



# A Lady's Guide to Improper Behavior

*Suzanne Enoch*

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) ➔

# A Lady's Guide to Improper Behavior

*Suzanne Enoch*

## A Lady's Guide to Improper Behavior Suzanne Enoch

The Rules:

A lady should always make polite conversation . . .

Theresa Weller understands the rules of decorum, and is appalled when Colonel Bartholomew James disrupts a perfectly civilized dinner. This rude, insensitive man is the complete opposite of everything a gentleman should be--but with one searing kiss, Tess can think of no one else.

A lady should never lose her temper . . .

Aggravated beyond bearing by a man who speaks his mind, Tess wishes there was a guide to men like Bartholomew. Surely, with such an assortment of handsome, polite suitors to choose from, Tess should not ache for him.

And a lady should never pursue a gentleman.

She invites him on carriage rides and dares him to dance, and almost makes him want to return to Society. Bartholomew knows Tess wants to be seen as a proper miss, but deep down, he knows she is precisely the sort to spark his desire . . . A most "improper" lady.

## A Lady's Guide to Improper Behavior Details

Date : Published April 27th 2010 by HarperCollins e-books

ISBN :

Author : Suzanne Enoch

Format : Kindle Edition 386 pages

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

 [Download A Lady's Guide to Improper Behavior ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online A Lady's Guide to Improper Behavior ...pdf](#)

**Download and Read Free Online A Lady's Guide to Improper Behavior Suzanne Enoch**

---

# From Reader Review A Lady's Guide to Improper Behavior for online ebook

## Audrey says

her idea of being proper, pleasant and polite, not to act out so that nothing "bad" would happen was very real to me. it was a lesson I wasn't expecting out of this book.

"Damnation. You see? I can curse, too. It's only that I choose not to do so because it's terribly lowbrow."

---

## Eastofoz says

Déjà vu anyone ? Suzanne Enoch is an auto-buy for me but when I've already read the book the last thing I want to do it buy it *again* disguised as something new and that's pretty much what she's done with this story. It's a recycled version of England's Perfect Hero only not as well-written and without the emotional punches you got via the hero. Now if you haven't read "England's Perfect Hero" then you may love this story because it's good for the most part. Though it's the second book in the Adventurers Club series it really can be read as a standalone. There's a brief mention about the club and the Duke of Somerset makes a few appearances but it's not like you're missing anything if you haven't read book 1.

The book centers around Tess and Tolly (the guy's name's Bartholomew which is just as 'unsexy' as Tolly if you ask me) who don't particularly like each other when they meet. He's a boor with a closet full of secrets and she's a social butterfly who takes it upon herself to act like the Miss Manners of her time. The only thing is that underneath her perfect exterior lies a wanna be "wanton" –too bad Enoch skimped on the steam scenes to show that :-/ She can normally write some very good sex scenes but it was almost like she couldn't be bothered this time which was disappointing especially since the build-up to the steam was well-done. So the two meet off and on at various soirées and some good verbal sparring happens –reminded me of something along the lines of Loretta Chase's Lord of Scoundrels but not as much quantity-wise, too bad too because there's some stuff that you rarely see in a historical coming from the heroine. Tolly is suffering from a horrible leg wound that he got while on a mission of sorts for the East India Company. Towards the end the "bad guys" have got it in for him and the romance turns its focus there for the last bit of the book which I never like in a romance novel because it detracts from the h/h's story and screams of filler. You can tell that the author ran out of things to say so she stuck in this overused, tired kind of ending. Predictable, unoriginal and boring. When I realized the direction that the book was going in I just wanted it to be finished so I could move on.

As for the writing style there is some great repartee between the two especially because the heroine remains strong and independent minded right to the end. She's got a sharp tongue for every barb he throws at her. I didn't particularly like the hero though. I never pictured him as a virile 28 year old but more so as an old geezer. He was missing something. He lacked that take control trait that Enoch's heroes tend to have. Too many times he didn't come across as sexy or powerful but more like someone who wanted to hide away which was understandable but again, not my kind of guy. This isn't to say that he was weak but he wasn't alpha enough for me, almost too down trodden and the heroine had the upper hand or they were on equal footing all the time. I like when it goes up and down between the h/h because it heightens the sexual tension between the characters more. The ending was really good and put a big ol' smile on my face but that didn't make up for the problem areas in the book.

