



When a Lord Needs a Lady

Jane Goodger

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**When a Lord Needs a Lady Jane Goodger
Lord Graham Spencer needs a wife.**

But not just any girl will do. She must have the money to save his dilapidated estate and desperate tenants. So when he meets a charming American lady's maid on the beach at Brighton, the last thing he ought to do is kiss her.

Katherine Wright is hunting a titled husband.

Or at least her mother is. But Katherine can't get the memory of a most inappropriate kiss out of her mind. The handsome stranger who took her in his arms in Brighton was only a valet, but even if she is an heiress, she'd rather spend her life with him than some stiff British aristocrat.

Can true love survive two false identities, two scheming mamas, and two lavish house parties where all is revealed? It can...

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When a Lord Needs a Lady Details

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From Reader Review When a Lord Needs a Lady for online ebook

Casey says

4 stars for a splendid read.

More on my blog: <http://caseyreadstoo.blogspot.com/201...>

**I received a copy of this book from the publisher via Netgalley in exchange for an honest review*

I remember reading a bunch of contemporary romances and new adult books before getting started on this book and it was like a breath of fresh air where I don't have to deal with tacky instant attraction (although this book does have instant attraction) and unnecessary ignores.

Graham Spencer was a broke marquess. Like dead broke. He could barely keep any servants and most of the furnitures in his home were sold so he could provide for his tenants and estate. And that was why he needed to marry a rich heiress. Fast. He was always on the lookout for meetings with heiresses and was known for the increasing debt he had accumulated from his father's reign as a marquess. He was also known to be very cold and distant company during social events, which also contributed to him not being able to find a wife who he could tolerate. While holidaying in Brighton Beach, he stumbled upon Katherine Wright, thinking she was a lady's maid and introduced himself as a valet to hide his real identity and to get closer to her.

Katherine Wright was a rich heiress in a search for a titled husband, as do most American heiresses at the time. Instead, she met Gray, a valet while out walking in Brighton Beach. Her dress suggested her to be a maid, as to not gain attention from everyone else. Charmed by Gray, she agreed to continue meeting him and they were soon involved in a whirlwind romance. Until her sudden departure to attend a very important social event.

The two lovers were soon reunited, no longer under false pretences but were met with more obstacles that led one further away from the other.

I like historical romances for one thing, innocence. It was a fast, sweet romance between Graham and Katherine. I enjoyed this book immensely (probably because I hadn't read any historical romances in a while). I cried towards the end because holy shit I'm a crier and the part where Graham and Katherine's relationship began to take a downside, I really felt the emotions portrayed by both of them. However, it was missing that one thing, probably the lack of climax (not sexually). I still enjoyed it but that one kick I needed in the book was missing and so I kicked one star out of my rating.

Elaine says

It started off really interesting, then fell away. Just o.k. read.

3*

Mary Gramlich says

Knowing right from wrong does not always mean you will do the right thing

She may be a beautiful American heiress but Katherine Wright is nothing in the eyes of the English society. She truly does not care overmuch about snaring a man with a title but her mother would be very appreciative if she could. The problems begin when the title that she does fall in love with is attached to Graham Spence, Marquess of Avonleigh. Graham is all things unpleasant to the outside world and also about to become engaged. He does not want to marry the woman he is destined to for life but his father left Graham's entailed estate in such disrepair that this is the destiny he must fulfill.

However, trying to stay level-headed and keep away from Katherine is not as easy task or one Graham seems to be able to do. The romance started out innocently as they played the part of people they were not letting their feelings take them where they would go. Graham could dream of having Katherine in his life and Katherine believed that the romance would bind them forever. But reality being what it is they are cannot pretend to be different or choose other lives and they must accept the inevitable. Neither Katherine nor Graham wanted what would happen next yet when all the dust settled it turned out to be exactly what each of them had been praying for or so they hope.

Jane Goodger has shown her gift for capturing the characters strength as well as their inevitable weakness that makes her story a complete package of life and love.

Kimberly Rocha~ Book Obsessed Chicks says

American heiress, Katherine Wright, has been sent overseas to England to catch a titled husband. It isn't her idea. mind you, but her parents'. Katherine accompanies her ailing mother to Brighton and in her boredom decides to dress as a lady's maid so she won't be bothered on the boardwalk.

From his window, Lord Graham Spencer sees the vision of the beauty and seeks her company out. Instead of being forthcoming and telling each other who they in truth are, they concoct false identities, for Katherine would be ruined if she is seen alone out and about and Lord Spencer could never be seen in the company of a maid. Posing as a valet, Graham accompanies the maid around Brighton and they share an eye-opening kiss that neither can get out of their minds.

