



The Millionaire Rogue

Jessica Peterson

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In an age of stately decorum, the Hope Diamond was a source of delicious intrigue—and a font of unimaginable adventure...

Though not of noble birth, Thomas Hope has a skill in banking that's made him one of the richest, most trusted men in London. Still, he keeps his dubious past hidden. So when an old acquaintance calls on Hope to help acquire the infamous French Blue Diamond, he's desperate to be discreet. He never expects that his biggest concern shouldn't be losing his reputation, but his heart...

Sophia Blaise is determined to make a brilliant match with this season's most eligible, most titled bachelor, but her true passion has been ignited by the incredible stories she hears while secretly transcribing the memoirs of a notorious Madam. After a night of clandestine writing ends with Sophia caught up in a scandalous adventure of her own—with an alluring banker—she begins to question whether she's suited to the proper life she's always known...

Caught up in a thrilling exploit and unexpected romance, Sophia must make a choice between what her head knows is safe and what her heart desperately desires, before both slip from her grasp forever...

The Millionaire Rogue Details

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Author : Jessica Peterson

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Brought to you by OBS reviewer Una

The Millionaire Rogue tells the story of Thomas Hope, a banker who comes to possess the Hope Diamond and subsequently loses it and Sophia Blaise a debutante whose sole purpose in life is to marry well so that her family will be relieved of their financial woes. How the Hope Diamond is recovered brings adventure and merging of two plots.

The two meet under rather unconventional circumstances and discover chemistry between them that neither can resist.

Sophia comes across as rather a daredevil for the times as she, unbeknownst to her family, has consented to write the memoirs of a rather notorious madam. Certainly this is not proper behavior of someone who is being groomed for a prestigious marriage and scandal must be avoided at all costs. After meeting Thomas and having a whirlwind of adventures with him she has to decide whether she will do her parents bidding or marry the man she truly loves. When her cousin marries the Duke Sophia's problems seem solved. Sophia shows throughout the adventures with Thomas that she is not just a pretty face but has character as well, and, will definitely be loyal to those she loves.

Thomas Hope is living with baggage from his past. He is alienated from his family and is a self-made rich person which leaves him wealthy but without a title. This prevents him from having stature in the aristocratic society of the times. When he loses the diamond his financial world comes crashing down. The last thing he needs in such turbulent times is to fall in love with a debutante but, there is a pull to Sophia that he can't resist. At times he tries without success to live without her but somehow their paths always cross. He realizes that she should not be put in these dangerous situations but Sophia seems to have a problem obeying his orders. When faced with certain death suddenly all becomes clear and Thomas suddenly sees the importance of love and family. His only question becomes Will Sophia have him without money or a title?

Having read and thoroughly enjoyed The Gentleman Jewel Thief the first book of this trilogy, I was skeptical on how Jessica Peterson would integrate the two stories while still giving this book its own stand-alone story plot. I was not disappointed and again truly enjoyed Peterson's writing style. It has a love story, enough intrigue and excitement to keep the reader turning pages and if you have read the first book it ties the first story to the second. A must read for those who love historical romance, I know I am now waiting in anticipation for the last book of the trilogy.

OBS would like to thank the publisher for supplying a free copy of this title in exchange for an honest review

Julie (Manga Maniac Cafe) says

3.5 to 4 stars

I liked this so much better than *The Gentleman Jewel Thief*! *The Millionaire Rogue* takes place in the same time frame as the first book in the series, through Thomas Hope and Sophia's POV. I liked Hope so much better than Harclay, and the action flowed more smoothly. I still didn't like the goofy scheme to recover the diamond from Eliason, but it was much more abbreviated here.

I would really like to read more about Withington, and hope that we will have the opportunity to see him find a HEA.

Barbara says

This book was really great, too!

Simultaneous actions with the first book but with Sophia's perspective instead of Violet's, and more importantly Thomas' instead of William's. The story gives more information on the French Blue and why it is so important, as well as Thomas' history. It is going to be hard to wait for the final segment in the trilogy!

Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews says

Kitty's review posted on Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews

4 STARS

Review copy provided for an honest review
kitty

The Millionaire Rogue is not your usual Historical Romance. There's intrigue, suspense, many twists and turns as Thomas Hope and Sophia Blaise make their way through to losing their hearts to each other. Written with astounding accuracy to the era, Jessica Peterson takes us on a whirlwind ride through the streets of London while bringing us all the emotions and feelings that both Thomas and Sophia are experiencing. As we take the journey through Sophia's debut season, we watch her fall in love with Thomas but deny those feelings ... attempting to make a match with a titled man that will salvage her family. Thomas knows this right from the beginning but cannot stop himself from being with her, touching her. When they are thrown together to find the French Blue, rescue a kidnapped Violet or attend a masquerade ball, time and again, they cannot do anything but finally fall into bed with each other and consummate the love. But, knowing that Thomas is ruined and Withington wants her hand in marriage, Sophia has to make a decision which will either make or break her family and/or her heart.

I thoroughly enjoyed Aunt Violet and her escapades throughout the book. What a minx she was! And, the story behind Henry Beaton Lake is going to be interesting and fun from what I can tell. He added a lot of intrigue and some fun moments throughout the story. Lady Blaise was exactly what you would think a mother in the 1800's would be – strict, demanding and swooning at every turn. But, hitting her in the head with a ball while playing pool did have me laughing. All in all, each and every character was written with fun and flare.

Kudos to Ms. Peterson for bringing London in 1812 to life. The French Blue is what is now known as the

Hope Diamond ... her bringing real life people into the story and portraying them to the best of historical knowledge was amazing. She showed us a life that we could only imagine our ancestors living and, in doing so, brought a smile to our faces and showed us that true love can save the day.

Kate says

I enjoyed this book so much that I actually forced myself to draw it out and read it slowly, because I knew I'd be sad once it was done.

This is definitely a thinking person's romance novel and not just light and superficial fluff. The plot, while not overly complicated, it definitely more involved than your typical regency romance, and so it's a bit hard to do it justice in a short summary. The basic gist is that Sophia is a debutante in her first season who is trying to realize her lifelong goal of marrying a very wealthy, titled man. She has a bit of a rebellious streak, though, and one night finds herself entangled in a chase and heist involving the hope diamond with Thomas Hope, a banker who she had vaguely known before due to some investments her family had with him and his bank. They secure the diamond only to have it quickly stolen from under their noses. What follows is a sweeping romance with just enough mystery thrown in to keep you intrigued without taking away from the heart of the story as they attempt to recover the diamond.

I found the book to be thoroughly enjoyable. The romance was realistic and developed at a steady and realistic pace considering the character's personalities and history. Peterson is very good at conveying the experience of sexual desire before it is necessarily acted on, which I think worked very well in this book. And once she gets to the steamy scenes, those don't disappoint either :)

Something else I really enjoyed is how Peterson managed to weave a compelling mystery into the romance without it either taking away from the romance or becoming tiresome. It just became an integrated part of the story. I tend not to be the biggest fan of mysteries and so really am impressed by how well she made it work here.

Finally, the supporting characters were awesome. I thoroughly enjoyed Sophia's cousin Violet in particular, and would not have minded seeing more of several other supporting characters. I am happy the next book in this series appears to be about two of them :)

Peterson definitely is up there with the best writers in this genre. I am confident that as more people discover her books, she's going to gain quite a following.

The book was provided by the author in exchange for an honest review. All opinions are my own and were not impacted by how I received the book.

Donna says

I won an ARC of this book and hope you will consider buying it when it is released in January. This is the second book of a connected trilogy and is better than the first. Jessica Peterson is a new author and she deserves to be read. I think she will continue to get better. This trilogy is about 3 couples finding each other after a theft in the first book. The books are not sequels, but take place at the same time from each couple's

viewpoint. I look forward to the third one.

