



Miss Bradshaw's Bought Betrothal (Harlequin)

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She'd done it! Plain, invisible Evelyn had escaped...

Fed up with being a doormat to her evil stepmother, heiress Evelyn Bradshaw pays a dissolute rake to pose as her betrothed so she can secure her freedom. But then her fake fiancé leaves her with his estranged brother Finn Matlock and disappears!

Having withdrawn from the world, Finn knows the last thing he needs is the temptation of a woman, especially one like Evie. She has an irritating habit of causing chaos wherever she goes and being in places she shouldn't...including, as he soon learns, his heart!

Miss Bradshaw's Bought Betrothal (Harlequin) Details

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Author : Virginia Heath

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Becca says

Virginia Heath is definitely on my radar for authors to watch. While I didn't love this novel, mostly because I had a hard time relating to the heroine, I still appreciated Heath's storytelling ability and I look forward to reading about her Warriners in her latest series.

In *Miss Bradshaw's Bought Betrothal*, Evie enters into an agreement with a horrid individual where she pays him to pose as her fiance so she can escape the clutches of her stepmother. Her plan goes awry when said horrid individual drops her off at his twin brother's house and abandons her there. Finn is still mourning the death of his wife and wants to be left alone, but the presence of a witty spinster and Evie with her sunny disposition and curves, forces his heart to start beating again.

Like her other books, Heath does an excellent job of fleshing out the characters. I knew both Evie and Finn. The problem was, like Finn, I could not understand Evie. This may be a blindspot I have since I am not a person who (blessedly!) has ever been bullied, but Evie truly is a "doormat"--everyone uses this word ad nauseam in the novel and it truly, truly started to make me crazy. The plot of this entire novel is based on the fact that Evie could not stand up for herself even though she had the age and money to do so. I couldn't understand it, especially with sexy Finn backing her up and teaching her what it means to be free.

Despite the "doormat" theme, I still enjoyed the story. The writing started off a little choppy, but once Finn, with his gruffness, muscles, and dry wit entered the page, it picked up. I enjoyed the escape from London and I liked the secondary characters who served to help Finn finally move on with his life. Finn also delivered some real zingers over breakfast on a regular basis and I looked forward to those as much as Evie did!

Overall, not my favorite since I couldn't fully relate to the emotion of the heroine (though I did like her curves!), but I did enjoy the hero and the Cinderella-esque plotline.

Em says

I gave this a B at All About Romance.

Miss Bradshaw's Bought Betrothal offers a fresh take on the classic Cinderella fairy tale. By giving the heroine a fuller backstory, providing her with the means to secure her own happiness with or without a prince, and allowing her to subvert the influence of her evil stepmother (and stepsisters), Ms. Heath twists the traditional version in small but satisfying ways. I liked it very much, though parts of it, especially the villains, are underdeveloped. Fortunately, the principals don't suffer the same fate! The romance is believable, sweet and appropriate for the circumstances in which our lovers find themselves.

Our Cinderella is Miss Evelyn – Evie – Bradshaw. She's announced her engagement to the dissolute Fergus Matlock, third Marquis of Stanford, and is shortly to travel to his Yorkshire estate with him to plan the wedding. Readers quickly discover this isn't a love match – it's an escape plan. Due to circumstances beyond her control, the death of her beloved mother and then father, Evie has spent the past decade playing

nursemaid. Since her father's passing, she's lived in the shadow of her money-grubbing, manipulative stepmother and stepsisters, tolerating their constant abuse and criticisms. But she's had enough. The sole beneficiary of her father's estate, Evie has a fortune at her disposal and a plan in place to finally live her own life as far from her spiteful stepmother as possible. She's paid the Marquis to pose as her fiancé and despite her stepmother's best efforts to dissuade her from this path, Evie is leaving London. She actually has no intention of marrying the odious Marquis, but she'll inform her stepmother of that fact once she's established herself in a home of her own far away in the north of England. In a letter. Soon. Probably. Maybe. Did I mention Evie is a bit of a doormat when it comes to her stepmother?

As promised, the Marquis delivers Evie to Stanford House in Yorkshire, accepts a partial payment from her and departs for the local inn leaving Evie (and her chaperone, her fairy godmother/elderly aunt) alone at last. Evie is ecstatic – she's escaped, her step mother is none the wiser, and Stanford House is more than she hoped for when Fergus agreed to her plan. Unfortunately, Evie's happiness is short lived. Wandering late at night through the house, she's surprised by Fergus whilst standing in the library enjoying the warmth of the fire. But her visitor isn't the Marquis – it's his identical twin brother, Finnegan Matlock. And this isn't Stanford House, it's Matlock House. And it belongs to Finn.

