



A Lady and Her Magic

Tammy Falkner

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Rules Are Made to be Disobeyed...

Sophia Thorne is new to the Regency's glittering high society, which resembles her magical homeland only insofar as both places are filled with ridiculous rules. Which means no matter where she goes, she's bound for trouble...

And Scandals Are Meant to be Shocking...

The Duke of Robinsworth has flaunted and shocked society for years. In a moment of fateful mischief, Robinsworth encounters the enchanting and distinctly scandalous Sophia. Between her streak of magical mischief and his penchant for scandal, they're about to take rule-breaking to a whole new level...

A Lady and Her Magic Details

Date : Published September 4th 2012 by Sourcebooks Casablanca (first published September 1st 2012)

ISBN : 9781402268120

Author : Tammy Falkner

Format : Mass Market Paperback 347 pages

Genre : Romance, Fantasy, Historical, Historical Romance, Paranormal, Paranormal Romance, Regency, Magic

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From Reader Review A Lady and Her Magic for online ebook

Stephanie Williams says

I loved this book... I cant wait to read the next one

Margie aka The Bumble Girl says

Tammy Falkner has written a fun historical-fantasy fiction full of magic, romance and humor! Once I got past the first few chapters and got comfortable with the setting and the characters ways, it turned into a quick page-turner with laugh-out-loud moments and a faerie twist.

Sophia Thorne is a mission-faery, her current mission is to make things better for Lady Anne, the Duke of Robinsworth's daughter. But upon meeting the little girl, she senses the Duke's sadness and isolation and decides that she will help him too. As long as she stays out of trouble and doesn't break any of the five "Unpardonable Errors" all should work out quickly and smoothly... at least she hopes it does.

Ashley Trimble, the Duke, is blown away by Sophia - not only was she able to handle his unruly daughter in a way that he has never seen before, but even more so, because Sophia claims not to be afraid of him, rumors can be that, just rumors, she claimed. He also sees that she is different from the women he is accustomed to meeting, her mannerisms are blunt, genuine, heartfelt and child-like. All the things that he is craving in his life, not only for himself, but for his daughter too. And it does help that Sophia carries a beauty that is usually frowned upon - unruly auburn hair and freckles that he instantly adores.

I love historical fictions that have a paranormal twist to them - this is my first time reading one with fairies, and I really enjoyed it. The whole concept of these type of faeries was quite different - each fairy is different, there are mission faeries, gift faeries, house faeries... there was also a garden gnome that can shadow faes to make sure they stay on their missions. The "Unpardonable Errors" are the best part - of course one them is 'never ever falling in love with a human'. And the romance between Sophia and Ashley is like no other. Even with Sophia's fae-ness, Sophia and Ashley's relationship was so realistic, fun to follow and watch unfold. Their banter and teasing was hilarious! And the romance was done perfectly. Not too hot, but enough to quench the tension and imagination.

The secondary characters made this book even more enjoyable - Sophia's snooping garden gnome, Ronald was quite a character, I can picture him and all of his 2-foot tallness! Ashley's brother Finn brought in some much needed humor - he was always there to either lighten Ashley's mood or set him in place. Even Ashley's butler, Wilson, was perfect - bringing in order and wisdom. All memorable and amazing characters.

There is a really interesting concept about the faeries regarding fish! I really, really wish there was more discussion and explanation about this - no one has ever done this before and I am so very curious to learn more about it.

I never thought I would say this about this book, but A Lady and Her Magic is definitely one that I would enjoy re-reading; and I am definitely looking forward to following the series.

Danielle says

This book was just ok for me. There wasn't as much paranormal elements as I expected and what was there was kind of silly. Sophia is a fairy on a mission to help a little girl little does she know that the little girl has a handsome, lonely father that needs help too. The Duke of Robinsworth is accused of murdering his wife and is a outcast in society. Everyone is terrified of him especially women until he meets Sophia who seems not to care a bit about all the rumors and is totally at ease with him maybe even a little to comfortable with him. They are automatically attracted to each other but Sophia won't have anything to do with him because if she does her wings will change colors and everyone will know that she is no longer pure.