Both parties involved have an attraction to one another that shines through the deception, but when the truth finally comes out, both parties feel betrayed. Katherine knows in her heart that Graham is the man for her, but Graham is in need of an heiress with more money than Katherine possesses to care for his dilapidated home and the people under his charge and he has the one with the funds in his grasp. Does he want this other heiress though? Can she light the fire that he already holds for Katherine? Ahhhhh the dilemma!

Oh this book, WHEN A LORD NEEDS A LADY by Jane Goodger, brings out such emotion, between wanting to flog both the hero and heroine at any given time or hug them. This tale is a roller coaster of a ride. Katherine and Graham are two very intelligent and capable characters, but stubborn at the same time. Then we have the meddling mamas who add to the mix of emotions and make one glad that in this day and age decisions like the one Graham has to make hopefully don't still exist. Miss Goodger is a very good writer

than keeps the reader very interested. I enjoyed this book and would recommend it highly.

Katyana says

Meh. Funny dial, but the drama was SO contrived. And it made me dislike the hero, while simultaneously undercutting the intelligence and spirit of the heroine.

Michelle says

Cute story. A little angst. But I would have liked more angst. I also felt the issue resolved rather easily. But the story line was good.

KP Pryce says

I often find regencies featuring American heroines a struggle to read, which tends to get in the way of enjoyment. Generally, I find they are usually written in such a way that they come across as brash, outspoken and somehow lacking when I suppose the author's trying to portray them as independent, forward thinking young women, But they just don't 'click' as regency heroines with me, so I invariably abandon the story and move on to another.

I am happy to say that the h in this story was not some in your face, loud American but a charming, well mannered young American lady (with the emphasis on the word 'lady'). I really liked her, and I enjoyed her courage in stepping outside the bounds of propriety when she first meets the H, then truly admired her when they were both unmasked to each other when they encountered each other in society.

While I do sometimes find the trope of marriages formed for financial or purely dynastic reasons somewhat tiresome, the H's looming betrothal to another provided a credible source of external conflict to the romance between the h and H, and a nice turning point when those arrangements were blown out of the water by unfolding events.

It's not a keeper, but it was an enjoyable read nonetheless.

Eileen Dandashi says

HOW CAN YOU RESIST THIS HISTORICAL ROMANCE READ? Heroine talking with hero, both in disguise; the heiress Miss Katherine Wright impersonating her maid and Graham Spencer, Lord Avonleigh impersonating his valet.

“It’s said he never smiles. That he is one of the most miserable men in all of Britain and that his heart—if he has one—is the size of a pea.” She held up her thumb and index finger to show just how small his heart was.

Graham, at first horrified, let out a sharp, and rather rusty, laugh. “Do tell me more.”

She smiled, her full lips looking incredibly enticing at the moment, so Graham forced himself to look into her eyes. They were changeable eyes, green and gray and blue in a field of golden brown. “It’s said—I overheard Miss Wright talking with her mother about Lord Avonleigh—that he will marry the very first girl he smiles at. Not a polite smile. A true smile.”

He hadn’t heard that one. “Truly” That’s what they say?”

“That and the part about him not having a heart. He’s known as the Miserable Marquess.”

“He has a heart,” he muttered. “Somewhere.”

“Of course he has one,” she said. “He simply has never used it.”

Title: When a Lord Needs a Lady

Author: Jane Goodger

Genre: Historical Romance

Story Setting: Brighton, London -- England

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About the Author: Jane Goodger worked as a journalist for 12 years when she decided to write happy ever after endings rather than what real life can dish out. She wrote *When a Lord Needs a Lady* as a Happy Valentine’s to her fans. Her next book is titled *When a Lady Needs a Lord*. The last four books she’s written are loosely tied together with some of the same characters.

Here’s a list of her books. http://janegoodger.com/?page_id=8

About the Story: Graham Spencer had to find an heiress and quickly to save his estate and the tenants who depended on him. It was all slowly dying and if he didn’t do something quickly, all would be gone.

The aristocracy in England, in general, needed new blood. English women wanted titled husbands, but not impoverished. The titled men sought wealth, which the colonies provided—women from the U.S. wanted a title to add to their wealth. It was a win-win situation.

Graham Spencer had his eye on one American heiress with a dowry that would pump life blood back into his estate. He would sacrifice himself rather than have his people lose faith. But when he couldn’t get Miss Wright out of his head, nor apparently out of his arms, he risked all.

Miss Katherine Wright, from New York, came to England to placate her mother and father. Both wanted her to wed a title man. She was not interested in a man with or without a title if they didn’t love each other.

