start to fall, and they help each other face their pasts and heal.

Sombra says

Siempre se ha dicho que segundas partes nunca fueron buenas. Pero hay momentos y series en los que sin esa segunda parte, el lector se puede quedar con una impresión que es la equivocada con respecto a un personaje que luego te acaba hasta sorprendiendo (aunque está también el fenómeno contrario, y no te acabas de creer para nada la redención). En mi caso, me lo he creído y hasta me he logrado poner en la perspectiva de Lauren.

En el primer libro, ella es la novia a la que dejan plantada por "culpa" vamos a decir de la aparición de Lily. Por lo que desde que es relegada a un segundo plano se vuelve un personaje todavía más callado, más retraído y por ende más sospechoso de cometer alguna locura, tipo meterse en medio de la pareja feliz y ser un incordio durante lo que resta la historia.

En este libro vemos el porqué se comportaba como lo hacía, cuáles eran sus miedos, cómo es que pensaba lo que pensaba y también vemos cómo gracias a Kit, a quien conoce en circunstancias nada predecibles, va cambiando poco a poco de carácter y de pensamientos.

Si tuviera que resumir este libro en pocas palabras, podría decir que se trata un libro de amor puro y segundas oportunidades.

Lauren y Kit tienen unos bagajes muy importantes que no saben cómo afrontar y gracias a una charada, lograrán no solo encontrarse y perdonarse a sí mismos, sino vivir como siempre han deseado junto a aquellos a los que aman.

No sé cómo será la serie Bedwyn, pero con estas dos precuelas, la autora ya me ha ganado para seguir leyendo.

Aunque como en todo, no todo el libro es color de rosa; la ex prometida de Kit y miembro de los Bedwyn, Freyja, ha sido un grano en el trasero desde que ha aparecido y espero por su bien que en su libro cambie, porque me preveo una serie muy larga con un personaje como ella.

Mafi says

Se já tinha ficado agradada com o primeiro volume, posso dizer que este segundo livro da autora é muito melhor que o primeiro. Para já, e na minha opinião, a história da Lauren tem muito mais potencial do que a história de Lily, pessoalmente, quando li o livro, não simpatizei muito com esta, e durante toda a leitura não pude deixar de sentir pena e uma atenção especial pela Lauren, que se viu abandonada no dia mais feliz da sua vida.

Em "Um verão inesquecível" conhecemos Christopher Butler mais conhecido por Kit, um visconde sexy, divertido e claro sedutor. Não quer matrimónio nem uma vida conjugal, mas devido aos planos do pai, decide arranjar uma noiva que lhe agrade e preferencialmente alguém que queira casar rápido. O que não é o caso de Lauren que não quer pensar em casamento tão depressa, visto ainda estar um pouco traumatizada. Mesmo receosa a novos amores, sonha com o dia de encontrar o seu príncipe encantado! E eis que conhece Kit e os dois elaboram um plano: Lauren aceita ser sua mulher se ele retribuir com um verão inesquecível...

Lauren apresenta-se com uma mulher ainda magoada com tudo o que lhe aconteceu e com receio de se tornar uma solteirona e motivo de chacota na sociedade londrina. Decidida a provar a todos que não é fria como todos pensam e que apenas deseja ser verdadeiramente amada, vê na proposta de Kit, uma fuga às más bocas das senhoras. Lauren não é a única decidida a colocar o passado para trás das costas. Precisando de arranjar um companheira urgentemente, Kit elabora um plano para seduzir a donzela, com o único objectivo de casar com esta em seis semanas.

Depois de uma dança inesperada no baile mais esperado da temporada social, desenlaça-se uma série de encontros, cada vez mais íntimos e mais confidentes, as emoções à flor da pele e os sentimentos a crescerem de dia para dia. De um beijo roubado ao prazer carnal, Lauren e Kit unem-se num só, numa chuva de amor, paixão e luxúria, mas também de amizade, ternura, compreensão e solidariedade um pelo outro. Ambos

vivem aventuras palpitantes e Lauren prova que não é uma simples dona de casa, mas que tem um espírito aventureiro dentro de si. Como habitual em livros deste género, “Um verão inesquecível” possui cenas mais tórridas mas nada de muito explícito, a autora consegue manter um tom suave, conferindo uma doçura e romantismo às cenas de amor e centrando-se nos sentimentos e nas sensações das personagens.

