



The Bridemaker

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She's called "the Bridemaker", but Hester Poitevant prefers to think of herself as the gentle facilitator of marital union. Hester's popular Mayfair Academy has helped teach many the awkward society miss how to find her way to the altar with the eligible bachelor of her choice. But while her students flirt and mingle, Hester possesses as a prim widow--rather than reveal herself as the never-been married beauty she truly is...

He made his fortune in America. Now the dashing, scandalously sired Adrian Hawke is in London, determined to fight off the season's most wily debutants. Adrian isn't fooled by Hester's thin disguise--for she possess the soft, womanly curves no somber gown can hide. The question is, why does she dress like a schoolmarm when she could easily make a better match than any of her student? Adrian vows to reveal Hester's most precious secrets. But what he discovers is a woman with a past more complicated than he could ever imagine--and whose beauty is not just skin-deep...

The Bridemaker Details

Date : Published November 18th 2002 by St. Martin's Paperbacks (first published 2002)

ISBN : 9780312983116

Author : Rexanne Becnel

Format : Paperback 344 pages

Genre : Romance, Historical Romance, Historical, Regency

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From Reader Review The Bridemaker for online ebook

Lynne Tull says

This is the first book that I have read by Rexanne Becnel...so far so good. I found her name in a cozy mystery by Barbara Colley. Both authors live in New Orleans, Louisiana. I found myself skipping over a lot of text because I am not really a patient person. I wanted to see what happened next...NOW! Evidently, the skipped text didn't add a lot because I never went back to reread it. I think I inherited the "impatient" gene from my Mom. She always read the end of the book first so she could enjoy the first of the book. Otherwise, it is like she was rushing through the good parts to get to the candy! Ms. Becnel has written over 20 books. I can't believe I had never heard of her. I recommend you give her a try. I have requested "The Bride of Rosecliffe" from www.paperbackswap.com.

Denise Kettering says

This book is a pretty standard romance novel with nothing particularly special to recommend it. In fact some of the language of domination used in the book seems to run counter to the attempt that is made to make the main character out to be an independent woman.

Hester Poitevant is a woman who portrays herself as a widow in order to avoid unwanted advances from men. She teaches deportment to young women in London. She meets Adrian Hawke, a young American, who is in London for the season. Adrian determines that he will expose her as a snob, but then sees her elsewhere in less severe clothes and begins to wonder about the contradiction. The two then set off on a series of encounters as each attempts not to fall in love with the other as they are thrown into danger together. In the end, they of course end up married.

Jana Malachowski says

I was a member of a book club for awhile and I ordered one of those book lots, you know....buy 4 for the price of 1. Well I received my four books and read them all. I had never heard of any of the authors (I usually read Deveraux, Garwood, Small, Krahn, and Lindsey) but to say the least I enjoyed all of the books. I liked this one the best, but haven't been able to find a lot of other books by her. I enjoyed the plot, it wasn't too cliche or sappy. It was the perfect historical romance....a fast easy read that allows you to escape the everyday!

Koki says

S hlavným hrdinom knihy Adrianom sme sa mali možnosť stretnúť, keď bol malým chlapcom v knihe *Dohadzovačka*? Kaže? bol pubertiakom, ktorý nakoniec odišiel do Ameriky s hlavnými hrdinami knihy *Nezkonaná dáma*. Dnes ho stretávame ako dospelého muža, ktorý sa z Ameriky vrátil do Anglicka uzavriť zopár obchodov v jeho samostatnom príbehu.

Z Adriana vyrástol krásny muž, za ktorým sa nejedna deva otočí. Medzi debutantkami a vydajachtivými slečinkami rozberí hladinu. Záujem oho prejaví aj Dulcie Bennetová, ktorú si pod svoje krídla vzala Hester. Hester totiž dokáže vyčírať aj zo škaredého káčatka prekrásnu labuť a z obyčajného hanblivého dievčaťa sebavedomú ženu. Zvyšok recenzie nájdete tu: <http://kokinakniznica.blogspot.sk/201...>

Artemis says

First novel I have read of this Author and I LOVED IT! It was a bit slow to begin with but I eventually grew to enjoy it as the plot thickened. You have your yummy alpha male and our very independent heroine who has some sass. I will definitely read another one of the books in the series! I recommend to anyone who wants to dive into a classic historical romance. Overall the story was well conceived and the characters had substance, besides the steamy scenes helped too!