When she had a chance to leave the hotel and be out on her own, something she had never been able to do all her life, she grabbed the opportunity. If she had to marry a stuffy aristocrat, then she wanted to have memories of good times. She met and was attracted to a very handsome valet. When he kept asking her to meet him even at inconceivable hours, she went. Why not? She would never see the man again once she was in London and no one knew her in Brighton. And besides, the valet was a gentlemen.

My Thoughts: I was hooked from the very first page. Ms. Goodger writes witty dialog and an entertaining plot. The heroine does such unexpected things--she makes you keep reading. I knew she would be caught, it was just a matter of when and how. I mean, that's what makes the story good, right? Then comes the anguish, his anguish and hers. Unrequited love, misunderstandings and great character development make this a really fun read.

Thank you Ms. Goodger for making MY Valentine's Day a happy ever after.

Mary - Buried Under Romance says

I feel it necessary to say that I **very** rarely give negative ratings (check my rating average if you don't believe me), but there is just so much inconsistency of characterization that ruined the story for me. Too much. I was intensely angry at the moronic hero on the heroine's behalf.

This will sound like a rant (Spoilers):

The first 30% of the book was very nicely done - two characters met and fell in love in a beach setting and each thought the other was of a servant position. Then, they meet again in a London ballroom and there was no Big Misunderstanding there. They quickly acknowledged that they both like each other, but alas, it was not to be because the hero needs an heiress with more money than the heroine (who is a lesser heiress herself) so the heroine is giving him over to the other girl.... However, due to some character's machinations, the hero ends up ruining the heroine and having been caught in public, forced to marry her to avoid a scandal. He treats her abominably for the near entirety of the book. He thought she orchestrated them being compromised, when all along **he** needed *her* money, and **he** lusted after her. Yet the heroine loved him this whole time until she finally couldn't take his emotional abuse (and insults from his family) and runs away. It is then that the hero was suddenly told of the truth from his servant, and **only** because he trusted the servant, he realized that he should not have treated the heroine so badly.

No, just no. I wanted to chuck my iPad at the nearest wall when I read this.

I DO NOT recommend.

Belinda says

I like Jane Goodger's books and this one was a okay read. I really wanted to get into it but it didn't click for me. I thought the hero was a bit well stupid. He wants the woman who turns him on, but feels like he needs to go with another woman to help his finances. Well, if he felt like he loved the original woman , I would not let others get into my way for something truly that I wanted. If you know what I mean. The story of a woman who wants to be loved, but hasn't the nerve to go after her man. This story needed more depth in the characters and less ho humming around. I appreciate Net Galley for letting me read and review this book.

Amy Alvis says

Originally reviewed for: Historical Romance Lover blog

This is not part of a series per se, but has characters from other novels in it.

Katherine Wright, American heiress, is in England to find a titled husband to make her parents happy. She would much rather go back home and go to college. During her stay in Brighton Beach, she dresses as a maid and enjoys some alone time walking along the beach. She meets a man, the valet to Lord Graham Spencer, and is instantly intrigued.

Lord Graham Spencer sees an intriguing woman walking along the beach. He is so drawn to her that he goes down to the beach to meet her. Saving her from dropping into the ocean, Graham strikes up a conversation with her. But Graham tells her is is actually his valet.

Graham and Katherine, both letting the other think they are not who they appear to be, engage in a flirtation. Katherine sneaks out of hotel room to meet Graham in secret. They both know that the relationship would never work, but they can't stay away from each other.

They have one last night together, but Katherine never show up. Graham goes to her hotel and demands to find out what happen to her and learns that her party has left early. He is devastated thinking that he will never see her again.

Fortunately for them both, they end up at the same house party and soon learn that the other was not honest with who they were. Unfortunately, Graham is soon to be engaged to another American heiress to save his properties from ruin. Will Graham follow his heart or will his need to save his legacy prevail?

When I read the synopsis for this novel, I was intrigued. I've often read historical romance novels when one of the characters is not honest about whom they are, but rarely do you see both leading characters take on a new persona. It was interesting to see two people fall in love, just being themselves without all the "perfect behavior" that was the norm for that time period.

This is not the first book that I've read by this author, but I haven't read the book that has Graham's friends in it so I'll be checking it out soon. I do hope that Goodger continues to write about some of the secondary characters in this novel as I would like to see them get their HEA too!

Thanks go out to NetGalley and eKensington for a copy of the book in exchange of an honest review.

J. W. Garrett says

The concept of the rich American heiress is not a new story. Julian Fellowes, creator of Downton Abby read To Marry an English Lord as part of his research. That book stated “during the time from the Gilded Age until 1914, over 100 American heiresses invaded Britannia.”