Quanto ao romance, não há nada a apontar, a autora na minha opinião, não é a rainha deste género nem corta a respiração ao leitor com os romances que escreve, mas atinge o objectivo dos romances históricos: o enredo é suficientemente apelativo para proporcionar umas boas horas de leitura. Tal como acontece no primeiro livro (e em tantos outros livros deste género) há um maior foque no romance, ignorando um pouco a História, não havendo referências a datas que ajudassem a contextualizar o livro e a ser um pouco mais credível e não apenas um romance de conto de fadas, apenas há menções quanto aos vários costumes daquela época como os bailes nos salões e o desporto do críquete. Concluindo, em termos de pesquisa histórica, o resultado poderia ser melhor.

Não obstante o facto de não ter muito conteúdo histórico, o livro é muito bom e já introduz uma das próximas personagens, Freyja, antiga amada de Kit e que pessoalmente não gostei e que na minha opinião, tal como a Lauren, no seu livro irá desabrochar e dar-se a conhecer por aquilo que realmente é e não pelo que demonstra ser aos outros. Não apreciei muito as provocações de Freyja contra a Lauren, pois só fazia com que ela sentisse inferior e em baixo e irritou-me um bocado o pensamento desta ao entender que o Kit e a Freyja faziam o casal perfeito.

Gostei muito das cenas finais entre a Lauren, a Lily e o Neville. Foi bom recordá-los e por isso espero ver o Kit e a Lauren no futuro em outros livros.

Resumindo, ambos os livros são maravilhosos e dão início a uma série sobre os 6 membros da família Bedwyn que tenho a certeza que irão conquistar as leitoras portuguesas. Aguardo ansiosamente pelo terceiro livro.

Juliana Philippa says

Kit and Lauren are a wonderful match - the laughing rogue and the prim stickler (4.5 stars)

I am rereading all of Balogh's Bedwyn series and since *A Summer to Remember* introduces the family and features Freyja Bedwyn so prominently, I thought it would be perfect to read it before rereading *Slightly Scandalous* (her story and Book 3 of the Bedwyn Series). I read it in one day and loved it as much as the first time I read it. Watching Kit be scandalous and tease Lauren in the first half of the novel in London is *extremely* entertaining and seeing them actually get to know each other and give each other happiness in the second half in the countryside is wonderful.

MAIN CHARACTERS, Lauren and Christopher ("Kit"):

Lauren Edgeworth (26) is seen as prim, proper, respectable, and utterly dull and likened to an ice queen; this is how much of society perceives her and this is what she fears she may actually be. Christopher "Kit" Butler, Viscount Ravensburg (almost 30) is an ex-military man, but is known in London as a rogue, a rakehell, and a constant scandal-causer. Although these reputations accurately portray a side of each of the characters, both Lauren and Kit wear a mask that efficiently hides their pain and suffering.

The hero and heroine were wonderfully complex characters and complement each other extremely well - Kit's devil-may-care attitude and his laughing eyes are a perfect contrast with Lauren, a stickler for propriety whose cool dignity seems impenetrable. They are able to help one another, opening the other's eyes to new sides of themselves and aspects of the world that they had not before discovered. They are both very thoughtful, kind, and intelligent people and watching their arrangement turn into genuine feelings is a real treat!

CRITICISMS:

The book really is near-perfect, though I would have liked to see Kit feel a little more passion for Lauren (in addition to his quiet desire). There is a great emotional connection, and although the chemistry is well-written and noticeable, it could have been emphasized a little more. I know that some other reviewers have said they didn't think Lauren was interesting or passionate enough - although I strongly disagree with the former, I do understand the source of the latter complaint, but found her a strong and engaging heroine nonetheless.

BOTTOM LINE:

A definite must-read and a great introduction to the Bedwyn family series (starts with *Slightly Married*), so read *A Summer to Remember* and then start on those! Also note: *One Night for Love* precedes this book and features the romance between Neville (Lauren's former betrothed) and Lily, the Earl and Countess of Kilbourne.