Finn Matlock is surly, grumpy and antisocial. Since the death of his beloved wife three years ago, he's avoided the outside world and occupied himself with the business of running his estate and no one has ever questioned his self-imposed solitude. When he discovers who Evie is and why she's in his home, he makes it perfectly clear she cannot stay and that she's a fool for marrying his brother. Evie, thrown by this unexpected complication (but not surprised by her fiancé's perfidy), doesn't back down in the face of his rudeness. Determined never to be cowed by anyone again, Evie insists she will speak to Fergus in the morning and shortly relocate to Stanford House (despite Finn's dire warnings that it's uninhabitable). The revelation that Fergus is the dissolute, reprehensible rake he's reputed to be shakes Evie's composure but doesn't deter her from her plans. Finn be damned, she isn't breaking her engagement and she isn't leaving Yorkshire. When she marches out of the library, head held high, Finn senses change is afoot.

Since the moment he saw spotted Evie framed in the firelight of the library, Finn feels an unwelcome attraction to her. His repeated, rude attempts to dissuade her from her plans to marry his brother (whom he hates), remove her from his household, and his regular criticism of the ugly gowns she wears each day (a legacy of her stepmother's interference over her wardrobe), seem to fall on deaf ears. Evie appears immune to his not-so-veiled attempts to get her to leave. He finds himself admiring his tough, stubborn houseguest and though he'd never admit it, he begins to look forward to seeing her. Though Finn resists his attraction to Evie out of a misplaced sense of guilt over his wife's death, it isn't long before Evie consumes his mind and heart.

Evie falls in love with Yorkshire and the freedom she experiences once she's finally far away from her stepmother. Determined to follow her plan, albeit from Matlock House instead of Stanford House, she makes inquiries into acquiring a home of her own, spends time wandering the estate (often barefoot), visits the dressmaker and finds herself looking forward to breakfast with her grumpy host every morning. Evie likes the way Finn challenges her and the way she feels when she spends time with him. When he's thrown from his horse and injured, Evie capably resumes the role as nursemaid and forces Finn to accept her help. Despite her attempts to resist her attraction to Finn, and his attempts to keep Evie at arms length, they fall for each other.

Once Evie reaches Yorkshire, ditches her dowdy London dresses, and spends time in Finn's company, she blossoms. Finn, the not-so-charming prince of this story, similarly transforms in the face of his attraction to Evie. Unwilling to play doormat to Finn or anyone else for that matter, Evie never backs down when he

lashes out or tries to push her away, and Finn loves seeing Evie assert herself. Evie, as the Cinderella of this story, is a nice warts-and-all reimagining of the oh-so-perfect fairy princess. She's been a doormat all her adult life, but given a taste of freedom, she finds her backbone and learns to love herself. Though Finn is no prince charming, he's a good match for her. A gentleman to his core, his amused and amusing responses – he's mostly bark and no bite – and tender and protective instincts, provide a safe harbor for Evie to rediscover herself. An angry exchange wherein Evie finally admits she never planned to marry Fergus, finally leads to a passionate kiss and though confusion and frustration follow (on both sides), a surprise visit from her stepmother and stepsisters, and then Fergus, force Evie and Finn to team up in order to forge a future together. An impromptu tumble in the meadow cements their relationship – and though I enjoyed this glimpse into the passion between Evie and Finn, I wish there were a few more romantic scenes sprinkled throughout the second half.

Ms. Heath does a great job developing the principals, but I wish she had similarly developed the secondary characters. Hyacinth Bradshaw is awful to listen to, but nothing she does is all that reprehensible and in the end, after one brief confrontation, Evie banishes her from Matlock House – though she never actually cuts her off or punishes her in any significant or painful way. Fergus, Marquis of Stanford, the other villain of the story is similarly underdeveloped. How and why did he become such a dissolute scoundrel? Through a late confrontation with Finn we learn there was some family conflict, but enough to cause Fergus to become such a vile, selfish prig? I'm not sure I bought it.

Problems with the villains of this story aside, Miss Bradshaw's Bought Betrothal is a whimsical and enjoyable twist on a classic fairy tale. I liked almost everything about it and look forward to reading more from Ms. Heath in the future.

