



## Emily

*Cynthia Harrod-Eagles*

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Though the granddaughter of an earl, Emily Paget is still a poor relation, living on the good graces and large estate of her aunt and uncle, but determined to earn her own living. This disgraceful ambition moves her aunt to take action: Emily must be married off respectably.

Onto the stage steps her Russian grandmother, who takes her back to Russia to find the freedom and intellectual stimulation she craves. But Emily also falls in love for the first time - with another woman's husband. Drawing room revolutionaries and the dangerous glamour of their politics offer Emily a distraction, but when the brutal 1917 revolution does arrive, she finds herself called upon to rescue the wife and children of the man she loves, without knowing if he is dead or alive.

## Emily Details

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## From Reader Review Emily for online ebook

### Μαρ?α Ηλι?δου says

It was a pleasant read.

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### Margareth8537 says

Always fascinated by the Russian Revolution so enjoyed this more than her last. Still a bit slow in England, but once we get to war-torn Russia it really livens up.

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### Caitlin says

I think Emily was my favorite heroine out of the three. A satisfying end to the trilogy. I just wish there had been a book before this one, bridging the gap.

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### Lucille DeRogatis says

This is the third book in the trlogy of the Kirov saga. I read all three, in order, and I found the plots to be very similar-- English girl meets Russian nobleman, falls in love then historical events intervene to complicate their lives. I like Cynthia Harrod Eagles and have read some of the books in the Moreland Saga. In both series, history drives the plot. I think that with Moreland, Ms. Harrod Eagles has much more to work with so the plots are richer and more varied. I mean, there are only so many ways to get English women to meet Russian Counts and Cynthia Harrod Eagles has used them all in this trilogy.

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### Marg says

Thoroughly enjoyed this last entry in the Kirov saga. touched on all the major topics of 1910s like the suffragettes, the titanic, and more interestingly the build up to WWI as seen through the events that were happening in Russia at the time, and then the Bolshevik revolution.

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### Vaso says

Η ?μιλι, μεγαλ?νει με την απουσ?α της μητ?ρας της και χωρ?ς την ιδια?τερη προσοχ? απ? τον πατ?ρα της. ?ταν γνωρ?ζει επιτ?λους τη γιαγι? της, αποφασ?ζει να την επισκεφτε? στη Ρωσ?α ?που εκε?νη μ?νει μ?νιμα. Πολ? σ?ντομα, παντρε?εται. Ο πραγματικ?ς ?ρωτας ?μως την πετυχα?νει με τα β?λη του αργ?τερα εκε? που δεν το περιμ?νει. ?σπου ξεκιν? η επαν?σταση κι η καθημεριν?τητα

της ανατρέπεται.

Εχα αρκετά καιρό να διαβάσω βιβλίο που εχει σχέση με τη Ρωσική Επανάσταση και το απλαυσα.

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### **Suzanne says**

War and peace is being televised and i have found that having read this trilogy has helped me understand the Russia of that time

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### **MissyLynne says**

Okay storyline although I feel like I'm getting too much of a history lesson. As a fan of history I like the plot with the Russian Revolution but I feel like too much is being said about it and the going ons in Russia during the period.

More character action and less history less, please.

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### **Misfit says**

At fifteen, Emily Paget doesn't have many options to look forward to in life. Her father is the disgraced and disinherited second son of an earl and lives off his sister's charity. Emily is too well-born to take a career, yet too poor to attract a husband, although things start looking up when her Russian grandmother Natasha comes to England with the Russian Imperial court and takes a shine to Emily. Shortly after Natasha's departure, Emily receives a visit from the elderly Lady Hamilton (an old friend of the Kirovs) who swoops in like a fairy godmother and whisk her away to London and turns her into a proper young lady. While there, she and her friends become a wee bit too involved in the suffragette movement, but Emily eventually goes off to join her grandmother in St. Petersburg and just like Cinderella she marries her prince - but is he truly prince charming or was she deceived by Basil's drop dead good looks? And what about Basil's unhappily married brother-in-law Alexei Kirov? Are he and Emily destined to be soul mates? They sure do smoke off the pages at the first meeting.....

First Basil then Alexei are off to serve in the Russian army and as the death toll at the Russian front rises to horrendous proportions, Emily is left in St. Petersburg desperately trying to hold what is left of the Alexei's family together and alive. But the real terror begins when the Bolsheviks gain control of the government upon Lenin's return to Russia. Is her English passport enough to get her safely out of Russia? What of Alexei's wife and children - children she loves as if they were her own? While a bit slow at the start with Emily's life in the English countryside and her social whirl whilst first in Russia, once the war broke out and the revolutionary fervor ran amok I had a hard time putting this one down. Lenin's Bolsheviks with their strong-arm tactics were terrifying, as well as a nail-biting escape from St. Petersburg that made the last 200 pages darn near unputdownable.

I've never read much on Russia's Revolution and the rise of communism, and it was fascinating \*seeing\* how it came about and I really enjoyed the drawing-room politics and debates between Alexei and his brother;

"And if one of your fanatical chums ever does succeed to the purple, whatever his title may be - tsar or president or chief co-ordinator of the people's revolution-you can bet your last rouble that he will out-ceasar Caesar in the most spectacular way."

"They only use the poor as their excuse for taking what someone else has. They say, 'If only we were the ones with the power, we could make everything all right', but you try asking them how they plan to do it! They haven't an idea, any of them. They're so interested in the process of taking power, they haven't begun to think what they'd do with it."

Although Anna, Fleur and Emily are billed as a trilogy, there is sufficient passage of time between books that they can be read independently of each other. You might be slightly spoiled as to who ended up with whom (Fleur sure surprised me!), but other than that read them as your mood/interests lead you. This trilogy has been a grand ride and I'm sorry it's over and I have to move on and leave the Kirovs behind. Darn it. One minor nit to all three and a request to any publisher considering re-issuing these - please get an editor in there and fix the typos - while minor there are way too many of them. 4/5 stars.

\*\*\*\*Minor spoiler ahead\*\*\*\*

I know there are some readers who have issues with adultery in their books. To each his own, but if you are one of them this book is probably not for you.

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### **Hafiza says**

This book was so sickening , I had to stop at 63%.

Emily, the heroine, has no redeeming qualities.

She falls in love with Basil the moment she sees him because he is so handsome.

She commits adultery with Alexei and had absolutely no remorse or guilt. I get that she finally reLizes that Alexei is her " one true love/soulmate" but at least feel a little guilty?!

When Basil cheats on her, she is jealous and outraged.

This heroine is selfish, self centered and I could not keep reading

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### **Anna says**

*Emily* is the final instalment in the Kirov trilogy. Each of these books deals with a different era in Russian history; Anna was set in the Napoleonic Wars, Fleur in the Crimean War, and *Emily* in the Russian Revolution.

As with all three books, *Emily* starts off in England. The poor relation, she is 'saved' by her visiting Russian grandmother who takes her off to the splendours of St Petersburg, where she marries the beautiful Basil. But what does his pretty face hide? And then there's Alexei; older, wiser and full of passion, but stuck in a loveless marriage with Basil's sister.

The build-up to the Revolution is grimly told, but is nothing compared to the shocking brutality of the Bolsheviks in its aftermath. With Basil and Alexei away at war, Emily is left to look after the remaining family and somehow get them back to the safety of England.

*Anna* was my fave of the trilogy, but *Emily* ran her a close second, partly as the Russian Revolution has always been of particular interest to me, and partly as she and Alexei sizzled! I'm sorry to see the end of the series; it was a great way to get to know Russian history, and on another level, those Kirov men sure know how to smoulder!

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