Michelle says

Awesome author and very thoughtful and kind when you win one of her books. I haven't had a chance to read the other novels in this series but have this one. I fully intend to go back and read the others. This book was awesome and a ride in the story where I could not put it down! I highly recommend this book to everyone.

Sophia says

After the first madcap adventure featuring the Hope Diamond and a daring thief, I was eager to give the second book telling the story of Thomas Hope himself a go. I've always enjoyed it when an author daringly writes a fictional story allowing real life characters some page time. In this case, it's not a serious historical fiction, but a fun, passionate historical romantic romp. I had a good time with Thomas and his intrepid heroine, Sophia (already a point in her favor b/c of the name).

This second book in the series could be read out of order as the pertinent stuff needed to get what is going on is present, but...yes but. This story is told parallel to the first book so it makes a whole lot more sense when they are read in order because the reader would always feel like they were missing stuff that is going on off stage.

The story opens with Thomas Hope, successful banker to England's elite, being paid a clandestine call by a man he hasn't seen in years. Henry Beaton Lake, espionage agent for the crown, has a mission that only Thomas can do. Hope argues that he is done with all that, but gets dragged back into the Game for King and Country. His task is to convince the Princess Charlotte to sell a large unique blue diamond known as the French Blue. The gem once belonged to the French royal family, is thought to be cursed and is now a viable bargaining chip with Napoleon. Unfortunately, other agents are at work and he is driven to seek asylum with an old partner who he interrupts meeting with the last person Hope expects to see. Innocent miss and debutante, Sophia Blaise, is sitting in the parlor of one of the most successful courtesans there is.

Sophia knows the danger of the secret life she lives as the biographer to such an infamous woman and so the arrival of her family's banker while she works on edits with La Reine is most unwelcome. Suddenly she is in the adventure that she always dreamed about, but it is nothing like she imagined. Hiding in a secret closet with Mr. Hope, running with him for their lives, helping dupe the Princess and then helping to search for the stolen French Blue alongside a man who puts all the other men, including the very eligible wealthy marquess she plans to marry, to shame. Does she choose with her heart or with her head?

Thomas is frantic to get the stolen diamond back before the gossip gets out, his clients mistrust his ability to watch over their wealth, and he is ruined not to mention the Crown loses a good bargaining tool with Napoleon. With the help of an unlikely crew, they track down the thief only to discover that all is not so simple. Other parties want the gem and will stop at nothing to obtain it. Thomas wants Sophia to stay out of the excitement and thus out of danger, but she refuses. It breaks his heart to see her, love all that he has come to know about her, and yet know that he can never have her because she is determined to marry nobility and wealth.

Alright, so this story has a lot of excitement, intrigue, passion, and mad-cap ways to it. The pacing was good and it never dragged. There was a lot going on, but not to the point of crazy confusion. Again, I had no trouble because I read the parallel story that goes on at the same time and crosses through this one often. Not sure I liked the distraction of the two stories running side by side, but it wasn't a big deal either. I had a good time for the most part. I liked the characters, the plot, the pacing, the light tone, but I was only mildly into it.

I struggled with the match up in this one. I have weird kick ups like this once in a while and whole-heartedly admit that this issue is on me. I have nothing really against the characters and liked them as individuals and would even accept them as affectionate friends, but as lovers they didn't work for me. I have a hard time seeing an older mature man with a young fresh out in society young lady so its tricky to sell me on it. Sophia was a nice an sensible girl and she has an adventurous streak that leads her to writing a courtesan's memoirs and demanding to be part of the dangerous hunt for the jewel. However, this did not make me find her a good pairing for a man of Thomas Hope's experiences and depth. I actually saw Thomas better suited to his former espionage partner, Le Reinette, who had lived such a full, rich life too. I found her so much more fascinating a character and she dominated those early scenes putting debutante Sophia into the shadows. While, on the other hand, I totally could see Sophia with the adorable marquess that was courting her. They had so much more in common and felt more connected. So a little swapping around and I'd be content, but I get that it doesn't work that way.