Michelle Cunliffe says

I finished reading this book last night. I have never read a book were I had so much in common with the heroine and Finn is so like my husband. I just adored this book from the first page to the last I loved every about this book. Evie has a lot of self confidence issues regarding her step-family all I will say is that with the help off Finn she turns into the most beautiful butterfly. Also I want Great Aunt Winnie in my family she is so funny. This a must read and definitely gets 5/5 stars and if I could give more stars then I would.

Gerrie says

3.5 out of 5 stars

Donna says

This is a cute Cinderella story. While heiress Evelyn Bradshaw has the requisite evil step-mother and step-sisters, Finn Matlock is not Prince Charming. He is a widower who blames himself for his wife's death. She was ill for a long time and he has shut himself away believing he should have found a way to save her. When Evelyn and her great-aunt, needing a temporary place to stay, descend upon his estate they shake-up his solitary life, much to his dismay. There's also Finn's no good brother involved. I enjoyed this book and the changes both Evie and Finn made to reach their HEA.

Ruth says

It's a Cinderella retelling as Evie buys a betrothal to a licentious and broke marquess to escape the horrible clutches of her greedy and mean stepmother and stepsisters, only to find herself falling in love with the marquess's twin brother.

This was such a good read. Evie and Finn had a gradually unfolding relationship where you can see them care for each other, while both fighting the feelings that were growing between them. She dealt well with his temper. He dealt well with her pushover-ness and bullied brokenness. Each of them helped the other to heal. It was lovely. Also, I love books where one of them gets sick and the other one has to take care of them. And when he breaks some ribs in a riding accident, she comes into her own. It's lovely.

Caz says

4.5 stars

In **Miss Bradshaw's Bought Betrothal**, Virginia Heath offers an enjoyable re-working of the Cinderella story in which our downtrodden – but determined - heroine is a fully-rounded character with a nicely fleshed-out backstory who doesn't need to rely on her Prince not-so Charming in order to effect her escape from her horrible relatives. Prince –or rather, Lord – Grumpy is, however a rather attractive consequence of that escape, and watching the sparks fly as they gradually and quite plausibly fall in love makes for a lovely, romantic read.

Miss Evelyn Bradshaw is twenty-six, plump, frumpy and firmly on the shelf. Having spent the best part of the last decade nursing first her mother, and then her father when he fell ill some years later, she feels that youth has passed her by and that love and marriage are no longer things to which she can aspire. Her father's remarriage to a selfish money-grabber with two equally unpleasant daughters saw Evelyn – Evie – constantly belittled and thrust into the background to the extent that even she believes herself to be practically invisible; but his death offers her the prospect of freedom. Mr. Bradshaw has left his considerable fortune to Evie, and she is finally determined to escape her step-mother's orbit, leave London for good and make a life for herself somewhere else. All Evie has to do is scrape up the courage to announce her plans, but even though Hyacinth Bradshaw has not treated Evie well (although she's stopped short of getting her to clean the grates and scrub the floors!), Evie has never been able to forget her father's insistence that she treat her stepmother with respect, and has always done whatever it took to ensure a quiet life.

Unable to just come out and tell Hyacinth of her determination to set up her own home, Evie instead offers the sum of five thousand pounds to the handsome but dissolute Fergus Matlock, Marquis of Stanford, if he will pretend to be her fiancé for the next few months. The Marquis, who is deeply in debt, agrees to the scheme, and Evie is set to travel to his Yorkshire estate on the pretext of preparing for their wedding. In reality, she will look about for a house to purchase and once she has found one, the betrothal will quietly be ended, and Evie will remain in Yorkshire, well away from London and her stepmother's constant bullying.

Arriving at Stanford Hall a few days later in the company of her elderly aunt, Evie is pleasantly surprised to discover the place in a much better state of repair than she had been led to believe. Later that night, when

Evie can't sleep, she wanders down to the library, only to come across Fergus, who is supposed to be staying at a local inn in order to observe the proprieties. But something is not quite right about him and Evie soon discovers why; he's not Fergus at all, but his identical twin brother Finnegan, and this is Matlock House, not Stanford House. It's clear there is no love lost between the brothers, and Finn makes very clear his displeasure at his twin's presumption in dumping his fiancée at his house, but Evie refuses to be intimidated by his ungracious manner. Nonetheless, she feels she should remove to Stanford House as soon as possible, but true to form as a cad of the first order, Fergus has already left Yorkshire with the advance on the "fee" Evie had given him. Finn is not surprised – he tells Evie (not for the first time) that his brother is an unreliable wastrel and that she shouldn't marry him, but this is the new Evie, the Evie that sticks up for herself and doesn't cower when confronted with the scowling, brusque brother of a marquis, and she insists that she knows perfectly well what Fergus is and that he suits her well enough.