This story had some funny parts I even laughed a few times and it was cute but it was a little slow in the beginning and didn't pick up until the end. Everything works out nicely at the end. I would have to say this is more of a historical romance than a paranormal so if you like historical romance novels and light paranormal elements this book may be good for you.

Deborah Ideiosepius says

The premise behind this story seemed the perfect solution to an inherent flaw in historical romance from the Regency period: If you like reading accurate history and you want romance you have a real problem because appropriate behavior for women in Regency England leaves little scope for satisfying romance by modern standards. So, you end up with either historical accuracy or satisfying romance, while it is not impossible to combine the two, it is quite challenging.

Having a female lead who was a fairy seemed perfect! No one could expect historical accuracy from a fairy and I have read some history/fae combinations that worked very well indeed.

This one, not so much...

Having finished it, I will say that I did not absolutely hate it, but it did lose my attention often, and I only got through it by skim reading a fair bit. The main overall problems with this novel involve the world building, the continuity and consistency necessary to combine two disparate genera in one story.

In terms of world building, the Regency part at times does pretty well, but at other times becomes wholly unlikely; for example the lead male wanting to 'just cuddle' when that is a modern word that was reasonably rare before 1900's. The fairy part is a train-wreck; completely inconsistent and making no sense even as it explains things. The explanations sound like a child "making it up as they go along". A child too young to see inherent contradictions in their story.

It almost lost me for good on page [36] where we are told that despite the fae wearing a lot less clothes and finding human morality confusing,, they seem to have the same prudish morals as Regency England; apparently a fairy's wings turn black or something if she gets laid. Really? What was the point of that? Now we are stuck with the same pursue and resist type blancmange that you could create in historical fiction without involving the fae at all.

I persevered, and was still limping along at page 65, mostly because I liked the male lead a good deal. So I quite enjoyed the story as long as it stayed away from the idiotic attempt at a female fairy lead: little miss "Yes, I must hide my nature from humans, and I can best do this by discoursing on unicorns, publicly swooning at wind-chimes, and having long conversations with garden gnomes while my Lord is in the garden right behind me." (And how DID that gnome get there anyway, when apparently you need to go through gates guarded by fish (????) to get from Fairyland to London?)

Next severe inconsistency that made me put the thing down for a while occurred on page 142 when we learned that male faeries do not have wings. Sadly my memory was good enough to remember that back on pages 58-60 we met a male fairy that did have wings.

These are merely the most glaring contradictions, nearly every time anything fae was involved there were inconsistencies. It is hard to tell if the author has any actual overview of her version of fairyland, or whether she is just very, very bad at putting her version into writing.

Also, the sex scenes were tedious and unconvincing, full of flowery euphemisms and not much else. The ending was convoluted and unlikely, has to skim read to make it through.

Angie says

A Lady and Her Magic is light, fluffy, and adorable! Ashley has been raising his daughter alone after his wife died. The ton all believed he murdered her and he's never denied it, so he's become quite the recluse. Then he meets Sophia. There's something about her that just draws him to her. Not to mention, she's been the only person to get his daughter to behave. The two meet again at the house party Ashley's mother throws, and their connection grows even more. Too bad that she's fae and is only in the human world for a mission.

I loved the concept of fae going on missions to help humans! Although I was less than thrilled that Sophia's mission in A Lady and Her Magic involved Ashley's daughter. I am not fond of children, nor do I like children being the driving force in a romance. It's weird. Luckily, Anne isn't annoying despite being described as a brat in the first chapter. I just wish that Sophia had been sent to help Ashley instead, since she wound up helping him reenter society anyway.

The romance between Sophia and Ashley was so sweet! He's completely taken with her from the beginning even though she is a bit odd. Actually, he likes her more because she is a little weird! She doesn't fit into Society, and neither does he, although for very different reasons. Their connection is quite magical even though they're forbidden from being together! I love forbidden romance! Of course, there has to be a twist at the end that allows them to be together and I really liked it.

A Lady and Her Magic was super cute and definite braincandy. There was a bit of a disconnect for me between some of the plot points. It felt disjointed in places which kept me from loving it overall. But the romance was just so darn adorably sweet!