The barrier to the romance didn't really do it for me either. They love each other, but the only barrier is Sophia's insistence that she needs to marry a wealthy aristocrat even after admitting that Thomas lights up her world, he is constantly in her thoughts, and the passion they share is off the hook. He's a wealthy banker so not a step up, but he is accepted in Society as much more than a tradesman so he's not exactly a step down either. Yeah, I just got impatient with her and wanted to bop some sense into her.

Looking ahead, there is another story line that has simmered in the background through book one and into this one. Henry Beaton Lake, Hope's spy friend, and Lady Caroline, another background character have bristled up at each other and given off serious sparks all along. There is something between the two of them and some of the explanation finally comes out in this one. I really want their story so I was thrilled to discover that theirs will be the final book in the trilogy. It ought to be a real humdinger.

All in all, it was fun and entertaining story. I like the author's playful style that still offers a good adventure and some passion. I would recommend this book to historical romance fans who like their stories more of spicy romance and madcap adventure.

My thanks to Penguin Group and to Net Galley for the opportunity to read this book in exchange for an honest review.

Cocktails and Books says

2.5 Cocktails

The author was truly well-intentioned when writing this very long book. However, it felt like she was writing at least 3 different books and trying to combine all of them. I think I was confused and remained confused from the beginning to the end of the novel.

The characters were lackluster, boring, and had absolutely no chemistry. I think what frustrated me the most

about the characters is that I never felt like I had a chance to get to “know” them. The hero “Thomas Hope” was billed as a staid banker and conversely also a rogue/spy. He was also a supporter to ne’er do well brothers and apparently a consummate lover. It was just never believable for me. Sophia Blaise was the heroine. Her family was destitute with their only hope being her marriage to an eligible bachelor, preferably a Lord. Sophia’s character started out being very interesting. I think the overdramatic plot and writing style of the author just killed all of her fire. By the time I made it to the end of the novel I couldn’t have cared less whether she and Thomas were together. I just wanted it to be over.

The plot was full of twists and turns. I really tried to follow all of them. However, it just made no sense. The plot surrounded a very expensive jewel that was stolen---to their surprise. It made no sense because why would someone allow the jewel to be paraded around without being guarded at all times. When the jewel is stolen the lady wearing the jewel is kidnapped at least twice and shot once. So I kept wondering how many more things are going to happen to this one character. The author alternatively used the names Thomas and Hope throughout the novel. I had to go back several times just to be sure that she was talking about the same person. His supposed sidekick that dragged him back into the adventure climbed in windows and had a pronounced limp. I kept trying to imagine someone with a weakened leg trying to climb into windows on the second floor and dropping down onto the ground to leave. That never quite clicked for me. There were just too many twists and turns that led to nowhere combined with the nonsensical actions of the characters---I just lost interest in the story.

If the author would take more time to develop the characters and plot that this could actually make a great series. She is very talented. I think she tried to do too much with one book, and it just didn’t work for me.

Reviewed by Michelle for Cocktails and Books

Alyssa says

Review posted on The Eater of Books! blog

The Millionaire Rogue by Jessica Peterson

Book Two of the Hope Diamond trilogy

Publisher: Berkley

Publication Date: January 6, 2015

Rating: 4 stars

Source: ARC sent by the author

Warning: this is an adult book, and for the eyes of mature readers

Summary (from Goodreads):

In an age of stately decorum, the Hope Diamond was a source of delicious intrigue—and a font of unimaginable adventure...

Though not of noble birth, Thomas Hope has a skill in banking that’s made him one of the richest, most trusted men in London. Still, he keeps his dubious past hidden. So when an old acquaintance calls on Hope to help acquire the infamous French Blue Diamond, he’s desperate to be discreet. He never expects that his biggest concern shouldn’t be losing his reputation, but his heart...