Finn Matlock is a widower of some three years, and since his wife's death, has buried himself in this corner of Yorkshire, his life consisting of seeing to his estate business and not much else. He doesn't socialise, he doesn't have guests – until now – and he wants to keep it that way – so the stirrings of attraction he feels towards his brother's voluptuous fiancée are both unexpected and unwelcome. Yet very soon, he finds himself admiring her backbone and determination as much as her lush body and, though he'd never admit it, looking forward to breakfast each day, as that's the only time of day he dares to let himself spend with her. Every morning, he not-so-subtly baits her, enjoying her completely unfazed responses to his jibes about his brother and his attempts to persuade her not to marry him, her casual manner of taking no notice of his heavy hints about her departure and the way she ignores his regular criticisms of her – admittedly horrible – clothes (a leftover from the days of Hyacinth's influence over her wardrobe).

This daily ritual becomes important to Evie, too, as she likes the way Finn challenges her and the person she is when she's with him. She is sure that a handsome, wealthy man like him could have no real interest in an overly plump, aging spinster like her – even if he wasn't still in love with his late wife – and recognises that falling for him is a terrible idea. But even as she realises that, she knows it's too late for caution; the real Finn, the kind, protective man who hides his deep hurt and true nature beneath that outer shell of bad-temper and cynicism has stolen her heart.

Away from London, Evie transforms from the doormat she's always describing herself as into a more confident, independent young woman who is looking forward to the rest of her life because it will be one she has built on her own terms. This is one of the things that makes this version of the fairy tale so appealing; Evie finds the wherewithal to go out and make a life of her own from within and doesn't need a man to rescue her – although she does, of course find true love along the way. And for all his outward grumpiness, Finn is perfect for her. He is determined to fight his ever growing attraction to Evie, but her vitality and her growing self-confidence are so completely enticing that it eventually proves irresistible; so not only is Evie changed by their association, but Finn also comes to accept that the guilt he still feels over his wife's death is misplaced, and that he is allowed to be happy and move on with his life.

This is – I think – the fourth book of Ms. Heath's I've read and I continue to be impressed by her strong storytelling and thoughtful characterisations. While **Miss Bradshaw's Bought Betrothal** undoubtedly treads a well-worn path, the author has managed to keep it fresh by throwing in a number of small, but satisfying twists that add depth and insight to this familiar tale. She writes with a great deal of warmth and humour, creating the most wonderful chemistry between her principals as well as treating us to some moments of poignancy and emotional truth that quite took my breath away.

If you haven't yet tried a book by Virginia Heath, then you have a treat in store. I guarantee that if you read this one, you'll want to go back to read her others and then, like me, will be eagerly awaiting whatever she

comes up with next.

Courtney says

I had the delightful opportunity to meet Virginia Heath at the 2017 Historical Romance Retreat and thought she was a fantastic person, bubbling with wit and a sassy humor. Unfortunately, I hadn't read any of her books before the retreat, so I couldn't sing her praises to her face. Hopefully this review will make up for that. Because, wowza, her voice comes through loud and clear in this book. It has the same verve and humor that Virginia exudes in person I mean, come on, the phrase "hoist by his own petard" is actually IN this book! I love that phrase and am SO GLAD to finally have read it somewhere! Not to mention the bacon and sausage jokes. I literally laughed out loud at all of them.

But, as for the book itself, let's start with the heroine, Evie. She considers herself to be a doormat and is working hard to be more bold and independent. We get to watch her grow from an aspiring moth, flying around in the dark where no one can see, to be a beautiful butterfly, well-loved and fluttering in a field of wildflowers. Read the book and that phrase will make sense. She is vulnerable from years of emotional abuse at the hands of her wicked Stepmother and stepsisters (it IS a Cinderella retelling, after all). Yet, she retains a whimsical, optimistic, innocence – sure in the knowledge that things will work out for the better. Her soft exterior also hides a strong will – a sense of who she is, what she wants, and a decisive mind that comes up with a path to get here where she wants to go. As a bold woman now, that was once a rather shy, plump, plain girl myself, I found her to be INFINATELY relatable and just want to give her a big hug.

