



The Duke and His Duchess / The Courtship

Grace Burrowes

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Two Novellas of the Windham series by *New York Times* bestselling author Grace Burrowes, for the first time in print.

THE COURTSCHIP

The first novella to be published by New York Times bestselling author Grace Burrowes features the foundation story for her bestselling Windham series. This is the tender story of love tested and won, and how Percy Windham, the dashing and brilliant man who was never supposed to become the Duke of Moreland, wooed Esther Himmelfarb, the amazing lady who became his beloved Duchess.

THE DUKE AND HIS DUCHESS

In this second prequel novella to the popular Windham series, Grace Burrowes continues the story of the Duke and Duchess of Moreland through the tumultuous and bittersweet first years of marriage and parenthood. Percival Windham is a second son and cavalry officer when he weds the beautiful Esther Himmelfarb. Percy and Esther must grow into the nobility they've been resisting and stand together, or face the threat of destroying their young family and the beautiful love that started out with such promise...

The Duke and His Duchess / The Courtship Details

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Author : Grace Burrowes

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From Reader Review The Duke and His Duchess / The Courtship for online ebook

Susan says

Recently I've started reading the works of Grace Burrowes. After randomly choosing a few of the later Windham books, I wanted to go back and read the prequel to this series. I'm glad I did! It was so much fun getting to know Percy and Esther, and I simply love the interaction with the children and babies. Their story was so sweet and tender, and their love a strong enough bond to withstand whatever threatened. Now as I go forward with this series, understanding the foundation and ties of that family will only enhance the remaining stories I can't wait to read. Love it ❤?

Kathie (katmom) says

Happy Release Week!

I've read many of the books in the Wyndham Series (and there are several series) by this author. The Duke and his Duchess have always been there...managing the grown children together while SHE manages HIM! These two novellas, following along their courtship and early years together, were simply charming.

Their first kiss about melted my kindle. It was EVERYTHING a first kiss should be. I loved it. At one point she notices that he was counting their kisses...yes, I swooned, just a bit.

I thoroughly enjoyed their meeting and coming together. There was humor, romance...and then joy.

The second book starts with some issues between the couple. Esther is exhausted (she has FOUR very YOUNG sons) and Percival has some secrets, too, much to his own surprise. I like how the characters (finally) talk things out. Like ADULTS and everything! Ms. Burrowes excels at that and I am most grateful.

While both novellas had been available in ebooks, this is the first time for them to be out in print. You should have the set on your own bookshelf to read at your leisure. They are a joy!

*Thank you, Sourcebooks ~ Casablanca and NetGalley, for the opportunity to read this book.

Elizabeth says

Reviewed for NetGalley:

I love these novellas. I was slightly disappointed when I read them to realize I'd read them (and purchased them) individually before. But I still love the stories, it give enormously important background information to Burrowes' first book series. So I really enjoy them. I find how they meet and fall in love, in the first

novella, adorable, but it really is the second novella, which explores postpartum depression and illegitimate children, which really helps make the rest of the book series make sense. So, I love these novellas.

Reen says

Loved it!

Joycee says

(Read “The Courtship” as an ebook, then read this two-part publication for “The Duke and His Duchess”. Thoroughly enjoyed both parts - but separately. ??)

Courtney Stasko says

OMG! I loved this book so much! I wish I would have read it first because it explains so much. Now I have to go back and reread all the Windham books :)

Betty says

Another wonderful, well written book by Grace Burrowes. This book consists of 2 novellas about Percy Windham and Esther Himmelfarb. The first novella is about their meeting and courtship, the second covers the time of their early married years and their young family. Both are fun reads.

J.A. Kenney says

This is a new combination of two previously published novellas. Both of which I had read previously. However, I enjoyed rereading them.

The Courtship might be one of my favorite stories by Grace Burrowes. It is the story of the romance and love between the Duke and Duchess who are the parents in the later books.

He is the spare of the Duke of Moreland, and she is the poor relation an Earl's granddaughter invited to parties to even the numbers and assist the more "worthy" women.

The love they share conquers all.

The second novella The Duke and his Duchess is an exploration of married life, the challenges, the dramas, and the victories.

This is a great way to get both prequels in the single package.

Michelle says

Read together, back to back, is a nasty shock to the system. The first book is perfect. Balanced and without wasted words, plot, or inner monologue. The second is dreary and somber to the point of depression. And there is no balance. The HEA is not earned by the characters, but thrown at the reader after paying excess penitence.