Sophia Blaise is determined to make a brilliant match with this season's most eligible, most titled bachelor, but her true passion has been ignited by the incredible stories she hears while secretly transcribing the memoirs of a notorious Madam. After a night of clandestine writing ends with Sophia caught up in a scandalous adventure of her own—with an alluring banker—she begins to question whether she's suited to the proper life she's always known...

Caught up in a thrilling exploit and unexpected romance, Sophia must make a choice between what her head knows is safe and what her heart desperately desires, before both slip from her grasp forever...

What I Liked:

First, my thanks to the author, who contacted me directly to see if I would review her book. I've been taking little to no review requests for the better part of this year, but this request caught my attention. The author was very kind and professional, and expected nothing less than an honest review. Me enjoying the book was an added bonus!

What a lovely historical romance novel this was! I've not read this author debut novel, so I was not quite familiar with this book (or series, or even author). I'm glad it didn't fly under my radar - I'm always looking for new historical romance authors. Definitely adding Peterson to the list!

Thomas Hope has his sights set on the French Blue, a large diamond that is currently in the hands of the Princess of Wales. Fate would have him and Sophia Blaise pair up to obtain the diamond from the Princess... only for the diamond to be stolen at a ball. Sophia, Thomas, and several other important people work together to get the diamond back into the right hands.

It doesn't seem like this book is a romance novel at all, does it? No scandalously revealing cover, only one person on the cover, fully clothed, no sexy title, and once you read the book... the plot is so involved in the mystery and the hunt for the diamond. Don't get me wrong, the romance is alive and present and totally sizzling. But the mystery, the whodunit, seems to eclipse the romance, which I really liked!

I really liked Thomas Hope. He's an untitled gentleman, a banker who did really well for himself. He's not a scoundrel or a seducer, and he's a tiny bit awkward under all that healthy macho manliness. I like him a lot! He feels like he doesn't deserve a lady like Sophia, because he's just a banker, but he's so wrong - he's quite the catch.

I also really liked Sophia. She's very bold and brazen in a reserved way. Like, she's so used to a snobby life, to the expectation that she will marry a rich, titled man, and live in a castle on a hill. But she wants passion and color in life, and not a dull, boring existence. I liked Sophia. She didn't fight her attraction for Thomas at all, despite being a debutante (and therefore, a virgin).

Ooo, the romance. Thomas and Sophia sizzle right off the page, despite Thomas avoiding women for some time now, and Sophia being a virgin. The two of them click instantly, at least physically. Sophia has Thomas wrapped around her finger by the end of the book, even though she convinces herself that that isn't what she wants. She should do her daughterly duty, right...

The mystery was pretty interesting, and it took up much of the book. At first I thought things were a little overwhelming, like there were a lot of little things going on. But as I kept reading, I could see how the subplots intersected with the main plots.

The ending was really nice - everything wrapped up nicely, almost too neatly, but I liked it. I liked how the author left things with Thomas and Sophia, as well as with the French Blue. I was definitely sucked into the mystery, and didn't see it coming from early on, which is always a plus with a good mystery!

What I Did Not Like:

The only thing that really stuck out to me was the constant switching of how the author referred to Thomas Hope - not in the dialogue. It varied from "Hope", to "Mr. Hope" to "Thomas" ... sometimes on the same page, we would see at least two of those. I'm used to a sort of consistency with names/titles/etc., so I was hoping that this would be more consistent. This wasn't a problem with Sophia - she was always "Sophia" in the exposition, and not "Miss Blaise" or something.

Other than that, no serious complaints!

Would I Recommend It:

This is definitely a smart, interesting historical romance with a sizzling romance! It's hard to find that combination in historical romance novels. A lot of them are heavily romance-driven (which is great!), but I like the ones that deviate from this expectation. So, yes, I would recommend this novel!