While walking on the beach, Graham Spencer, Marquis of Avonleigh meets Katherine Wright an American on holiday. She pretends to be her lady's maid and he pretends to be his valet. They develop a relationship devoid of status or wealth [or lack thereof]. Later they meet at a ball and their ruse is exposed.

Graham needs funds badly. He now has two American heiresses to choose from. However, they are at opposite ends of the nouveau riche scale of wealth. It is Katherine's mother that is pushing for a titled marriage for her daughter in order to elevate their standing in society back in New York.

Graham's struggle is painful. His circumstances dire, his concerns for the people he is responsible for is hard to read and endure. The story became tedious as he vacillated between heiresses. His love came across as mercenary as he struggled with the knowledge that the wealth of the woman he loved was one tenth that of his other choice. His martyrdom attitude as he threw himself on the marriage market for his estates and people on those holding is hard to read. [Thus the frustration reviews]

When caught in a compromise, he is forced to marry and then his circumstances really get bad. His anger and mistrust of his new wife and their reduced state is brutal. Her attitude about his attitude is hard to read. I won't spoiler alert...read it to see how things turn out for their HEA. It is worth it in the end. I loved the depiction of the American fathers.

Lisa says

I was addicted to this book as I read it; it was hard for me to put down. Katherine is an American heiress and she and her mother are in England searching for an eligible, titled lord. While at Brighton Beach, she meets a titled Graham who hides his status from Katherine, as Katherine does the same. They start a brief, yet intense relationship with each other under the guise of a ladies maid and valet. Graham is in need of a wife, and a wealthy one at that. Despite his rapidly growing feelings for Katherine, he realizes they can never have a future. After a few days' time, they part ways only to meet again during a week long house party. It's at this party that they realize the truth of their lies, but despite that, they still have feelings for each other and continue to steal private, passionate kisses. Unfortunately, Katherine's dowry does not provide the funds needed to marry Graham and he must wed another. Will Katherine and Graham have their HEA?

I think Jane Goodger wrote a fantastic book; her pages flowed seamlessly and it was tough finding a place there I could set it aside and continue with being a mom and wife. Usually this kind of book, the kind that I don't want to put it down, leaves me with a "book hangover," however, surprisingly, this one did not. After reading the last page, I started to reflect on what I had read and realized that there were a few things that I would like to have changed. Toward the end, there is a certain situation between Katherine and Graham that changes the dynamic of their relationship. I didn't care for how Graham's personality did a 180. He became cold and almost cruel toward Katherine. If he had simply talked with her and listened to her side of the story, there wouldn't have been such a huge misunderstanding between them. He was too quick to jump to conclusions. My image of Graham also changed when he met Katherine's father. Up to that point, I visualized him as a strong (physically and emotionally) alpha male. After meeting her father, Graham's personality became weak and I was suddenly visualizing a tall, scrawny and weak dandy. That was a bit jarring for me.

All-in-all, I think this is a keeper and I know I won't be forgetting this book any time soon. I expect that I'll re-read it again in the future. Thank you NetGalley for the pleasure of reading *When a Lord Needs a Lady*.

T G says

Loved it

This book was very enjoyable to read. It was lighthearted but at the same time full of emotion. The characters were very likable. Don't pass this one up.

A Voracious Reader (a.k.a. Carol) says

*Book source ~ NetGalley

Katherine Wright and her mother are in England because her mother is determined that Katherine find a titled husband. The problem with being American and having a large dowry from "new money" means the only titled men who will consider her are those who are penniless. Katherine would rather marry for love and go to university, but goes along on the trip to humor her mother all while hoping no one will prove acceptable and they can return to New York.

Lord Graham Spencer has a lovely old title, but he's penniless. He needs an heiress with a huge dowry to get his estates back in order. As much as it pains him to marry for money his people are counting on him. He will do his duty no matter how much he hates it.

When Katherine and Graham meet by chance on Brighton Beach they lie to each other, Katherine saying she's a maid and Graham saying he's a valet. They are drawn to each other, but they know nothing can come of it. They meet in secret several times even going so far as to kiss. When they finally meet for real at a house party things go from bad to worse.

This is a well-written different kind of historical than the usual. Katherine and another mother/daughter pair searching for a titled husband are from America. New money is so gauche to the hoity-toity English, but they are obscenely rich, so they draw the titles that need a large influx of cash their dowries will bring. Unfortunately for Katherine, Graham offers for the air-headed Claudia Von Haupt because she has a \$1 million dowry. The entire book is heartwarming and heart breaking in turns. Then there's a huge misunderstanding before the HEA is rendered. All-in-all an entertaining read that kept me turning the pages.