Then there's Finn, the hero. And, hello there, Mr. Swoon-worthy. First off, he constantly puts bacon on her breakfast plate. Any man that gives me bacon is good in my book. But, more than that, Finn is a glorious, broken, dark and broody man. More like a Beast than a Prince Charming. He's even a little Prince Phillip for all that he slays a dragon or two. VERY hero worthy. And, for all of Evie's emotional growth, he goes through even more of a change! He goes from being a reclusive, angry, hurting, grieving man – riddled with guilt. RIDDLED. To someone that is laughing, looking forward to the future, and eager to engage and embrace joy again. Can you imagine the emotional hoops he has to jump? They're fantastic to read. And, because you've experienced both of their journeys, as a reader, you are absolutely ecstatic to read that they get their Happily Ever After.

Not that there was any doubt about the HEA, since, yes, this is an Historical Romance. But, considering at the 50% mark they had not really kissed, I had my doubts. The romance is definitely a slow build and they have some emotional one step forward, two step back moments. But, once they were both on the same emotional page (HAH! A book joke!), the romance comes together quickly. And, by that, I mean they end up making love after only having two, maybe three kisses. The longer of the two romantic scenes is rather tame and uses euphemisms and language that is comfortingly familiar, much like the common writing tropes in the plot. It is an obvious Cinderella retelling and also uses forced intimacy, a common frenemy, and a nurse/patient scenario to build the relationship. It really is the emotional growth of the two characters that moves the plot forward and keeps things interesting.

I also want to take a moment to talk about the atmosphere of the book. If I have to rank it, I would say this is the weakest element in the book. While the reader really gets a fantastic sense of the insides of the hero and heroine's heads, you only get an adequate sense of the setting. We hear about Evie's dresses, but Finn's cravat, waistcoat, and boots weren't mentioned during either boudoir scene, so it felt a bit hazy on those details. You know what they eat, particularly for breakfast, and can almost picture the meadow and drawing

room in your head. But, there is nothing that really anchors this book to the Regency period. The only indicators of time are the heading of May, 1816, on the first page and the woman's dress style on the cover. I feel like it really could have been anywhere in England and at any point in time. Though, for all of that, the real focus was on the emotional growth of the two characters, so while this comes across as an afterthought, it is by no means forgotten.

So, in general, if you're looking for a fast, funny, sweet romance set in the countryside and NOT in London's ballrooms, give this one a try. You're going to love it!

Mudpie says

The book started out slow but once Evie left London it was nice to read about her days staying with Finn. It was great to see her real sassy self emerging from her doormat default...then her evil stepmother and stepsisters arrived and she transformed back to her doormat mode.

I totally feel the frustration from Finn's viewpoint. I already had been mopping up my brother's mess all my life and now he'd foisted upon me his fiancée and her aunt...and three more disgusting women!

So glad Evie did not force Finn to carry out the charade further and make him escort her dreadful relatives around the North!

Her inability to come clean with Finn also frustrated me.

The ending was rather sweet and beautiful so that earned one more star. I wish Evie had booted the three evil b!tches from HER Mayfair house...the stepmother was not exactly penniless so to continue letting three of them leech on her was most annoying. We'll never know how exactly did Evie deal with those parasites after they left for London...and Fergus.

Claudia says

3.5 stars

Gwessie Tee says

Completely adored this book and yes I am on a Virginia binge at the moment I'm a new reader and had the good fortune of receiving several of her books and I'm completely besotted with them, this is very much another book I will definitely re read and recommend as I do all the books I adore, thank you so very much Virginia. This book has every emotion possible to have and a great many characters some you will adore and some you will want to punch. Brilliant and very much a book you can completely get engrossed in xxx

Jingle says

Lovely and sweet

This is a Cinderella story retelling except in this one, the heroine is made to feel plain and plump and invisible and ugly, when in truth, she's voluptuous with a body made for sin. Evie is a doormat and avoids conflict. Her evil stepmother and horrendous step-sisters walk all over her and she allows them.

Until one day she had had enough and devised a foolish plan of escaping by way of paying a libertine to pose as her fiancé. This libertine has a twin who lives in the north country. She moved to the estate of this libertine up north with her great aunt as part of the plan.

Except she was foisted on the house of the twin brother, the brooding and grumpy Finn. Evie found herself inventing more story just so she could stay and not have to go back to London - to her evil stepfamily.

I have found the author's writing style to my liking. Virginia is hilarious and it shows in her books. I love this sweet and lovely story of two people falling in love gradually. I can read this once a year and I will be happy.