Rating:

4 stars. An excellent novel by this rising historical romance author! I definitely hope to catch the next book in this series - especially after previewing the story in the back of this ARC! I'm intrigued by Peterson's choice of characters for the next book... though I can't say I'm surprised.

Krissys says

I received a digital and print copy from Netgalley and Berkley in exchange for an honest review.

The Millionaire Rogue is a kick ass historical romance from beginning to end. The characters more modern in mind are caught up in the mystery snatch and while they're trying to solve the disappearance the steamy romance between Sophia and Thomas is ignited. You wouldn't imagine to find so much excitement and sexy love scenes in the book but Jessica nails it.

I really felt that she did a wonderful job creating both the banter and the multiple plots her characters find themselves being drawn into. I really enjoyed reading The Millionaire Rogue and I can't wait to read what Jessica has planned next.

Kelly Bowen says

This is the second in this this series and is just as action filled as the first. The perfect melding of fact and fiction that lets your imagination wonder, what if? If you like intrigue, steamy schemers, and a plot that keeps you guessing, don't miss this one! I can't wait for the next instalment!!!

Kiltsandswords says

The Millionaire Rogue (Hope Diamond Trilogy) by Jessica Peterson

This was an amazing book! I adore when the hero and heroine are on a secret adventure together. The lines are drawn in the sand in England in the early 1800s; men in trade (even very successful ones) are not what debutante's dream of marrying. Sophia and Thomas know of each other, but have never really met. One evening a dangerous encounter brings them close together and sets off a chain of events that has them challenging society's expectations and their own.

We meet Thomas first. He is an owner of a bank and has worked his whole life to regain the stature of his family's name in the banking world. Through a guest, Mr. Lake, we learn that the road to redemption for Thomas was a long and complicated one. He has been working as a spy in France for the English and through this work; he was able to generate the fund and contacts to build his banking empire. But there is blood on his hands and his contact Mr. Lake has a job for him. He must get the Blue Diamond from the Princess of Wales. There is a political reason the diamond is needed – an interesting plot point. Thomas wants the diamond as he is obsessed with it, but he doesn't want to relive his life as a spy. Just being in contact with Mr. Lake has made him the target of French spies and a rough night ensues.

He runs to the brothel, The Glossy, run by Madam a Frenchwoman he has known for years. He is shocked to find her entertaining a lovely, young debutante Miss Sophia Blaise. They end up in a safe room pressed together. Sophia has been slipping out late at night to meet with Madam to ghost write her memoirs for her. She is entranced with the life the Madam has led and longs for adventure of her own.

Sophia wants a great match after her first season. She has caught the attention of the Marquess of Withington and is the envy of all the other debutantes. She wants the security and safety of a marriage into a stable and wealthy family as her own family has been teetering on the brink of financial insecurity for years. She doesn't need to marry a Lord, as her family tells her, but she sees it as the prudent and wisest thing to do. She likes Withington and finds him decent, but she has never had her heart beating for a man the way it does when she is in the safe room with Thomas.

And so starts the clandestine adventures they share. Thomas is horrified to bring a lady like Sophia into his work for Mr. Lake, but after she has been spotted by the French, he has no choice. It's always amusing when these two are together. They are excited by each other and yet wary of the danger they are in. When they visit the Princess of Wales to buy the Blue Diamond, it was such a hilarious scene that I was laughing out loud.

Another scene that had me laughing and worried was the ball that Thomas throws. A chance to show off the beautiful Blue Diamond on the neck of Sophia's cousin Violet. However, the most astonishing things happen at this ball and the diamond is gone. It's almost comical how the diamond disappears and the distraction that is used to cover the crime. The rest of the story is spent exploring Thomas and Sophia's adventure to recapture the diamond and save Thomas's bank and reputation. Sophia and Thomas dance around each other and find they can't stay away from each other, just as they can't stop searching for the diamond. Sophia is still being seriously courted by Withington and Thomas is seeing his future dwindle into nothing. The tension towards the end is so thick you worry how this will all turn out.