Diana says

original post at: <http://ramblingsfromthischick.blogspot.com/2013/03/the-courtship.html>

The Courtship

Grace Burrowes is one of those authors who I just want to sit and read all her books. I think she is a fantastic writer. Aside from that, she also really knows how to develop her characters to make them real. I think that her writing is so poetic and gracefully. She flows from scenes with such a smooth transition that it feels like I am watching a movie instead of reading.

In “The Duke and His Duchess” we meet Miss Ester Himmelfarb. She is attending a three week house party. Miss Ester is considered on the shelf and a spinster. She is a part of society mostly as a chaperone and also as a “maid” for Mrs. Morissette. Ester is bored with the party but tolerates it as she has no choice. Although she is considered a spinster that doesn’t stop men from groping her or staring at her cleavage.

Lord Percival is also at the house party and equally as bored. But he too tolerates it. When he sees Miss Ester he is intrigued by her peculiar personality. She is very quick witted and has no problem saying what is on her mind. Lord Percy quickly forms a friendship with Lord Percy. They are often trying to get either her cousin Michael out of trouble or his brother Tony. During their little adventures they start to share a few kisses here and there. Things quickly progress and both must decide where they want their relationship to proceed.

In true Burrowes fashion, Ester was a great heroine. I really enjoyed the barbs she shared with Percy. Even though their relationship starts off teasing it quickly turns into something else and I was happy to see that both Ester and Percy finally got the ending they deserved.

The Duke and His Duchess

This novella catches up with Percy and Ester. They are a married couple with children. Here we learn about Percy and Ester as a married couple. Although there were other characters also presented, they seemed very trivial and malicious at times. It was very unique to read about Percy and Ester as a married couple. They are definitely hitting a rough patch in their marriage and their love is tested. I have to hand it to Burrowes she reveals a big hidden secret here and I was completely shocked. Overall, this was a sweet story. Personally I like when happily ever after ends. It made me a little sad to see some of the issues that they faced in their marriage. Overall, interesting read.

Mary Craven says

So much fun to see how the Windham Family got started. The Courtship was a lovely read with unexpected turns, but always the arrival at the happy ending. The Duke and His Duchess is even more compelling because it tells the story of not only keeping love alive during the bumps in the road of life, but also showing the generous hearts of those who do love and are loved in return.

Melanie says

I was one of those people who hadn't jumped on the wagon of this new author that everyone was talking about. I resisted for almost a year to buy her début 'The Heir', but in the end I gave in. To this day I'm shaking my head when I think about it! I adored every word I read and from that point on, I was hooked on Grace Burrowes. I also wondered about the secondary/supportive character of the Duke of Morland, the man that started it all. Who is this man?! Why would his Duchess even consider, let alone agree to raise his bastard children?

I really wondered after a few books that followed in this series, if Madam Author would ever answer those burning questions for me.

I can't tell you how happy I was when she released the two novellas that explained this to me.

The love story of Esther and Percival is truly one for the ages and I highly recommend it to all of my bookworms, especially to those that have never read this author. This is a great way for you to be introduced to this series and to a wonderful writing voice of an author that has become one of my all time favorites in a blink of an eye.

Melanie for b2b

Complimentary copy provided by the publisher

Glen says

A nice little bundle. Kudos to the author for doing such a nice job of romance between mature adults.

LInda L says

I loved this, although THE COURTSCHIP was not as good as THE DUKE AND HIS DUCHESS. They were just marvelous, especially when Esther got into the baby-making mode. Then she took in two more, but can't say more without giving something away. All the characters, even the bad ones, were so well developed that I felt as if I knew them. This is a prequel to at least eight more and my library has all of them.. YAY for libraries. Also YAY for Grace Burrowes.

MAB LongBeach says

A pair of prequel novellas to Burrowes's Windham series of Regency romances, set a generation earlier. (These were originally released in e-format only, but are now being released in print.)

"The Courtship" is chronologically first, despite coming second in the title. At an excruciating house party, Lord Percival, not yet the Duke of Windham but merely the spare, second in line after his ailing brother Peter, decides to court the beautiful and set-upon Esther Himmelfarb. Esther, who is at the party merely to keep an eye on her cousin Michael, has spent the time so far dodging the dubious attentions of Sir Jasper. Lord Percival comes as a huge relief. A charming look at the process of falling in love.

"The Duke and His Duchess" takes place five years--and four sons--later, when Lord Percival (still not the duke yet) and Esther hit a bad patch in their marriage. The stresses on their relationship are made worse by the reappearance of two of his former mistresses--the mothers of his two older children. This is not a perspective commonly found in romance novels, but it is beautifully done.

The characterizations are rich and believable, and the conflicts arise naturally out of the situations and personalities. Wonderful as always.