Daneesha says

favorite phrase: "flaming sword of erotic possession." chew on that!

after reading "dangerous to love", i just knew i had to find more books by this author. i liked this book a lot. it was sweet. the plot wasn't as juicy as i would have liked. i didn't like that the heroine was pretending to be prim, proper and matronly. luckily, the hero saw right through that.

Sabrina Jeffries says

If you enjoyed Rexanne's other Regency-set book, *Dangerous to Love*, you'll love this series, too. They're not your average family series. The heroines of the first and second books are half-sisters. The hero of the third book is the illegitimate nephew of the hero of the first book. And the upcoming fourth book features the two half-sisters' half-brother. It's less complicated than it sounds, and oh, are these books delicious!

S H E L L E Y says

#4 Stars ~ Miscommunications, matchmaking and mischief!

I absolutely love historical romances.... its takes you to a time that to me feels whimsical!

Hester Poitevant *'The Bridemaking'* has survived on her own for too many years to want or need a husband, she's disguised herself as a widow to protect herself from love while helping hopeful debutantes make their match.

Adrian Hawke ~ Rich, ridiculously rich. Everyone wants to either marry him or be part of his business. Adrian has no time for the English Aristocrats, the same people who made his childhood hell.

Miscommunication ~ Neither Adrian or Hester want to fall in love and yet they do, (view spoiler)

Matchmaking ~ Hester's young charge Dulcie is (view spoiler)

I love this book because of the characters, because I can't stop turning the page to find out what's going to happen next. Rexanne Becnel just has a way of drawing you into story and not let you go until you reach the last page.....

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Beno says

It took me a while to read this book for the simple fact that I liked Hester. Like so much and I didn't want her to get hurt which I knew she would eventually. So I was sitting there reading a couple of pages and going something like "No! no don't talk to him don't even look at him don't fall for him" and then I would like take a sneak peak to the middle and be all like "you're obviously going to do whatever you want aren't you" I'd walk away then come back and read some more. And when I finally did get to the 'everything is revealed' part I was crying and sobbing and going something like "you don't need him you don't need any of them"

This was a really good book probably one of my favorites

Jultri says

Hester Pointevante is the prim and proper 'widowed' head of a prestigious academy for young ladies who had been less successful in their previous attempts at catching eligible grooms. She has managed to transform her girls into desirable brides while still maintaining her own comfortable position in the background, where she is more than happy to remain under the radar of most men. Adrian Hawke is an American businessman with Scottish roots, who arrived for the society wedding of his cousin. He is the natural son of a baron, who is done with trying to gain acceptance into the ton. However with his money and business connections, he found himself sought out by those who previously shunned him. Despite this, he is still not considered marriage material for gently reared ladies of the peer. He crossed path with Hester, who tried to protect one of her young charges from his less than honourable attention. Adrian came to realise that behind the dark plain gowns, severe hairstyle and spectacles, Hester is desperate to hide her true self.

This is where the book failed for me. Hester has an interesting background and secret, yet Adrian had no inclination to try to explore her history and solve her mystery. He is certainly aware that she is suppressing more than her attractiveness, and although this lured him in, he made no attempts to try to find out her motives and her story. He found her crying and instead of finding out why, the opportunistic sod that he was turned it into a fondling fest. There were plenty of other occasions where he had a glimmer of insight that

there was more to it than what she publically chooses to reveal, yet it was too hard for him to see beyond his own hardness to investigate further(could be that it was enormous and blocking the view!). And because of their lack of emotional closeness, it was a bit difficult to accept why Hester would risk her livelihood and comfort getting involved with him.

Not quite matching the brilliance of her other book in the series *The Matchmaker*.

Stephanie Lee says

A nice light read. Finished it very quickly. Just your average run of the mill historical romance.

Nanette says

i found it boring and skimmed it. it was a typical romance. had good love scenes though! i did like the characters and her descriptions of clothing etc was very good. probably won't read anymore of her books.
