



A Matter of Scandal

Suzanne Enoch

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“Suzanne Enoch’s sparkling talent makes each book witty, romantic, and always an eagerly anticipated pleasure.”

—Christina Dodd

A much-beloved classic from the phenomenal Suzanne Enoch, *A Matter of Scandal* is a delightful showcase of the wit, style, and passion that have made this *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author a historical romance star. In this delectable Regency romp, a lusty duke with a well-earned reputation for seduction tricks the beautiful headmistress of a girls finishing school into a wager she cannot possibly win...only to have his own unsuspecting heart won by the clever, resourceful lady. *Julia Quinn* fans, this *Scandal* is for you! Read it and see why bestselling author Karen Hawkins has called the novels of Suzanne Enoch, “romance the way it was meant to be written.”

A Matter of Scandal Details

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Download and Read Free Online A Matter of Scandal Suzanne Enoch

From Reader Review A Matter of Scandal for online ebook

Eastofoz says

A light historical with a feisty get-out-of-my-way heroine and a Jo Cool alpha who unexpectedly falls in love with the least likely woman.

Witty in your face dialog, some very mean characters from the infamous "ton" all set around a school that teaches girls how to become respectable ladies.

Not a lot of bedroom steam here but if you're looking for a well-written quick story for the weekend this would be a good one to pick up.

Mary - Buried Under Romance says

I won't bother with a long review as this book did not really create a strong, lasting impression. There are a lot of stupid arguments between Emma and Grey, but what's worse is how Enoch manages to squeeze in sex scenes (mandatory, of course) in a scenario of a virtuous headmistress being seduced by a duke. One would really need the headmistress to set a good example for her charges, after all, and some of her problems seemed to have been caused by insta-lust.

I particularly did not enjoy the very **last minute marriage proposal/love declaration** - while it may be understandable in some stories, it rings false in this case, almost like a last desperate scheme to set the world right by romance-novel standards.

Ultimately, while some of Enoch's novels are worthy of being keepers, unfortunately her novels are just not on the same level as Kleypas, but occasionally, even less than Hawkins, whom I consider to be a middling author. It is a shame, but alas, there are only so many rare talents in this genre and the perfunctory sex scenes do often hinder the actual romantic developments that is the focus of romance novels.

Maggie Hesseling says

This wasn't the first time I had read this novel. A couple years ago I picked it up in a 2nd hand book store and when I started transitioning part of my bookcase to Kindle last year, this was one of the novels I really wanted to get a copy of.

It's a good, solid historical romance. The characters are interesting and the situations different. I like that they can't get along with each other at the beginning, and love that they have to change each other's mind pertaining to the school. I especially like that Emma's an intelligent woman that gives the Duke as good as she gets.

I love this entire series, but Emma and her duke will always hold a special place for me.

Bruna Vrani?i? Vujevi? says

Pribojavalala sam se ho?e li uspjeti biti jednako dobra kao prethodne dvije, ali nisam trebala! Odli?an kraj serijala! Predobra je! ?ista petica!

Ivy H says

Enjoyable novel with a spirited and strong willed heroine. The H was annoying at times; he only became a little less aggravating towards the final quarter of the story. The two OW were dull as dishwater, because they seemed incapable of acting as conventionally "evil" OW are expected to. In fact, it was the machinations of one of the OW - who sent spiteful letters intending to ruin the heroine - that actually brought the H to the full realization that he loved the heroine and wanted to marry her. It was great to see Alexandra and Lucien make a cameo appearance towards the end and I almost wished that they had brought their little dog Shakes with them (they were the MC's in Reforming A Rake).

Maybe I might read this again someday. Who knows ?

Holly says

Grey really despises women and Emma doesn't think too highly of her fellow man either so this story has an amusing battle of the sexes. His opinion of female education and their usefulness was pretty outrageous. (Really, dude. Don't hold back. Tell us how you feel) Their combative relationship was a lot of fun to read about and for the first half of the book I was really enjoying it. Grey's and Emma's witty banter was very lively and I was pretty happy with my decision to force myself to read this book (I disliked the second book in this series, Meet Me At Midnight), when suddenly the second half of this book got weird. It gets really crowded and a little jaw dropping. The scandal that hit the fan was pretty shocking. For that time period and counting in Emma's position as a headmistress, the woman who must be above reproach, I honestly didn't think they were going to be able to recover. I kinda assumed it was going to end with them running off to China to escape the mob.