Lorka says

More like *Summer to Forget*, for me at least. I just did not like the characters. It started off with a good theme, a wager to see if the hero could get the heroine to marry him. But the two main characters were both emotionally scarred people that covered up their pain in what I thought was annoying ways. The hero acted like a devil-may-care teenager and I often felt embarrassed for him. He would intentionally do indecent things in public and gloat about offending elderly ladies walking past. The heroine was a serious lady that had denied herself joy all of her life. She never smiled, never laughed, never did anything adventurous... an all-around dull ice princess. Even as the hero was showing her how to be adventurous and how to laugh, it was still blah and boring. At about page 200, I started to get antsy and was tempted to skim ahead to see if things would ever get interesting, but then I realized I didn't care. I did not really care to read about the hero and heroine finally kissing and falling in love. I was actually ok with the idea of the heroine disappearing off to Bath to live out her joyless remaining days as a spinster. :)

Célia Loureiro says

É o segundo livro que leio da Mary Balogh e, apesar de ter gostado bastante de ambos, sobretudo do facto de ambos os protagonistas do *Uma Noite de Amor* e o protagonista masculino deste último terem lutado na Guerra Peninsular, aqui no nosso Portugal. Por um lado fiquei deleitada com essa menção, por outro tive pena de não haver qualquer referência a uma batalha histórica, a um General, a um local em específico. A autora não aprofundou muito isso, nem sequer para introduzir um bocadinho que fosse da história do meu país ao mundo, já que o escolheu por duas vezes como cenário de eventos importantes. Por outro gosto do cuidado com o enredo que a autora demonstra, assim como a profundidade tridimensional das suas personagens. Também não recai em clichés e estrutura muito bem os acontecimentos. Só lamentei o facto de

a linha condutora do Um Verão Inesquecível ser tão semelhante ao do primeiro livro editado cá, que pertence à mesma série. Isto é, uma mulher é deixada por outra. Uma amizade de infância é ultrapassada por alguém que surge agora, e essa outra é uma desgraçada infeliz. No final do primeiro livro, a desgraçada é a Lauren. Neste a Lauren é a sortuda e a Freyja a infeliz – sim, haverá no futuro um livro sobre a Freyja. Também o Kit, à semelhança do Neville, combateu os franceses em Portugal. Os cenários são, por vezes, os mesmos, com os dois casais tendo vivido situações semelhantes na mesma cabana no rio de Newsburry Abbey (será assim que se escreve?) a propriedade do Neville Killbourne, o protagonista do primeiro livro.

No geral é romântico, bem estruturado, as personagens são inteligentes e voláteis – humanas – sólidas, bem-dispostas. As personagens secundárias são deliciosas! Vale a pena dedicar-lhe umas horinhas.

<http://castelos-de-letras.blogspot.pt...>

Linda says

Almost 4.5 Stars

Kit Butler, Viscount Ravensberg, had led a full life. His looks could charm most women. His high jinks had followed a fun-loving lifestyle. Money was never a problem. Until now. His father expected him to marry. Soon. So as far as he was concerned, it was a necessary wager. He needed a bride, so what would it hurt if he made some money at the same time? He bet his friends that he could win Miss Edgeworth's hand in marriage by the last week in June. That gave him less than six weeks. As far as he was concerned it was a done deal.

Lauren Edgeworth always did what was expected of her. Unfortunately, her soon-to-be husband literally left her at the altar when his first thought-to-be deceased wife showed up unexpectedly. Talk about embarrassing moments! That was over a year ago and now most of her relations were trying to set her up with another man. So when Ravensberg came along she wasn't sure what his game was. Except he was different from the others and almost no one in her family cared for him.

So she accepted a ride with him in his open carriage.

"He grinned as he ran down the steps outside the house....Breaching the formidable defenses of Miss Lauren Edgeworth was going to be a challenge worthy of his best efforts. He must hope, perhaps, that all of her relatives and friends would come to his assistance by persistently warning her against him and attempting to shield her from him- *the idiots*."

Days, then weeks go by. June comes, then goes. Lauren becomes aware of what Kit has done. And Kit comes to terms with his deception. Then things change. And an agreement is made.

Mrs. Balogh is known for writing vividly complex characters. They are often content to turn a blind eye to the world around them; it is easier to bury their wounds. I loved the slow pace of this novel with all of the secondary characters that made up the back story. But mostly I enjoyed watching Kit and Lauren fall in love. They just didn't know it yet.

