



The Marriage Trap

Diana Fraser

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This is an alternate cover edition for ASIN: B00BH16SWU.

"A shepherd's hut, twenty-four hours, a stranger..." It's not the perfect start to Gemma Winters' new life—another man is the last thing she needs after the suffocating control of her ex. But, when she finds herself isolated with a ruggedly handsome stranger, the demands of her body take over.

Since his wife died, Callum Mackenzie's relationships have been strictly practical, with his only real love affair being with his land. But his family wants him to re-marry and he wants heirs. When Gemma turns up, he begins to think marriage might be a possibility after all.

Their twenty-four hours of passion has shattering consequences—marriage and two people who are forced to face their worst fears...

The Marriage Trap Details

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From Reader Review The Marriage Trap for online ebook

Book Binge says

This second novel in The Mackenzies series features the second Mackenzie brother, Callum--a man with a deep well of fear of being hurt based on the betrayal and death of his wife and infant son many years before meeting a woman whose life is endangered by a flash flood, the kind for which New Zealand is famous. And it is in the context of that emergency situation, stranded in a temporary shelter with a man who doesn't appear to be too welcoming other than the fact that he saved her life, that Gemma Winters begins her new life. Running from an oppressive and ultra-controlling ex, Gemma is masquerading as the heiress of a piece of property and an falling down house, property that Callum's family have been wanting for years. But that is all still in the background when the fires of sexual attraction ignite between Callum and Gemma. The core of the story is how these two people respond to challenges that grow out of that short span of time, of how their fears and past hurts seem to stunt their ability to respond in healthy ways, preventing them from tapping those inner wells of authentic caring and love they both possess.

I really enjoyed book one in this series about Callum's brother -- The PA's Revenge -- and I was delighted when the author sent me this book to read and review. Ms Fraser writes with the sure touch of someone who knows this context being a New Zealand resident herself. She writes as one who also seems to have her finger on the pulse of human experience, writing about feelings and relationship with a sure hand and crafting a story that hangs together well and moves forward without those annoying "stalls" that plague some stories. I think the author also accurately portrayed that sense of hopelessness that surrounded both Gemma and Callum to such an extent that they just couldn't get past each other's walls. The resolution will be surprising to readers as it was to me. I'm hoping that there will be more about this fascinating family in the future.

This is a fine piece of writing and has resulted in a novel that deserves to be read and appreciated. It is a very nice look at life in a country many of us find unfamiliar and thus fascinating. It is also an intense romance read that will drag the reader into the lives of the characters in a way that absorbs the attention, the kind of read I really like. Don't miss this one.

I give it a rating of 4 out of 5.

This review was originally posted on Book Binge by Judith.

Loz says

2 stars... maybe another half for being set in New Zealand. Where the season's match our own right here in Australia.

Right off I didn't like Gemma. She's an ignorant twit who claims to want her freedom, her independence, yet she's stupidly uneducated and ignorant when it comes to getting it.

Fortunately this one managed to redeem itself around the half way mark, though I guess I didn't particularly like Callum either, or his family. It was okay. The story was good, but I just didn't like the characters much.

Jaxta says

This book was terrible. The main characters were legitimately stupid people, emotionally immature, arrogant and self righteous with no reason to be. Both were incapable of communicating even the simplest of concepts... I could go on forever. The dialogue was sickly sweet at times, the plot ridiculous. I've read a lot of free "romance" books over the past year, but this is the first time I've truly felt like I was reading a trashy "romance novel".

Trish R. says

Another great read..

So, the two negative reviews I can only assume DID NOT read the entire book or they would have seen that Callum's controlling ways were because of his dead wife and how Gemma showed him how to "give her space."

Anyway, I liked this book just as much as I liked the first one. It seemed to have more drama but just as much perfectly written sex and sexual tension.