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I love a happily ever after says

It has been quite a long time since I have read a book without putting it down, but this is exactly how I spent the past six hours. I loved this book, it was absolutely charming. I would have liked to get to know the Hero a little better, but the book was delightful enough on it's own to earn 5/5 stars. It is filled with engaging characters and an interesting new plot line that has not been beaten to death, like most regencies. I highly recommend this book to people who are looking for something fun and sweet in a regency with a new twist.

Christine says

This story caught my attention twice: First, by its description, which promised a blend of fantasy and regency romance (two of my favorites) and second, by the very first line:

“If the Duke of Robinsworth had known it would be so difficult to raise a daughter alone, he never would have killed his wife.”

Intriguing! So much so, that I paused and quoted the line to my husband, who also acknowledged the sheer hookiness of the first line. But as I read further, contemplating how to use that line in the workshop I sometimes teach on “Beginnings,” I couldn’t help but notice some issues with the story-telling. Then I noticed a few more. And then...well, let’s not get ahead of ourselves.

This book immediately suffered from withheld information. Even though the duke readily admitted, in point of view, and on multiple occasions, that he killed his wife, he didn’t tell us why. This made it very difficult to like him because by default, I don’t sympathize with murderers.

Then there was Sophia, the fairy on a mission from....well, whoever is in charge of the fairy. Her mission was to...well, it had something to do with the duke’s daughter. Which brings me to my second big problems: World building. I also teach a workshop on that, and after reading this novel, I definitely have a few ideas to tweak that one.

You see, when you’re introducing a magical world (which is anything that differs from the world we know and understand), you have to actually tell us (the readers) about it in a timely fashion. You can’t, for example, give us five rules of behavior which include “Never, ever fall in love with a human” without telling us who makes the rules and what happens if you don’t follow it. Mostly the last one. Because deep down inside, where we all naturally challenge authority, our hedonistic impulses need to understand why they can’t just have what they want.

There was more, though. Frankly, the magic was silly. The fairies reminded me of children’s stories, which created problem number three: TONE. You see, Mary Poppins wasn’t sexy (even if she did have a beau). I found it incredibly difficult, no, impossible, to get into a story about a fairy who turns into a tiny little creature with wings and slips into little girl’s bedchambers in the middle of the night to help them (still not clear on that)....and then switch to her in the duke’s bedchamber straddling his thighs. It was just weird and very uncomfortable.

Back to world building...These fae were not adult fae as I'm used to reading them in fantasy. Which only made it harder to understand the way the world worked or the rules. Adult fairies aren't mindless little do-gooders. (And maybe that's not what these were, but if not, I didn't get that.) I expect my adult stories about the fae to involve a complex world of other-worldly creatures who interact with humans for their own reasons.

All of that was building to a painful crescendo...I was rather dreading the sex scene and trying to decide whether or not to skip it...when I found my ultimate put-down moment at the 3/4 point.

SPOILER AHEAD

It was a lie. I was still traipsing through this book on the power of a promise given to me in the first sentence and reinforced at least a dozen times. But it simply wasn't true. The duke didn't kill his wife.

I honestly can't believe this book was published, and I don't say that lightly. I've read books I didn't care for, but hey, we've all got different tastes. I just didn't realize anyone's taste permitted repeated, direct and explicit lies by an impartial third person narrator. This wasn't a case of being misled...I quoted that first sentence to you verbatim, and there were many more like it.

SPOILER Behind

I do not recommend this book.

Jaime says

Sophia Thorn walks between the two worlds of the Fae and Regency high society, constantly struggling to complete her magical missions without breaking an impossible set of rules handed down from the Fae people. She must work and interact with humans, but she must never fall in love with one. The Duke of Robinsworth, who lives in exile in his ancestral home, is not familiar with Sophia's rules. And even after meeting her at a fateful house party, he has no idea that he's about to push her to a whole new level of rule breaking.

It's a great idea and the story starts off very interesting, but then the it sort of came to a halt. I felt like I was reading filler so that the book could be a certain amount of pages. Easily 75 pages could be edited out of this book. Also, when we finally find out what Sophia mission is I was disappointed. I expected there to be much more at stake if she failed. And her mission made the Trusted Few much less ominous to me, which took away from the story. All the love scene's are at the end of the book, so if your looking for steamy romance you'll have to trudge through. But then they are there in abundance.