I found myself smiling while reading. Then my eyes were misty. I loved that they talked, laughed, and listened. There were light touches, smiles and questions. It suddenly became important that the other was

happy. "He knew beyond all doubt that this was one of life's precious moments and it would remain with him for the rest of his life. It was one treasure that his memory would hoard for future comfort. He must do nothing to spoil it." This book has it all: an uncommon romance, some mild adventure, a closure to family intrigue, repentance, and forgiveness. I was sad to see it end.

Teresa says

"There is no common ground between us, my lord, upon which any sort of meaningful relationship might be built - if that is your intent. We are as different as night and day."

"And yet day and night meet fleetingly at twilight and dawn"

This quote couldn't be more perfect for these two characters and their story. On the surface, Christopher "Kit" Butler, the hero, is a rake who does outrageous things and not in favor with polite society. On the surface, the heroine, Lauren Edgeworth, is ice cold and too proper. But of course neither character is who they appear to be on the surface, and as often is the case, Mary Balogh expertly and slowly peeled back those layers over the course of this book. When I got to the end, I don't think I've ever felt that transformation as viscerally as I did with this book. The depth of those layers, the things they hid, were so real that this did not feel like a story to me. I was completely lost into their world and their falling in love. This is my idea of the perfect, wonderful slow burn. Kit and Lauren's kind of love is one that is true and healthy. A kind of love that makes you want whatever that person needs, even if it's not beneficial to yourself, or for them to be happy even if it doesn't include you in any way. This book, in my opinion, showed the truest definition of love.

Maybe it was partly coming off the last historical I read, because this book was pretty much the antithesis of that (clear consent, for the win!), but I had hearts in my eyes and was swooning throughout. I felt like I was at Vauxhall gardens or in the country learning to climb trees and swim in lakes. Watching Lauren's transformation, awakening, living of life quite honestly brought me to tears.

Book 1 and 2 were like night and day (with no meeting at twilight and dawn) for me. Even as a person with reading order OCD, I would suggest anyone who has not read Mary Balogh before to start with this book. It's such a better experience that represents more of her work. And the Bedwyns, which these prequels are meant to set up that series, are only first introduced in this book. I cannot wait to get their stories.

Susanne says

5+ shining stars!

Enchanting, colorful, sparkling, romantic, well-crafted, endearing, heartwarming, wondrous and beautiful.

"I think that spending a summer in your company, masquerading as your betrothed, would be rather...adventurous."

Sometimes it's more difficult to write a review for a book you really loved. Nothing you say can really convey how fantastic the book was! And you don't want to spoil anything, because the discovery was such a treat. This book was just that. I am so excited to have found Mary Balogh and I've already downloaded the next one to my kindle. So what was so fantastic? Except for the fact that this book wooed me at a time where I've DNF a lot of books?

It had my favorite trope: the fake engagement in an historical setting. But it was so much more than that. The whole story flowed wonderfully and every character was so well written. Mary Balogh didn't tell me about them, **she showed it through the writing**. I could feel the sun on my cheeks and the cold water, the merriment, the sadness, the life of the characters and the love between Lauren and Kit.

Lauren and Kit are the most wonderful couple ever. **They complement each other**. Kit gives Lauren the sparkle of life that she needs, and Lauren brings the love and compassion that Kit needs.

"...We are as different as night and day."

"And yet night and day meet fleetingly a twilight and dawn," he said, lowering his voice and narrowing his eyes and moving his head a quarter of an inch closer to hers. "And their merging sometimes affords the beholder the most enchanted moments of all the twenty four hours. A sunrise or a sunset can be ablaze with a brilliance and arouse all the passion, all the yearning, in the soul of the beholder."

Best heroine – check. Best hero – check. Best couple – check. **I love a heroine who can stand her ground**. And Lauren did that. She was strong and she held her ground as a lady with subtleness. I am in awe. Kit with his eyes dancing with laughter was charming and merry despite his past. He had depth and he made it straight to my book boyfriend harem.

I loved everything about this book. I could not wait to see what the next page would bring. It had all that I love and no stupid misunderstandings, conflicts or unnecessary drama. I am beyond happy to have found a forgotten classic. It sure was **a summer to remember**.

Mary Balogh is going straight to my favorite historical authors alongside with Lisa Kleypas, Courtney Milan and Sarah McLean. Thank you, Lisa Kay and the lovely ladies in the RLftCI group for recommending it to me ages ago. I should have read it sooner!

Joanna Loves Reading says

This book nearly had it all. My love and hate. I very nearly did not finish, and I am so glad I did. It was touching and lovely.