Loved Callum and felt extremely sorry for him and what Clair put him through. Loved how much he grew during the entire book. Loved Gemma, and how she let Callum know what she wanted, in regards to her freedom, and she was going to get it, no matter how he felt about it.

I absolutely hated Callum, Dallas and James's mother. OMG! What a bitch she is. And, unfortunately, I kept waiting for Gemma to let her have it but, sadly, it never happened. Bummer.

And Paul was just insane.

It was nice seeing Dallas, Cassandra, Guy, Lucia and James again. I'm off to read The Playboy's Redemption, the third in this trilogy. A trilogy because the 4th book, A Cowboy's Craving, doesn't seem to be available for pre-order on Amazon, just on iTunes. But that's OK, these 3 books were just enough for me.

Caroline says

It wasn't bad. It was a little over done on the part of the heroine, I think. It's like she doesn't know if she wants to be independent or clingy. It's rather weak on motivation, but not a terrible read at all.

Sherry Vitanemi says

Wow

This story was not what I expected. It was more. I loved it. They were both well matched. They took the long way to love. But they got there.

Linda Walters says

Everything happens so fast in the beginning. The attraction, the falling into bed together, unprotected sex with a stranger. Now I'm all for romance but this was like I said too fast (for me). Although I guess I was warned wasn't I? The book info did say 24hours didn't it? Even though they are strangers, they were somewhat sweet together in the beginning. Sweet but a bit hard to believe but the it all fell apart-not so hard to believe then. Misunderstandings begin to pile up on both sides. Anger and hurt begin to dull most of their kindness to each other and often coldness on Callum's part or anger on Gemma's side crops up. Callum's family were good together (except their mother) they were a tight family in their own way. They cared about each other's happiness and had each other's back (except the mother). Its an emotional story, which I think I can rate as an Okay read.

Linda Rea says

Such a cute story full of heartbreak and love and lots of secrets. Gemma is on the run from a controlling man and having been rescued by Callum she believes he is too. Gemma doesn't tell Callum why she is in New Zealand and he thinks she is the heir of the land he wants so badly. Now they are stuck together and the man she was running from hasn't given up.

Lwazi Ndala says

This was so unengaging and frustrating, I couldn't even remember the characters' names. So many issues with this one, I don't even know where to start. At least it was readable.

Judith says

A follow-up novel that continues the experiences of brothers living in New Zealand and whose lives have intersected from time to time. The story revolves around a woman who is running from a hurtful and disastrous relationship in London, pretending to be the inheritor of a falling-down house that belongs to a friend of hers, and who is rescued from a flash flood of massive proportion by Callum Mackenzie and who gradually works her way past his substantial emotional defenses. It is a difficult story to read as Callum must deal with his willingness to move past some really overwhelming past hurts, while Gemma must decide how she is going to allow the future to play out, open herself again without allowing her fears to dictate her relationships, and find a way back to a balanced way of living. It's an emotional roller coaster of a story, but beautifully written by a woman who knows the country and the people and puts that stamp of authenticity on the story. It is also a novel that will engage the imagination of the reader and keep interest glued to the pages throughout. I read Book 1 in this series and am delighted to have read this second novel. Just a really fantastic read.

Jean says

Enjoyed the setting in rural New Zealand. This was the woman running from her dangerous past installment of the Billionaire Hottie family saga. It was a relaxing read for a wintery night.

Kathleen Booker says

A good trap

Gemma escaped a controlling violent man and ends up falling in love with a man who rescued her from storm. Callum thinks he will never love again until Gemma needs help. After one night of passion they have a few spats and then she discovered she's carrying his baby and ends up in what she thinks is the same kind of relationship she escaped only to realize they love each other. Looking forward to more of the Mackenzie family.

Daian Diaz says

Actual rating 3.5

Enjoyable and a quick read.

Frau Ott says

Cute romance

Laurie says

Ok but story was far fetched. Leaves a guy for over-controlling and end up in bed with another 2 days later.