Normally I get annoyed when the heroine makes excessive demands for independence but in this instance Emma's breathless acceptance of Grey's proposal irritated me. I so totally understand her reasons and understand that she was getting hit at from all sides but still. Humph. While I'm complaining I didn't like Grey's mother and I still don't get what Grey was doing with Freddie. Plus, I'm angry that Grey left Emma alone for even a moment to face everyone by herself.

So while I started off liking this book, by the end of it I was confused..... and disappointed. :(

Danielle The Book Huntress (Back to the Books) says

My problem with this story is the sexual mores in it. I find it very distressing that a young woman who is completely dependent on her position as a schoolteacher would risk her livelihood by dallying with a careless lord, including having a sexual encounter in her schoolroom. I spent the whole book waiting for someone to catch her and for her to get fired. I was disappointed that she had such reckless decision-making

and also at the hero for being so selfish as to pursue an affair with a woman who really had to be careful about her reputation. I guess I need to lighten up, but this really affected my ability to enjoy this story.

I didn't find it very realistic for the times. Yeah maybe this was a hot duke, but a few moments of passion isn't worth losing your job and being thrown out on the streets and destitute. Not to mention she is trying to set a good example for the young ladies she is teaching. Nowadays, a single woman who is a teacher can probably have an affair and it's not a big deal. But back in the Regency period, a woman's reputation was very important and extremely fragile. She had little means and no family. It was very jarring and unrealistic. I realize this is romance and it's fantasy, but when I spend the whole time thinking of the the consequences of a character's actions, and not the romance, that's not very romantic to me.

Otherwise, it was enjoyable. I liked Emma. I thought she was a good heroine, although her behavior struck me as reckless and foolish. I didn't think much of the duke, and my opinion didn't change much because of his actions towards Emma. He had nothing to lose, and she had everything, but I'm not sure that occurred to him. There was some funny parts, and sparkling dialogue. But a selfish hero like Greydon is not to my taste.

Mary says

"A Matter of Scandal" rounds out Suzanne Enoch's "With This Ring" series, which was so enjoyable overall that I'm pained that there is no epilogue to catch a last glimpse of these couples' happily ever afters. The premise was very similar to Lex and Lucien's only in that it is a nobleman falling for a prim governess, but beyond that Grey and Emma were very much their own power couple.

I loved Grey despite the rather rough start to his character. He has an air of entitlement that comes with being a duke, expecting people to fawn and fall for him, and is an unapologetic rake who doesn't have a high opinion of women. On the other hand, Emma does not think too highly of the other gender either so their butting of heads naturally comes to a high-stakes wager which acts as the excuse for them to see each other.

Their chemistry was so hot that, for once, I did not skim over the steamy scenes. The author had a very good sense of balance when it came to writing their relationship that they appeared to be on equal footing throughout the entirety, which is really refreshing. I loved the angst build-up to the ending though still understand how hypocritical it is for a headmistress to fall victim to a well-known rake (heh). Grey did such a 180 that one can't help but root for him.

Why is there no epilogue? The author loves taking us on the journey but I am desperate for a glimpse of their happy ending! (Apparently, Dare will get his own book in a later series. I had actually read his and Georgie's book a year ago - out of chronological order - and had a nagging feeling the entire time that his title sounded very familiar. Time to refresh my memory!)

Sara Reads (mostly) LOTS of Romance says

3.5 cause I wanted an epilogue

ChloeLeeNH says

I liked the tension between the h/h from the beginning. Nice theme of setting a wager and then they both realize that they can learn things.

Becca says

Whenever I am in a funk, I can almost always count on Suzanne Enoch to pull me out of it. Her books are brain candy, filled with witty banter, sexy men, and hilarious situations. While this book would not be what I consider a deep, historically accurate novel, it had all the elements that make up a good story.

In previous reviews, I've mentioned that Enoch often uses a formula:

- Step 1: sexy man meets quirky but intelligent woman
- Step 2: they have witty banter and sexual chemistry
- Step 3: something bad happens that causes the hero and heroine to realize they have deep feelings
- Step 4: all their friends/family band together to take on the threat
- Step 5: HEA

Do you want to know what I think of this formula? It's **PERFECTION**. I never get tired of it. I always enjoy it because Enoch executes it so well. The Duke and the headmistress trope was well done here and some reviews complain that the woman risked too much by sleeping with the duke, but I really didn't get that vibe. They had chemistry from the get-go and they were both independent adults. They just clicked.