Lauren was a lovely heroine. I felt so much for her. She had recently been jilted- at the altar. How humiliating for her especially when she prided herself in following the rules and doing the right thing, especially when her bridegroom was as close to her as a brother as they grew up in the same house. Her friends and family were his friends and family, equally wanting to share in her former bridegroom's happiness and not distress Lauren. Wanting to find a happy ending for Lauren and going about it in the wrong way. And here comes Kit.

Kit is a rascal, a rogue. He is so much in disgrace with the ton that even as a Viscount and heir to an Earldom, most daughters of the ton are warned away. Kit and Lauren's first contact occurs when he is

fighting in broad daylight, shirtless in Hyde Park. Lauren is warned away, but she learns defiance and finds herself drawn to the danger, to Kit. Lauren needed a Kit to help her live, but she needed a Kit without despicable ulterior motives. Here was my biggest problem. Kit, not having seen his family in 3 years, is told he is to be married to his neighbor and former flame. The mess surrounding the former flame bit is a big part of why Kit is estranged from his family. So, he devises a plan, which turns into a wager with friends, to make Lauren his fiancé and use her as revenge on his family and former flame. I thought him so unworthy of her at this point, and I was on the path of hating this book. Lauren, of course, calls him on this, after he nearly convinces her that she is special to him, and they move forward with a fake betrothal. This is when I set the book down. For two months. I have very rarely cried in a touching or sad scene of a book, but I believe that angry tears were a first for me in this book. I told myself that the fact that I was moved to angry tears meant it was a good book because it was making me feel, but it didn't make me want to pick it up again. Alas, library renewals are not endless, and I decided to give it one more go with about as much pessimism possible.

And then, amazingly it started to work. Kit made Lauren have fun and live. Lauren helped Kit mend fences. They both grew as people and grew to love each other. There were words and phrasing that at times felt off to me (read my updates if you're curious), but they didn't bother me overly much. I thought the Love scenes overall better in this one than the other Baloghs I have tried, not great because but better. I do think reading (as I did here) is the way to rather than listening (as I have done with all the others) despite the excellent narrator. I do wish the plot had been slightly different (without the wager/fake engagement), but I am happy and satisfied with their HEA.

Rane says

Kit Butler has been ordered to take up the reins deemed by his family and marry, wanting to thwart his father's plans for a his marriage and when a wager is set between him and his fellow friends to marry the coldest and most proper woman of the season in a short amount of time, Kit is surprised when this woman he's out to marry sets him a new wager.

Once a jilted bride Lauren Edgeworth is getting back into society after her misfortune almost wedding, when we know rake Viscount Ravensberg starts to play court to her, she finds it odd that he wants to marry her so quickly, and when Lauren asks for the truth, she sees this as a chance to get away from the life she's known and have a truly wonderful summer to remember, the summer is only beginning and so is the chance of love.....

Mary Balogh's words in *Summer to Remember* fondly trigger fond memories of my own past summers, with fun and games, listening to Seals and Crofts *Summer Breeze*, hanging out with friends and just being with the one that makes your heart flutter in your chest by just being near them...

Kit Butler has been at odds with his family for three years after returning home with his younger brother broken from torture and war. Blaming himself, his family sends him away, with his mask of carefreeness firmly in place, Kit goes through the ton as a rake one whom gets a kick out of shocking everyone. When Kit receives a letter from his father ordering him to marry someone chosen for him and take up the responsibilities of his title, Kit decides to thwart the plan and marry someone of his choice. After a fight in the park and with his friends a wager is set that Kit will marry before the end of the month the most proper and cold Lauren Edgeworth, but when the plan goes awry, Kit is surprised when Lauren sets a new wager between the two, one where he would have his betrothal but fake and Lauren will have a summer to remember, parting way at the end of the summer.. unknown to Kit, the summer only starts a love he never knew he felt for Lauren.....

Lauren life shatter a year before, when at her wedding, she becomes a jilted bride when she finds her betrothal is already married to a woman whom was thought to be dead. Lauren has lived her life as the proper, cool miss, a true lady in order to be accepted by her adopted family, to hide her longing for a mother whom left her behind as a child. One day in the park she comes a fight with the shocking Viscount Ravensberg, only to have him shortly there after try to play court to her and ask for her hand in marriage, knowing something is up, Lauren gets Kit to tell her the truth. Lauren sees this a chance of a lifetime, to do something exciting before she chooses to live her life as a spinster. With the wager set, Lauren enter's Kit's life to repair and heal the wounds from the past three years, but as she changes Kit's life, he slowly starts to change hers as well, with love blossoming in the summer days.....