So if you've read "England's Perfect Hero" you may feel gypped with this story –I did when all was said and done. If you haven't, it's worth a lowish 4 star read.

I'm going to be generous and say that every author is entitled the odd dud once in a while so I'm impatiently waiting for her next installment in The Adventurers Club series –better be that hot babe the Duke of Somerset's story ;-)

---

## **Linds says**

This is one of those romances where I am really fond of the hero but as a book there are some things that are just "off" and it never completely clicks with me.

Tolly is a man recently back from India damaged and traumatized, both physically and mentally. A native renegade group called the Thuggee pretended to befriend Tolly's group. It ends in tragedy when Tolly's group and all fifteen men are ambushed, murdered, and thrown down a well. Tolly, left for dead is the only survivor and returns to England guilty about the deaths he feels responsible for and with a bum leg.

The heroine is a woman obsessed with rules. After Tolly comes home proper manners is the least of his concerns. He's rude and blunt and the couple find an attraction. The East India Trading Company releases a statement that the Thuggee don't exist (their existence is bad for investors) and Tolly is in the middle of a scandal.

The book is very well written but there are some things I just don't like. I love Tolly as a hero, but don't really feel an attraction for the heroine other than physical. I never felt like he really needed her. The book was well written but I felt that the main conflict was between Tolly and the East India Trading Company, not the relationship.

Still, it's well written. It's my first Suzanne Enoch book and I want to try some more from her.

---

## **Becca says**

Suzanne Enoch definitely has a formula...and that is perfectly acceptable because I love it :) Enoch's formula goes something like this: 1) heroine is spunky/different and attracts the hero's attention almost immediately; 2) hero is scarred/injured/brooding in some way, but is drawn to the heroine like a moth to a flame; 3) there are typically no silly misunderstandings in the book but instead the hero and heroine unite early on which sets up the final ingredient; 4) there is a villain that the hero, heroine, and a host of fun secondary characters take on in order to achieve the happily ever after.

This formula worked for me in *Something Sinful*, *The Care and Taming of a Rogue*, *Always a Scoundrel*, and *England's Perfect Hero*...and it also worked here! See? I never seem to get tired of the plot line. Enoch changes up just enough that as long as I don't read these books one right after another, I highly enjoy them and you will too.

Bartholomew James, or Tolly, to friends and family (ugh...Enoch has too many nicknames for her

characters...Tolly? Really?), has returned home with a ruined leg and a burning memory of the hellish experience that killed every soldier in his unit except him. He lives with the pain in his leg as penance for surviving when he should not have.

Theresa Weller is a queen of propriety, politeness, and all things tidy. She is the perfect social butterfly and has a posse of suitors that rivals any society diamond. She has refined this facade (and even written a book) as penance for a childhood action that resulted in tragedy. When she meets Bartholomew, she is appalled at his deplorable behavior, but also intrigued by a man who challenges her and sees the real her despite the cloak of propriety she wears.

Both characters have personality traits that are not likeable on their own, but they have enough redeeming qualities to keep them interesting and fun. Throughout the story, Tess and Tolly keep seeking each other out and despite their seemingly different masks they show to the world, discover that underneath it all, they are two very similar, wounded people. Both find themselves dropping their masks and embracing their true, better selves.

My favorite part is when Tess pokes fun at herself and her rules for proper behavior, as her love for Bartholomew causes her to throw all her preconceived notions of what she wants out of life clear out the window:

***And in the middle of it, her, the former princess of propriety, riding to the house of a bachelor duke in the company of three gentlemen and a valet.***

This was a fun read and one I enjoyed despite the familiar storyline. The characters were quirky and entertaining, and the attraction felt real. These characters were not perfect, but they were definitely perfect for each other.

