



The Light in the Darkness: A Loveswept Classic Romance

Ellen Fisher

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In Ellen Fisher's charming novel of romance and redemption in colonial Virginia, a tormented widower rediscovers his passion for life with a most unlikely bride.

Edward Greyson is one of the most eligible bachelors in the New World—and he couldn't care less. Haunted by the death of his wife, scornful of female wiles, and completely contemptuous of any attempt to bring happiness into his life, the brooding rogue known as Grey hardly considers himself a catch. And yet, if only to put an end to his sister's incessant nagging, Grey chooses a new bride after all, albeit one who confounds the expectations of polite society: an ignorant, unkempt, timid young tavern wench.

No one knows better than Jennifer Wilton that she isn't a suitable match for an aristocrat like Grey. And though she can't begin to explain Grey's stormy temperament, one thing is sure: Whatever his intentions, the astonishingly handsome stranger saved her from a life of drudgery and cruelty. To repay his kindness, Jenny vows to transform herself into a ravishing, accomplished beauty, the kind of wife who would make him proud—and the kind of woman with whom he might just fall in love.

Includes a special message from the editor, as well as excerpts from other Loveswept titles.

The Light in the Darkness: A Loveswept Classic Romance Details

Date : Published October 14th 2013 by Loveswept (first published October 6th 1998)

ISBN :

Author : Ellen Fisher

Format : Kindle Edition 336 pages

Genre : Romance, Historical Romance, Historical

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From Reader Review The Light in the Darkness: A Loveswept Classic Romance for online ebook

? mary says

I really hope this book was a one time "project" because such writers are not up to writing romance novels. After all being humiliated & abused is not how one should be woo, but apparently no one thought to pass the memo to E.Fisher
what a dreadful read.

Danielle The Book Huntress (Back to the Books) says

The hero in this book was too cruel to the heroine. He was a mean drunk and he didn't deserve her. I have read and liked books with heroes who were on the cruel side, but there is a point where I turned off. Also he committed the no-no of sleeping with another woman after they were married. Granted, he married her to get revenge, picking a scrubby, uneducated tavern maid as his bride. But he showed her no kindness and abandoned her to his mean-spirited family. I could not like this hero and that ruined the book for me. It's unfortunate, because it was well-written otherwise.

Debbie DiFiore says

If you do not like cheating, which I don't, please walk away from this book. He is a pig and has sex with his mistress after he is married. He married a tavern wench to piss off his sister, but the sister sees the beauty beneath the dirt and grime and helps her become a lady. I loved that part of the story. It was wonderfully done. I loved the h and I loved the sister. The so called H has a mistress and the h finds out about it after the mistress comes to see her. They have sex in the run down cabin the woods. She actually hears them one time and steals his horse so he has to walk home in the rain. That was a funny scene. She also works with the mistress to free her from her husband's evil clutches and he is evil. I hated him. I cannot call him a hero. The h was wonderful and loved him. There is rape in the story or at least I call it rape. She was a virgin and the H forced himself on her and it was very painful and ugly. Horrible scene. There is a dead wife and the H is a suspect and there is a lot more going on. He is still in love with the dead wife. And he is just gross. So why three stars from the Cheater Hater of the world, the heroine is amazing. I loved her and cared about her. I got this on accident but I have to say I did finish it. I remembered it from a thread in the Amazon CheatingForum and the author was on there and talked to me about it. I forgot about it until I started reading the book. I was so upset but I continued on. I must say I read the first half pretty quickly. But after about 55% the cheating was over. He still was a drunk and had serious mental issues but he did love her in the end. I actually think he loved her from about 35% of the book but he continued to do the mistress every afternoon which really pissed me off. I cannot recommend it but I am glad I read it. She was an awesome heroine in my opinion. I just wish it had an epilogue.

Hopefulpuffin says

I'm torn here. If the editing had been a bit tighter and there were fewer "tavern wench" mentions, it may have gone up.

I know many people have an issue with Grey's adultery. And to be bling; it's not a one-time deal. It's pretty constant through 1/2 the book.

Having said that, he was crystal clear going in that he intended to keep his mistress so it shouldn't have done as a surprise that he did just that.

He was a total ass at times though - the whole 12th night thing. Dude. If have slapped him silly. But I digress. And then there's the whole drunken "whoops I thought you were my dead wife when I took your virginity".

He was louche and unrepentant which is how I like my anti-heroes. Of course he had a BIG HURT that he eventually worked through on his way to a HEA.

Jennifer turns out to have some sort of quirky photographic memory. I'd thought she was just going to be some musical savant/prodigy but the author took it a step further and then never mentioned it again. Weird.

All in all not a bad book but I'm glad it was a library ebook and not a purchase.

Twiggy says

3.5 - 4 stars

I have conflicting views on this book. On the one hand I did enjoy it but on the other hand the heroine was too much of a doormat and I wasn't convinced that the hero was sufficiently remorseful about his actions towards her.