I always known am in for a deep read with any of MB's works, the depth of her characters always amaze me, as the layers of Kit and Lauren are slowly peeled away, their masks falling away to show two wounded souls drawn to one another. Kit blamed himself for what happen to his younger brother, and went mad a summer three years ago, the topper was the fight with his older brother and his brother's sudden betrothal to a woman he desired to marry himself. Kit didn't understand the damage he was doing not only to himself but his family who were also to blame, who didn't try to reason with him, and Kit became the scapegoat of sorts for all around. The pain runs deep for Kit when his older brother dies living him not having the chance to ask for his forgiveness and saying good-bye and his war torn memories that plague. Kit and Lauren wore different mask, but nevertheless wore masks to hide the pain they dealt with everyday. Kit's carefree mask and Lauren's cool lady. When the wager and plan is set between Kit and Lauren, we start to see Kit's true face reveled. Kit's humor and joy he showed to Lauren was beautiful, simply things from climbing a tree and taking a swim, you saw Kit finally letting go of the darkness that followed him while helping Lauren deal with hers. Kit was funny, and just amazing as he showed Lauren she could just enjoy being alive. Lauren cool mask, slips away as the summer days past, with Kit showing her the simply things in life, the simple pleasures of just being alive. Lauren came to terms with many things, her almost wedding, her mother leaving her behind and finally finding her true self. Lauren healed many family wounds in Kit's family between Kit and his younger brother Syd. Kit and Lauren heal each other wounds, while they slowly start to fall in love with one another, the process is slow, but it makes it only that much sweeter when they tell one another their feelings.

There was some very memorable secondary characters, mostly the Bedwyins, whom were a strong family, and although they tried to throw their weight around with Lauren, Lauren, lady like set them down in style. Freyja the woman Kit was madly in love with, and his brother's betrothal is at times was very hurtful and hateful, the reason she acted the way comes to light later on, but I still couldn't bring myself to like her but I did pity her. Even the great Bedwyins couldn't take away the center stage from the gentle love that bloomed between Kit and Lauren and their love story, I loved the easy pace the story is told, much like a summer breeze...

Overall: MB is such a strong story-teller, with the depth she gives all her characters and Kit and Lauren just prove how amazing MB is as she tells their love story and their wounds being healed by one another's love.....

*Summer breeze, makes me feel fine
Blowing through the jasmine in my mind
Summer breeze, makes me feel fine
Blowing through the jasmine in my mind.....*

sraxe says

I'd been avoiding reading this novel for some time because I really didn't want to read about Kit. I felt really bad for Frejya when I read her novel and I totally didn't want him getting his HEA (which is ridiculous, I know, because he got his novel first). Funny thing is, I ended up liking him a lot more and this book actually made me dislike Frejya. She came off extremely petty and annoying and childish, and I'm just glad I read her book first because I don't think I would've wanted to read it after this. Oh, and Rannulf, too, for what he did during the birthday thing ((view spoiler)). I was waiting for him to own up to it with Kit but I was disappointed that it never happened.

I ended up really liked both Kit and Lauren. Their pairing was pretty reminiscent of Christine and Wulfric, with one being cold and proper and the other being all fun-loving (even right down to the laughter-in-their-eyes business). Kit, who I started off not even wanting to read about, actually ended up being my favourite part of the entire book.

“I rest my case ... We are as different as night and day.”

“And yet night and day meet fleetingly at twilight and dawn,” he said, lowering his voice again and narrowing his eyes and moving his head a quarter of an inch closer to hers. “And their merging sometimes affords the beholder the most enchanted moments of all the twenty-four hours. A sunrise or a sunset can be ablaze with brilliance and arouse all the passion, all the yearning, in the soul of the beholder.”