Vana says

An excellent read. The hero and heroine were less than perfect but you tended to like them anyway. Finn was brooding but basically moral and kind. Miss Bradshaw had a poor body image of herself but reading between the lines, I personally imagined a voluptuous figure such as Marylyn Monroe or Sophie Loren, so not so much fat, but contrary to what was perceived as attractive in Regency England. I liked the mischievous Aunt, who although 89 years old, still had appreciation for a well formed gentleman and the step mother, step sisters and Fergus were suitable obnoxious.

Altogether a good read which I can recommend.

Amy Ella says

A tale of re-invention, discovery and growth. A twist on a Cinderella tale I found riveting. Moral of the story: grab life by the lapels and bring it to you, kicking and screaming if you have to.

Evelyn Bradshaw, 'Evie', our heroine. "Too fat, too plain and far too old?" Nonsense. A caterpillar waiting to unleash its beauty and lavish its colours upon the world. Evie is a wonderful heroine, a true woman, with curves, bounce and 'nearly' an attitude.

Evie decides to take control of her life, lapels firmly in hand and pays a brute with a title, Marquis of Stanford, Fergus Matlock, to play her fiancée so she can escape the vicious clutches of her evil Stepmother and Stepsisters.

And what a Stepmother Hyacinth Bradshaw is. As a secondary character I thought she was brilliant. She grated on me like finger nails on a chalk board. Perfectly embodying my perception of an evil Stepmother.

This plan of escape brings Evie into the hands of Finnegan 'Finn' Matlock. Our hero is 'curmudgeon', my new

favourite word, meaning: 'a bad tempered or surly gentlemen' and yet he is as sexy as a ripe peach on any given summers day.

The central romance tackles sensitive issues thoughtfully, with care and justice. As our hero and heroine heal hurts of the past and hurl themselves into the future, you will be weeping, wooing and swooning as conflicts are overcome and love blossoms.

A truly uplifting tale that made me woo with glee and made that busy muscle in my chest swell. An elating tale of love, self discovery, self-determination and down-right wonderful writing. 5/5 stars from me.

Frankie Reviews says

Virginia Heath is becoming my go to author for good-natured, sweet Historical Romance and this is just as charming as her previous work, it is fun, sexy, a veritable tangled web of emotion and conflict between our two lead's. Miss Bradshaws Bought Betrothal is based loosely on the well-loved Cinderella story. I do have to admit that as a child I was never drawn to Cinderella as most little girls were – I think it was the fact she didn't really have that much of a personality, she was a little "too badly-done-to" for my liking. Unlike other fairytale ladies such as Belle (Beauty and the Beast), I always thought Cinderella was too much the damsel. But I am so pleased to say that Evie, yes! maybe down-trodden and she is certainly bullied, but she is strong in her own way and resilient.

There is something very genuine and normal about Evie, something that all woman can relate to in one way or another, she is an insecure, normal woman. There is a beautiful paragraph at the beginning of the book, that can really resonate with a lot of people and it was this that single paragraph that really stuck with me, that really brought Evie to life something that doesn't happen with a lot of character's.

She could reinvent herself, be happy and finally climb out of her chrysalis. She did not expect to emerge as a butterfly – butterflies were far too lovely an insect for Evie to aspire to – but she was quietly confident that she could perhaps be a moth. In the dark, where nobody saw them, moths flew.

She an imaginative, resourceful and naive young woman, who has suffered greatly from the hands of her family, that psychological abuse is ever-present in her not matter how much she tries to overcome it, she holds on to those memories of how she has been treated over the years making it difficult for her to move on. But on top of all that she is stubborn, bossy with such a beautiful kind heart.

I like the relationship between Evie and Finn, at first they come across as chalk and cheese but once you delve deeper into each of their pasts and personalities you soon realise that they are just perfect for each other, they tend to bounce off one another. He gives her the confidence to go out there and do what she wants and banish the constant dark self-conscious thoughts, that she harbours. Whereas Evie is the light and life that Finn desperately needs in his life, he is a haunted, and guilt ridden man who has closed himself off from the world. I heard a saying once "He doesn't say much, but when he does you have to listen" that is Finn Matlock in a nutshell. He reminds me of my all time literary hero; Heathcliffe. He is a brooding, monosyllabic, irritating and achingly handsome man who just needs a bit of love. But then again, Finn Matlock is a Yorkshireman through and through, and they don't tend to announce their inner most feelings to people, so we can't be too hard on him.

Full review at [Chicks Rogues and Scandals](#).