If you're a fan of Lydia Dare (the author of this book is half of that writing duo) and you just want to read something about the Fae then this is the book for you. It's fun, dull, then kind of fun again. So keep that in mind.

May Mostly Romance says

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Jessica Kayuha says

I really wanted to like this book so much more. I had it written down in my little TBR list after reading the first chapter a few months back. The premise sounded right up my alley for a bit of light, happy reading.

And it definitely is light, happy reading, but just not at all satisfying. The take on fairies is just, for lack of a better term, weird. The heroine is a Mission Fairy, whose mission is to help the daughter of the hero forget, or overcome maybe, her tragic past which has turned her into a brat. Miraculously, just being around Sophia is enough to turn the little girl's behavior around a full 180. That was my first eye-roll moment.

Our hero is a true pariah, thought to have murdered his wife. Women everywhere are terrified of him, even the courtesans paid to be with him. That was eye-roll number two. But of course our heroine cares not one whit, and is completely comfortable around him from the very first moment. I'm not a history buff, and 99% of what I know from this time period is through historical fiction, but I am pretty sure I've read enough of that by now to know that the majority of what Sophia does just could never have happened, fairy or not. When she barged into breakfast with the Duke and his daughter, well, that was eye-roll number three.

The insta-love here isn't as far-fetched as normal since we are talking about fairies after all, but it's still fairly schlocky. The denouement is what really killed the book for me. All of the problems were solved, poof, just like that! And after reading an entire book about the rules of fairies, no, it can't happen, just like that! Fairy magic or not.

Stéphanie says

When I picked up this book, I really didn't expect this story. A magical Regency romance, A LADY AND HER MAGIC is charming and whimsical, and while pleasantly entertaining, it's really not a novel for everyone. The light fluffy romance and the somewhat naive protagonist won't be for everyone, especially those who are looking for hardcore faeries. While these faeries have strict rules, they aren't scary at all and aren't radiating power and strength.

The faerie lore is very original and while it somewhat lacks a bit in detail, I think it's the most interesting aspect of the story. There are different types of faeries, but the most popular ones in this story are mission faeries. Apparently, their purpose is to travel to the human world and when entrusted with a mission, they help humans through ordeals or with their problems. Sophia, the female protagonist, is a mission faerie but probably not the best one on the job. She steals this particular mission from her sister because she want to

redeem herself and prove to the Trusted Few (the governing body of the fae) that she should keep her wings.

Right off the bat, Sophia fall for her charge's father, and the more she tries to help the young Lady Anna, the more she fall for the "dangerous duke." The Duke of Robinsworth, Ashley, is rumored to have killed his wife and while Sophia hesitates to believe the rumor of the ton, she is quick to admit that there might be whole different story that is hidden from society. The romance between Sophia and Ashley is obviously the main story in the novel and while Sophia's missions are the main reason she's there in the first place, I can't help but wonder why it takes her so long to accomplish one easy mission. As we learn later on, the missions are a set up but it just feels like there are a few inconsistencies and I just can't get past the idea that Sophia and her grandmother are invited to stay over at the Duke's mansion, while they are mere acquaintances of his mother and had never met the Duke before all this. And invited for a party that goes on for more than a week no less... Like I said, there just seems to be something weird about the whole scenario, as if the author needed a reason for Sophia to be there, and came up with an "easy" justification.

The secondary character are what makes the story funny and light. Ronald the garden gnome will have you entertained every time he's in a scene. Margaret is also a wonderful character. As a house faerie, she acts as Sophia's maid when she's in the human world, and while she does what Sophia asks of her, she makes it known that she thinks the job is beneath her. Lady Anna, the duke's daughter is Sophia's mission, but the little chit is loud, spoiled, and uncontrollable (by anyone other than her father and Sophia).

The story is full of faerie dust that will enchant you and I still can't get over the garden gnome. If anything, he deserves his own book. Falkner charmed me with her easy writing and her whimsical ideas. I might continue reading this series when I'm in the mood for an easy and fun read, but for now, I'm left satisfied with Sophia and Ashley's story.