Kit is a total smooth-talker and charmer and it was hard to not like him. Although he's not likable in the beginning, when he makes the bet with his friends in regards to Lauren, but I ended up being won over. I was a little apprehensive because he's a rake and I've gotten sick and tired of reading about rakes. But in this book? I loved that the author actually used it well. I didn't mind the rake/manwhore trope in this book because Balogh used it as part of the novel. If Kit hadn't been a rake, and instead had been a proper and respectable gentleman, he wouldn't have had to be as careful or cautious in his approach and pursuit of Lauren. It would've been easy for him to ask for her hand and marry her. This was an instance in which the author used it as part of the story rather than making him a big whore...well, because of REASONS.

Lauren was also rather likable, despite being rather stand-offish. She came off rather intelligent, and not at all tsstl imo. When it came to Kit, she was suspicious and wasn't won over by his flattery or flowery praise. I absolutely loved that she called him out on his BS and refused to be taken in. She was suspicious, suspicious, suspicious and didn't stop until she got answers. I will say, however, that I didn't like her stubbornness in the end. I didn't like that she didn't communicate with Kit and chose the martyr route instead.

She also annoyed me at times when she acted indecisively, by saying one thing and then feeling completely differently. At one point, he says he's going to kiss her. She says no, and he agrees not to. And then she feels disappointed?? It wasn't bad the first time or two, but it got annoying pretty quickly. I get what the author was trying to do, showing inner conflict in what she desires and how she feels she *should* act, but it was still rather annoying.

Anyway, I read the other books a little while back so I don't remember if it was like this in the others, but this felt like a whole lot of telling and not showing. It happened a lot so that was rather annoying. And although I enjoyed the novel, parts of it felt recycled. Actually...since the others were published after, I guess

it'd be correct to say parts of this were recycled for the other ones. For one, there's the starchy character/fun-loving character pairing. It's in this book, as well as in Frejya/Joshua's book, *Slightly Scandalous*. And, as mentioned above, it also reminded me of the Wulfric/Christine pairing from *Slightly Dangerous*.

There were also some similarities in scenes. In Frejya's book, along with the horse race and kiss reward, there's also the fake betrothal. As with Kit and Lauren, Frejya and Joshua also have a fake betrothal (although the circumstances are different). And, as I was reading, I felt like I was reading the exact same thing when it came to the rolling-down-the-hill scene, which is present in both this novel and Wulfric's.

Sarah says

Buddy read with Aly

I felt quite sorry for Lauren when I was reading **One Night for Love**, after all it wasn't her fault that the man she was about to marry already had a wife and being left at the altar would be rather humiliating for anyone! So, I was glad when I found out we were getting to read her story next and I think I ended up enjoying **A Summer to Remember** even more than the first book.

After having her heart broken Lauren has pretty much given up on the idea of love and marriage, instead she's decided she's going to remain a spinster and she's making plans to move forward with life on her own terms which I thought was incredibly brave of her. Before she moves to a little cottage of her own in the countryside somewhere she is facing one last season in London, blithely ignoring the gossips and playing the part of a perfect young lady because a friend is relying on her.

As the second son Kit never expected to inherit the family title and he's been happy with his carefree life able to do what he wants when he wants. Then the unthinkable happens and his brother dies and now Kit is faced with returning home to pick up the reigns as his father's heir and even worse be forced into an arranged marriage with the woman who rejected him so long ago. Kit may not have a choice about his duties but one thing he absolutely will not budge on is marrying Frejya, she chose his brother over him once and he's not going to let her come back to him now that she knows he'll inherit everything. So, Kit decides it's time to choose his own bride and on a dare from his friends he picks Lauren since she has a reputation as a bit of an ice maiden and he can never resist a challenge.

I have to admit I was fully prepared to dislike Kit from the moment he made the bet but thankfully he comes clean to Lauren about it very quickly. After discussing his situation like the adults they are Lauren offers him a deal, she'll accompany him home and pretend to be his fiancée for the summer if he gives her a few weeks of adventure and passion before she settles down to a quiet life on her own. Kit is more than happy to agree but his plans soon change when he starts to fall for the fun loving woman who has been hiding behind her frosty facade.

I really loved both Kit and Lauren, their relationship builds slowly and was very believable and I enjoyed seeing Kit push Lauren out of her comfort zone. She had been through so much but she was tough as steel and I was really proud of her for the way she stood up for herself, particularly around Frejya. These two books have been a prequel for the *Bedwyn Saga* but I have to admit it they haven't really shown the *Bedwyn* siblings in a particularly great light. Frejya in particular is a nasty piece of work but her brothers haven't been much better and it's not really making me want to dive into the rest of the series. Friends keep telling me I'll be pleasantly surprised when I get to know them though so I'm going to give them a chance and if they end

up being as good as the prequels then I'll have discovered a new favourite historical romance series.