I will be reading the final book in this series shortly...and continuing to hope that the Duke of Sommerset will one day get his book. He will be one sexy hero. For those who enjoy him, he has many memorable scenes here. At one point, when Tess is speaking to the duke about a dire situation, she thinks this:

***He didn't move, but she had the abrupt sensation that a great sleek panther had come awake.***

YUM <3

---

**Katy says**

DNF 73 %

I've got shit to do and I'm really frustrated that finishing this book is on that list. I'm sure there are a lot of people who would just suffer through it, but as I said, my to-do list is just too long.

This book wasn't atrocious or anything, just kind of boring. I had a really hard time liking Tess, perhaps because her indecision regarding whether to stand by Tolly really killed the romance. I get it. The name of the book explains it all. She's obsessed with rules, and being with Tolly breaks a lot of them. I don't care, I hated that she spent half of the book deciding if he was worth the social ramifications. A realistic mindset in Regency England? Yes. But it made her love for him seem completely superficial. Tolly was 100% in the right and the fact that she even had to think about it kind of pissed me off. Even Tolly's sexy sarcasm and charisma couldn't make up for everything else.

As I said above, this was in no way a terrible book. The writing was fine and the banter was funny, it just didn't do it for me. I'm bored and I just don't feel like finishing this book.

---

### **Lady Darcie Guenon says**

(you may remember Colonel James from the book The Care and Taming of a Rogue) Theresa Weller at first bugged me but when i found out that she had a whole different side to her, i completely changed my mind. She was just trying to stop scandalous things from happening around her...until she meets Colonel Bartholomew James. A wounded soldier with fowl temper trying to stay away from everything he once loved. But once a dinner party goes wrong both Tess and Tolly find themselves in a situation that neither thought possible.

The excitement of this book is thrilling and Tolly is once brave, handsome, ungentlemanly man around and Tess is for sure not the girl everyone thinks her to be. I can't wait for the next book...hopefully there will be one (I'm hoping it's about the Duke of Somerset.)

---

### **Abril Camino says**

Reseña en mi BookTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B3n0X...>

---

### **Roshio says**

Loved the fact that these two were so blunt and honest about their attraction to each other with none of the usual romantic misunderstandings. Refreshing.

---

### **Inshirah Kamal says**

“A young lady should be sensible and serene,  
and if lucky will find herself attended by a man of similar temperament.  
If she is very lucky,  
he will also be possessed of passion and wealth.  
But of the three, I must rank passion last.  
Passion does not pay the bills.”  
A LADY’S GUIDE TO PROPER BEHAVIOR

---

### **Erika B. (SOS BOOKS) says**

I'm sorry. I just woke up from the long nap that was this book.

---

### **Paraphrodite says**

4 stars.

Another enjoyable installment to the Adventurers' Club.

As the last survivor of a massacre in India, Tolly came back to London under a cloud and severely injured. The East India Company wanted to dispel all rumors of travelers being killed so as not to impact their profits and published a report in the London Times that implied he's a liar.

Tess is the cousin of Tolly's sister-in-law and has written a guidebook for proper behavior, believing that it was her improper conduct as a child that killed her parents. Since then, she has been a pattern of proper behavior.

But the minute proper Tess met the sullen Tolly, she started ignoring her own advice. What follows is a story of two emotionally scarred people finding their second chance at living.

A recurring character is the founder of the Adventurers' Club, the Duke of Sommerset, Nicholas Ainsley...hmmmm..... I hope we get to read his story soon!

---

### **Cheryl says**

What a delightful book this was to read! 4 stars!!

I just love a brooding hero that scowls and has a temper, and this book's hero is just that! He is an injured war hero who has all but given up on life until he meets the heroine of the story who gives him the will to fight for his life! She sparks his temper and ignites his passions. He makes her want to do all sorts of things a proper lady shouldn't be doing.