CaroleDee says

A Lady and Her Magic was a take on the Fae I haven't experienced yet, and I loved every minute of it. It was a bit longer than I expected, but at no time did the story drag. I was enthralled the entire time.

The characters were fun and engrossing. I especially enjoyed the quirky character of Ronald, the garden gnome. I don't think I will ever look at a garden gnome quite the same way. *Be warned: those little buggers bite!*

I laughed, I cried, I fell in love with the characters. A Lady and Her Magic took all of the elements I love in the historical romance genre splashed it with a huge dose of magic and left me wanting more!

LOVE LOVE LOVE this cover!

*posted at <http://www.bittenbyparanormalromance....>

Phoenix77 says

I will be the first to recognize that not every book has to be deep, dark or full of angst. More times than not I prefer a light-hearted type of story, with characters who are pleasant and fun to read about and plots meant to

entertain rather than rip at my heart. However, every author has to find a balance between the whimsy and fantasy they create against the reality that these characters supposedly live in. As I read through *A Lady and her Magic* I felt that author Tammy Falkner always tipped her scales towards the fantasy and the story suffered for it.

Sophia Thorne is a mission fairy, and the closest analogy I could come up with to what a mission fairy is would be a pseudo Fairy Godmother for humans needing assistance in their lives. These fairies do their jobs within the parameters of the Unpardonable Errors; rules made to protect the fairy realm against discovery by the humans, but also a code to keep the fairies from doing more than their assigned task. Sophia's mission is to help Lady Anne Trimble against a terrible memory that is slowly eating away at her childhood innocence. Unfortunately the assignment comes with a big complication: Anne's father Lord Robinsworth, also known as the Dangerous Duke. Sophia is quick to introduce herself to both father and daughter and through a convenient set of circumstances she finds herself invited into the Trimble home for an informal house party. Being in such close quarters with the attractive Lord Robinsworth becomes a serious distraction for Sophia. She is pulled to him through a magical connection, but also through their daily interactions where she sees a man who has been touched by tragedy.

Ashley Trimble, Lord Robinsworth, has been living as a recluse for years since the death of his wife. Quietly accused of her murder and unwilling to expose his family secrets to scrutiny he has become an outcast to anyone poised to believe the gossip. His only joys in life come from his daughter, but as she gets older he can see how his withdrawing from society has started to hurt her as well. While he is ready to let the past go he is unable to find the courage or motivation to come out of his shadowed existence. Meeting with Sophia is like a breath of fresh air for Ashley. There is the immediate physical attraction to her, but he can also sense the lightness of her being, as if the dark that has surrounded him for years cannot touch her. Having Sophia under his roof for his mother's house party becomes a way for him to court her on his terms, allowing the illusions of rank and class to fall away and just be with her as a man. Because of an unknown magical connection Sophia and Ashley are drawn to one another through music, and each time they meet a little bit more of their resistance falls away.

While the romance itself was fairly straight forward, in my opinion many of the fantasy aspects of the story were its weakest link. The idea of Sophia having magic and being a Fae is given to the reader as an absolute, yet very little is written to explain exactly who the Fae are or how their role within the human world came to be. The author wants us to believe that the fairy world is a mirror to the London society of 1817, yet Sophia's words and actions make it seem more like she's a modern day American visiting Regency London. The idea of "mission fairies" gave a sense that women like Sophia, her mother and grandmother before her were the mythical Fairy Godmothers from lore. Yet how they work, how they receive their missions and how they are to complete those missions is left very vague. In too many aspects within the story we as readers are left to create our own ideas about who the Fae are. If the people of Sophia's world are Fairies like the Tinkerbelle kind, why are the men denied wings? Why are Fish the mortal enemy of the Fairies? Why the concern over a human handling Fairy Dust when nothing ever comes of it? Simple questions like this kept popping up for me as the author would throw out unique ideas about the Fae and yet never expand upon it.

A Lady and her Magic was perhaps too light a read even for me. With so many of the fantasy aspects being undefined the rest of the story just floated away in the ether, leaving me with only the slightest impression of it all.