Also there were simply too many ubiquitous references to her being only a 'tavern wench' and by the end this was fairly annoying.

Edward Greyson comes from the aristocracy of the Virginia planter class. His wife was murdered 7 years ago in unresolved circumstances and he blames himself for what happened. He continues to wallow in grief and alcohol and has alienated most of his friends and neighbours.

His sister wants him to remarry and he agrees to look for a bride.

Whilst on a trip he stops at an inn and intervenes to prevent Jennifer's uncle from beating her. Out of drunkenness and spite he proposes on the basis that he despises Jennifer and can treat her any way he likes as he will not have to respect her or listen to any complaints about her conduct as she is not of his class. He tells his sister that she is filthy, illiterate and simple minded and suggests putting her in the stables.

Catherine (sister) decides that she will try to make a lady of Jennifer. When Jennifer is cleaned up it transpires that she is very lovely and grey is attracted to her. Over time they work on Jennifer's literacy, her

accent, manners, music etc and she is transformed.

Grey initially ignores her as he does not want to face his attraction but wishes to continue to be consumed by his grief. One night she finds him drunk and crying over the dead wife, Diana, and tries to comfort him. He briefly seduces Jennifer, taking her virginity fairly brutally, whilst calling her Diana, and then runs away abandoning her.

Thereafter grey tries to make amends and starts to teach Jennifer how to ride and this becomes a daily routine.

Any effort to become closer than this is rejected and grey repeatedly makes it clear that he doesn't want her. He flaunts his mistress in her face and is totally lacking in remorse.

Catherine and Jennifer host a Christmas ball, but Grey humiliates her deliberately by opening the ball by dancing with his mistress and openly spurning his wife. This adds to the chagrin that she feels due to the fact that the guests have snubbed her as she is only 'a tavern wench'. She gets her revenge by suggesting that grey is impotent. He comes to her bed chamber to challenge her about this that night and kisses her but again rejects her and stalks out.

(by this stage any normal woman would be looking for a divorce settlement!)

Instead when catherine tells her he has gone to Williamsburg to look for a mistress, Jennifer decides to follow him. She dresses as a bit and follows him into a tavern. They sleep together that night but because he enjoys it too much, the next morning he tells her that she is pathetic and he can't be bothered bedding her and will never do so again. He tells her to get out.

She goes home and when he brings her a dog as a present she hopes for a reconciliation. Instead she discovers that she is pregnant and when she tells Grey about the baby, he denies paternity and accuses her of sleeping with another man.

She hits him and decides that this is the final straw.

It appears at this stage Grey does start to feel some remorse but guess what he just can't help himself.

He asks friends to visit on the basis that this will mean they have to spend time together.

They sleep together again but the issue of the identity of Diana's murderer comes between them as does a former suitor.

Eventually there is a denouement and reconciliation.

By the end he still has not declared his love although the reader is old he is about to do so.

However the one thing that was apparent throughout was that what Grey thought and what came out of his mouth appeared fairly far apart....so I wouldn't express a lot confidence in his intentions....

As I said the hero was emotionally abusive and cruel to the heroine through most of the book and there is only so much rejection a girl can take.

The heroine was too accepting and forgiving of this and continued to think of herself as a 'tavern wench' who deserved little better, which did annoy me.

The hero was more remorseful for his actions with Diana and was almost entirely self absorbed. I was not convinced that he had properly adjusted his feelings to feel genuinely apologetic for how he had treated Jennifer. By the end of the book it was more like he had concluded that Diana was not as worthy as he had thought and so that meant it was ok to be with Jennifer, rather than coming to a true appreciation of Jennifer for herself.

conflicted.

dreamer in exile says

When darkness overshadows light 3.75 stars

Laura says

I agree with others on the abuse in this book. I also felt that the writer milked the angst too much, creating a codependent and abusive relationship where the merits of the concept of the story and the characters could have carried the novel if it had been better written.

Laurie says

Meh

Seems like the author read too much Kathleen Woodiwise. The Flame and the Flower but with the author telling you he was deep, she was in love, at times it was obvious. I thought she just needed more confidence, but she needs an original idea.

Sussann says

As a strong minded, independent, intelligent modern woman, I should have hated this book but I didn't. To me, books like this are the fast food of the literary world. Full of over the top energy, very little quality substance, yet they leave you feeling oddly satisfied and in the end they are kind of more-ish.

Kayla says

This book had a good plot but I wasn't too impressed with the writing style. Many times the author told us what happened rather than showing us. The murder mystery was good though. I also felt like Edward Grey

fell in love with her too fast. He was so mean and hateful for awhile and then it seemed like all of a sudden he realized he loved her. I would have believed it more if there had been some kind of incident that would have forced him to recognize his feelings. But, overall, the book was all right.