I really enjoyed reading about their story; it was sweet and touching and I can't wait to see what Ms. Enoch

comes up with next! :)

---

## **penelopewanders says**

The worst thing about this book is that I don't have the next in the series. This is the story of a prim and proper miss - an expert at primness and propriety, in fact, seeing as she's written the guide - who almost inadvertently tackles a broken hero. Along the way to their happy ending they discover they've more in common than they or society in general would have imagined. I enjoyed this story and appreciated both the heroine and the hero. A very good read - too bad I don't have the next (yet)!

---

## **BJ Rose says**

Advice you *won't* find in 'A Lady's Guide to Proper Behavior':

- 1) Strongly berate someone at dinner while you're a guest in his brother's house
- 2) Tell a disabled man that he must ask you to dance
- 3) Kiss the disabled man on the stairs of his house after you've grabbed his cane & caused him to stumble
- 4) Enter a bachelor's bedroom while said bachelor is in his bed

I'm a sucker for stories about wounded and emotionally tortured heroes, so I was strongly disposed to like Bartholomew. I initially thought Tess was a proper snob - she did write and live her guide to proper behavior - but when I learned why she was so coldly and meticulously proper, I wanted to cry for her as well. And then of course, she started breaking her own rules with Tolly (*see above advice*). This was not an especially strong 5\* read, but I was so impressed with what each did for the other that I couldn't rate it lower. And I look forward to more of the Adventurers' Club.

---

## **Melissa says**

Excerpt:  
The Rules:

A lady should always make polite conversation . . .

Theresa Weller understands the rules of decorum, and is appalled when Colonel Bartholomew James disrupts a perfectly civilized dinner. This rude, insensitive man is the complete opposite of everything a gentleman should be—but with one searing kiss, Tess can think of no one else.

A lady should never lose her temper . . .

Aggravated beyond bearing by a man who speaks his mind, Tess wishes there was a guide to men like Bartholomew. Surely, with such an assortment of handsome, polite suitors to choose from, Tess should not ache for him.

And a lady should never pursue a gentleman.



She invites him on carriage rides and dares him to dance, and almost makes him want to return to Society. Bartholomew knows Tess wants to be seen as a proper miss, but deep down, he knows she is precisely the sort to spark his desire . . . A most improper lady.

## REVIEW:

FIVE STARS all the way. Suzanne Enoch is the queen of writing tortured/wounded heroes as far as i'm concerned. \*Bows down\*. The book is so utterly good that i'm finding it troublesome to write this review because everything about it was just so perfect. I have nothing to complain about. The pacing of the romance was good. Tolly was \*la sigh\* and Theresa has to be one of my most favorite heroines of all time. I think the thing i really love about this story is that their romance rings true even though it took part in over a short period of time.

After nearly being killed and left for dead by some Indian "Thuggie" Tolly comes back to England a wounded man in both body and mind. He wants nothing, but to be left alone. At the beginning he was determined to get that no matter how rude and how much he made people hated him. Theresa was the stickler for propriety at the beginning. That all ended with Tolly rubbed her the wrong way at dinner with her cousin (whom is married to Tolly's older brother) and she left it lose at him. This starts a battle of the wills between the two and an eventual friendship. This friendship later turns to love. The best part for me in the book was when Tolly got the operation on his knee, knowing he could possibly lose his leg, because he wanted to be able to dance with Theresa. I fell in love with him hard there. Then Theresa barging in on the surgery and helping the doctor... WOW. I could never do that. I would be with Tolly's brother, sister, and Amelia (Theresa's cousin) outside.

Another thing that i really loved about the book was the ending. You know Tolly and Amelia get's their "happily ever after" without it being all perfect. Tolly's reputation is still up in the air. The only thing is that people accept him enough to not shun him anymore. To me this was perfection since it wasn't a perfect ending. It was as close to real life as you can get. And i thank Suzanne for this.

Next up it's been confirmed that Bradshaw Carroway get's a book!! \*squee\*

Rating: 5 STARS. Perfect plot, characters, romance, and just everything \*\^o^/\*

---