Krista says

THIS IS THE BEST BOOK I HAVE READ YET THIS YEAR!!!! I just love everything about this book!! Its awesome to find an adult faerie story!! Not that there is anything wrong with stories like Wicked Lovely but I wanted something more adult and this is it!! I fell in love with Sophia and Robin and Anne and Clair and Finn and Ronald and the Ramsdales, and sophie grand parents and the trusted few and everyone else I didnt mention!! The story had me laughing the people made me hopeful and the outcome made me happy!! Thhis was a great story of love that is fought for even when it is given freely. You will feel like you are in a different world. A world where even you wish you could stay!! (which you might be able to find if you have the right item for the fishes :P) I cant wait to read Finn and Clairs' story!! Thank you Tammy!! You are a great whimsical writer and you can take me on an adventure anytime!! 5 STARS!!

She-Wolf Reads says

If the Duke of Robinsworth had known it would be so difficult to raise a daughter alone, he never would have killed his wife.

What a fantastic opening line. It was this first sentence that made me pick up **A LADY AND HER MAGIC** by Tammy Falkner from my TBR pile and then not put it down. This line introduces Ashley Trimble, Duke of Robinsworth, wealthy widower and suspected murderer. While out with his young daughter, Anne, he runs into the lovely and enchanting Sophia. It may seem like a coincidence, but Sophia has secrets and this meeting, unbeknownst to the Duke, was planned. Sophia has a wonderful affect on the hard to handle Anne and she makes an indelible impression on the Duke. After this “chance” encounter, they meet again at the Duke’s country estate. His mother is throwing a party in an effort to rehabilitate the Duke’s sinister reputation (but really she just wants to gamble with her friends) and Sophia and her grandmother are invited quests of the Duchess. So begins the Duke’s effort to win Sophia’s heart. Sophia herself tries to stick to her job as a fairy, safeguard her future from her attraction to the Duke, and keep a wily gnome from getting too involved in her business.

Words that came to mind after finishing **A LADY AND HER MAGIC** are “sweet,” “frothy,” “fun”... “a confection of a tale.” Get the idea? This is a light, romantic story about a fairy on a mission who falls in love with a human despite the obstacles in their way.

I’m a sucker for a period paranormal so I loved the fact that this was set in Regency England with a fey influence. However, this isn’t a story of the dark fey. This is a pixie dust, Tinker Bell, type of fairytale. Sophia is a mission fairy who is sent to the Robinsworth estate to help the family for a specific reason. For me, the weakest part of this story lay precisely in its paranormal aspects. I guess Sophia is a fairy godmother? I have no idea. I don’t understand why there are even mission fairies, why they care about the human world, what the point of their “humanitarian” missions are and what exactly they can do other than morph into little fairies with wings and spread truth dust. The world-building left a lot to be desired in this one. What was there was cute, fun, and light. I actually appreciate that this wasn’t a doom and gloom paranormal. There were a couple of dark moments but overall these weren’t the fey that make you too scared to eat the food. Reading something that was a bit more lighthearted in nature was a good change. I just wish it were a bit more developed.

Unpardonable Error #5:
Never, ever fall in love with a human.

Mission fairies live and work by five unpardonable errors. One of which is to never fall in love with a human. For me, what really worked here was the romance. I loved Ashley Trimble, Duke of Robinsworth. He is a lonely, misunderstood man. Smart, powerful, and isolated. Sophia has an irreverent take on human society and their rules; she is a breath of fresh air to the Duke's lonely existence. They have wonderful chemistry. I loved the shifting POVs and really enjoyed the Duke's struggle to win Sophia's heart.

The supporting cast is fun – Wilson the loyal butler, the Duchess with her sharp tongue and gambling habit, the Duke's brother, the rakish Finn, and Ronald, the snooping garden gnome. The dialogue was witty, the pace was just right, and the period setting was well done.

I would classify this as a more traditional romance with a light paranormal twist. It was a fast and fun read. I just wish there was more there...the world-building was a little too featherweight for me to really sink my teeth into. Regardless, it was a sweet romantic tale, a fun diversion from the darker stuff I normally read.

This review is courtesy of She-Wolf Reads.