All the time they spend together allows them the time to get to know each other without the eyes and ears of society. Thomas gets to know the real Sophia and for a man who has shut himself off for years, it is impressive that he shares his thoughts with Sophia. The passion the two share is very hot. The scenes are well written and very detailed - look forward to at least a couple of pages for each encounter. It's all in the details!

That is when you know the story is one that has you hooked. You laugh at funny elements and are nervous

for the tense, scary parts that make you worry for the characters. The plot is well developed and the secondary characters are a riot. Madam is a wonderful character – she has lived a very rich life and she is a very complex character and one of the only that both Sophia and Thomas know independently of each other. Sophia's cousin Violet is a wonderful character and adds some realism to the story. The Earl of Harclay is a snarky, sneaky man who you can't decide if you hate him or like him half the time. Sophia's mother seems to spend most of her time fainting and in bed from her hijinks. Mr. Lake is a very complicated and interesting character and he's like a shadow – one minute there and the next gone. All the characters really enhance the story and make it a believable plot and add more emotion and gravity to the story. Sophia and Thomas are wonderful characters. The author has created a mysterious adventure that brings together two people who are perfect for each other. I really enjoyed this book and felt that it was an excellent read. I can't wait to read the next one in the series!

Reviewed for www.kiltandswords.com

Jaci says

I have always been fascinated with the Hope Diamond since I saw it at the Smithsonian in D.C.

This book is a mixture of fact and fiction about the legendary diamond and the people who owned it, stole it, or wanted it. Jessica Peterson writes a compelling, complex, intriguing fast paced plot that will have you turning pages far into the night. I could not put this book down. Thomas has earned a reputation as a hard working businessman who is honest and trustworthy. A friend from his past appears and asks him for help to acquire the famous French Blue Diamond. Thomas is reluctant to get involved but he agrees to buy the diamond discreetly and hand it over to his friend to help England in their fight against Napoleon.

Sophia Blaise is a young lady looking for husband in her first season. She has to marry someone of her social status who has a lot of money to help her family. She also has a secret hobby. She writes memoirs for famous Courtesans. She is visiting La Reinette, a madame at her brothel when Thomas charges through the door and demands to be hidden from villains that are chasing him. He recognizes Sophia and insists that she hide too. La Reinette hides them in a small space behind a bookcase where they barely have to breath. The attraction is instant and mutual.

They both know that nothing can come of it, but they cannot seem to stay away from each other. Sophia is ripe for adventure and when the diamond is stolen from Thomas she insists on helping him find it. Sophia and Thomas embark on a dangerous adventure that could ruin them both. There are so many surprises and mysteries in this story and I loved every minute of it. This is the first book I have read by Jessica, but it won't be the last. She writes beautiful love scenes and hair raising adventures. I would recommend this book to anyone who likes mystery, intrigue and heart wrenching love; this is the book for you.

Christy Carlyle says

The best part about Jessica Peterson's *THE MILLIONAIRE ROGUE* for a lover of historical romance is that it's based in part on a real historical object—the infamous Hope Diamond, the enormous blue diamond some believe carries a deadly curse. The nugget of truth behind Peterson's story enriches it, yet the author also has a fresh, distinct voice for adept writing about the Regency era, and that's what really shines.

The story's plot is complex, with enough intrigue, complications, and potentially menacing characters to keep the pace moving along. And, of course, much as in history, the desire to possess The French Blue, the great Hope Diamond, serves as motivation for many of the characters. But even with all the intrigue, the real compelling element of the story is, as it should be, the romance between Thomas and Sophia. Peterson takes their romance deeper than the usual love-at-first-sight attraction. These characters are unique and Peterson plays on that, deepening their affection for each other as they become more entangled in the diamond-related adventure.