Amarilli Settantatre says

Kit, Lauren, ma anche Gwen e Syd, e poi Wulf e Freya fiera e distrutta. Bellissimo e struggente.

Aly is so frigging bored says

Buddy read with Maru and Sarah

I loved it! I can't wait to continue the series.

Dina says

I absolutely *loved* this book! Right from the start, Ms. Balogh's writing enchanted (there isn't another word for it) me and, before I knew it, I was in love with both Kit and Lauren. :)

This was not a story full of action, escapades and mysteries to be solved. It didn't take me into an emotional rollercoaster that ended up leaving me happily drained at the end. It was, pure and simple, a *love* story about two people who, at first, seemed ill-suited but couldn't have been more right to each other. The characters, the setting, the romance, the pace, everything was just perfect and I truly enjoyed it.

Note: This book introduces the Bedwyn siblings, who are the "stars" of Ms. Balogh's bestselling **Slightly** series. I must confess I was less than charmed by the Bedwyins - especially Freyja, who was utterly hateful in every single appearance she made in this book - and I really don't see them as hero/heroine material. But I'm curious, so I guess I'll have to find that out how Ms. Balogh has managed to turn a bunch of rude and ill-mannered characters into worthy heroes/heroines...

jenjn79 says

I don't have a strong opinion one way or another about this book. There wasn't anything I adored, but also nothing that made me want to throw the book across the room. It was pretty much just average. The book as a whole was one of those historicals where characters basically just flit about each other. There's nothing going on in the story aside from the characters various interactions and personal dramas. Those kind of historicals always seem to bore me a little bit. I like a meatier story.

The romance was average. A little too...platonic? if that makes any sense. I just didn't quite feel the love or the passion. That could be because I wasn't entirely enamored with the characters. Lauren was a bit dull, and I found Kit to be kind of...contradictory, I guess you could say. At times I just felt his personality didn't match the image the author was cultivating. I don't really know how to explain it. Something about his character as a whole just irked me.

An interesting aspect of the book was that it was the prequel to the Bedwyn family series - which is six books (I have them and will review as I read them). So in this book, the family is introduced for the first time. I found Balogh's use of them a bit odd. She doesn't make any of them particularly likable. Frejya Bedwyn is portrayed as a complete bitch, Wulfric a heartless bastard, Alleyne and Rannulf lecherous creeps...to me it was odd to introduce them that way. The way they were in the book didn't particularly make me all that interested in reading their own stories. In my personal opinion, the future series would have been better served if she'd written even just one scene to soften the image just a little, to make the reader care a bit more about them. I already have all the Bedwyn books, but if I'd read *A Summer to Remember* before I bought them, I probably wouldn't have cared enough about the characters to go out looking for the books.

Anyway, to sum it all up, the book was average. Nothing special, nothing all that awful. Probably not worth the \$7 to buy it new, but fine to buy used.

Danielle The Book Huntress (Back to the Books) says

This was a very well-written book with layers. Kit seems like a carefree scapegrace who goes through life not caring for much, but he's very tortured inside. He cares very deeply, and blames himself for the death of his brother, who was originally the heir. His family blames him too. Lauren has had to pretend that she is not devastated about her broken engagement and the embarrassment it caused her when he fiance leaves her at the altar when his long lost wife returns (*One Night For Love*). Kit sees her suffering and convinces her to pretend that he is romancing her for the summer. It allows him to put off marrying Freyja Bedwyn, who has been chosen as his fiance. He actually stole her away from his brother because he thought he was in love with her. But when he returns, he realizes he didn't love her, he just wanted her because she was his brother's fiance. Their relationship unfolds to the mutual benefit of both of them. In some ways, this is the lightest book I've read by Balogh, but then there is the pain that Kit is experiencing, and how he's sort of looked down upon by his family because they don't think he's very serious and because of his brother. Lauren is misconceived by society as a boring girl with nothing to offer, but Kit seems to really see her and likes her. It does help her to feel much better about herself. He helps her to learn to have fun and to feel happy. And she helps Kit to feel special and worthwhile. There's not a major conflict in this book. It's really a relationship book at its heart. I think that's why I liked it so much.