While I didn't love the other novels in this series, this one is worth reading. The duke is hilarious, witty, sexy, and humorously stubborn. Emma is independent and opinionated, but still relatable and fun. The school girls are adorable and add nice layers. The duke's friend, Tristan (hero of *The Rake*) is a wonderful counterpoint to the duke and their dialogue often had me in stitches. And the duke's "lessons" with the school girls? **NOT TO BE MISSED**. Oh my goodness...I was **HOWLING**!

In all, this had a lot of lightness, humor, and nice romance. A really nice break if you've been reading a lot of duds and want to escape and laugh for a while.

BookMaven says

Sex and School, Yuk.

Greydon Brakenridge, the Duke of Wycliffe, was duty-bound to help his uncle with his money woes. Toward that end, he suggested that his uncle triple his estate's rents. Emma Grenville, headmistress of the finishing school situated on the Duke's uncle's estate, knew that the elevated rent would destroy the goals of her academy, so she protested this rent increase. The Duke had reasons to want the Academy shuttered, and in his arrogance, he suggested a wager between himself and Miss Grenville. If she won, her rent would not be escalated. If he won, the school would be in danger of closing.

Everything about this book is completely implausible, and the cuteness of the students could only go so far to save this story. For me, it just got tedious. A man among a bunch of young girls teaching them about rakes,

was wrong on so many levels, and supervised by his lover, was barely palatable in Regency, Victorian, or Contemporary times. To me, it is disappointing to have the headmistress of a school breaking all of her own rules. And it is just gross that she is having sex with intentional actions that are bound to ensure an illegitimate pregnancy just steps away from the young students. Even in our present, more relaxed society, most would deem these actions completely unacceptable, immoral, irresponsible and sickening.

Emma was everything she did not want for her students. She engaged in every kind of behavior that would bring dishonor and ruin to herself, her students, and to her aunt's legacy. Her actions made a mockery of her aunt's gift of the school to ensure that Emma would have a way to take care of herself. A woman who would rather have sex once or twice over her very livelihood, is not a good candidate to be shaping young women's futures. This behavior was especially hard to swallow, because it was explained that at 12 years old, the heroine was thrown in the streets to fend for herself and spent months in a work house.

The whole wager plot was against all rules and mores of any society, and the ultimate in bad business judgment. We are to believe that a person trying to save a school would hinge her total future and that of the school and the students on a reputation-ruining bet. Of course, readers of romance do allow suspension of reality a lot, but this author asks too much.

Just thinking of the Duke talking with girls 12-17 years old about how rakes act and then the next scene is him having sex with their mentor, left me nauseous. Not to mention that he had his previous mistress at his aunt and uncle's home at the same time. Also, why would a 12 year old be in this class with a 17 year old? In most worlds, a 12 year would not have need of this instruction.

The ending was just ludicrous. None of these actions were even remotely believable. And none of these actions would have, in reality, solved any of the problems of the characters in the book. The ending just left me feeling like I wasted my time. This is a sad ending to an otherwise good series.

Nisha says

A fun ride with a girl's school headmistress and a rakish woman-hating duke. Worth a read, if you enjoy bad behavior and rakes, in general. It has the added bonus of a varied cast, such as students, Triston (the rake from 'The Rake' before his love story), Grey's ex-mistress, reappearance of this series' H/Hs and so on. They are also quite entertaining. The fights between Emma and Grey are fun and there is no angst. Thank God! Emma is easy to relate to, as she is basically a modern woman, working for her livelihood and being independent. Still, she is very feminine and does not come off abrasive or anything, like other historical independent female characters.

I found this more memorable than the previous book, despite the fact that i enjoyed all of them probably equally. This one is a little more...stimulating - in more than one way. Plus, it has the social class issue that we, Modern women like to see challenged.

Ivana says

I wasn't sure if to give this book a four or five stars, but in the end I decided it did deserve a five star review. It was a charming and funny story, the characters were interesting, and their chemistry was nicely written.

P.S. But the first book from this series is still by far the best ...

Viri says

Leído y disfrutado hace años. No sé porque no lo tenía calificado pero tomando en cuenta que casi no lo recuerdo supongo que fue un libro normalon! Me gustaron más los anteriores ❤?
