



Lambs Can Always Become Lions

Charlotte Anne Hamilton

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Robin Hood, along with her group of friends, has been aiding the poor of Nottingham for four years. They have become an hindrance to the Sheriff of Nottingham, terrorising the rich lords and ladies and robbing gold right from under the Sheriff's nose.

Helping Robin from inside, and proving her most useful ally, is Lady Marian Fitzwalter.

After hearing about a special shipment coming through Sherwood - filled with gold, jewels and weapons - Marian agrees to help Robin gather information so she can ambush it. It is risky and dangerous on both sides but Marian would do anything for Robin. And Robin would do anything to feed her people.

But as the shipment draws closer and tensions rise, Robin finds herself having to decide which is more important: love or duty.

Lambs Can Always Become Lions Details

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Author : Charlotte Anne Hamilton

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From Reader Review Lambs Can Always Become Lions for online ebook

alice (arctic books) says

Super quick read with lots of diverse characters, a f/f relationship, and an action-filled plot. Very much anticipating the sequel!

Aurora says

This is a fun, fast-paced and highly entertaining f/f retelling of Robin Hood.

And it's free on kindle right now! Y'all should read it.

Sonja ♦ Badass Wanderer ♦ says

“If you think Robin is going to be beaten by your foolish man, you do not know her at all. She is wiser, stronger and quicker than you and your men. Everyone always underestimates her, and it always ends in their tears.”

Lambs Can Always Become Lions is a **f/f Robin Hood retelling**. In this retelling Robin Hood is a woman who is in an already established relationship with Lady Marian Fitzwalter.

I love Robin Hood! She is a very skilled archer and a good leader. She is also kind and good, and I love the way she interacted with her merry gang and her love interest Marian. I got really invested in the characters! They are very fleshed out.

The plot is quite fast-paced and immersive; there isn't a dull moment in the story. I finished reading the novella in one sitting because I simply couldn't put the ebook away. The novella ended beautifully. The ending is very uplifting, and it slightly hints at the next instalment in the series.

Overall, the characterisation and the plot are the book's strongest aspects. The world building was alright, though I would have liked to see more of the the book's world and its inner workings. The writing has room for improvement.

Lambs Can Always Become Lions is a promising start to the *Until Lambs Become Lions* series. I'm looking forward to seeing where Robin and Marian's story will take them in the sequel!

“Rise and rise until lambs become lions.” {...} As one, they exclaimed, **“Rise!”**

Rea says

I loved this wayyy more than I was expecting. Review to come later today as I catch up with everything else

Romie says

I have some little thoughts on this retelling of Robin Hood.

Okay, first thing first, I liked that it was a f/f retelling, I was instantly sold. I think it was very clever to put Robin and Marian in an established relationship, because otherwise it would have taken too much space and we wouldn't have been able to focus on the plot.

Even though I wasn't that overwhelmed by the plot because apart from Robin being a woman and Marian and her already being in a relationship, I could have been reading a novelisation of the movie with Kevin Costner. This story had a lot of potential, and I'm excited to see where the sequel is going, I'm counting on it to differ from the original story, at least a bit.

I liked Robin, she was an interesting morally grey character, but I didn't really like Marian. I was underwhelmed by her. I was expecting something else. I just felt like she was always waiting for Robin to save her. In a way, she was the perfect damsel in distress, but I wanted more from her.

So, it was okay. It wasn't bad, but it wasn't wow. I'm still planning on reading the sequel because I have great hopes, I think it can be really good. I know my rating may sound harsh, but it's a hopeful 3.5, I would definitely recommend reading it, it's super quick and the romance is cute.

3.5

Elise (TheBookishActress) says

This book had one major problem, and it's one I hate to point out because it's such a stereotype of self-published work. But **this was not written well**. The writing clearly needed at least five more rounds of editing. It felt fake-deep and pretentious, it felt shoddy, and it annoyed me to no end.

And it's sad, because without my writing issues, **this could be an easy three**. Other than that one downside, *Lambs Can Always Become Lions* was fairly entertaining. I was more than fine with the characters and the plot and the romance in this. Nothing shockingly new and original, but it was cute. But I just spent so much time cringing at the writing that I couldn't enjoy anything.

And to be quite honest, **I really didn't expect an established relationship**. If you're going to write a romance story, why make them an established couple?? Why not write their development?? I felt like I was watching season eight of a television show where the leads got together in season five. By that, I mean all the plot points felt like manufactured drama. I didn't feel that Marian and Robin had their drama worked out.

Honestly, I'm pretty disappointed. Ya girl was *really* here for that gay retelling of Robin Hood. That's my version of wish fulfillment. But where was the slow burn? Where was the writing talent I've come to expect

from some of the self-pubbed books I've picked up recently? **Self-pubbed f/f doesn't equal unedited.** What about the fabulous enemies-to-lovers trope presented by J.C. Lillis' underrated A&B? What about the fantastically-written scifi of Arden Ellis' In Ageless Sleep? The clever character dynamic and interesting retelling aspect of Sarah Diemer's The Dark Wife? There are so many better self-pubbed f/f books out there. I'm really sad to say it, but this did nothing for me.

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Kate (Reading Through Infinity) says

'Her heart was beating against her chest; her ribs were the anvil, her heart the hammer.'

If you're looking for a gentle, compassionate f/f romance story with a little action and drama to boot, you've found the right book.

Lambs Can Always Become Lions is a short novella re-telling of Robin Hood as a woman. She's still the leader of outlaws and still in love with Marion, but she's a woman rather than a man. Although by no means an original concept, I've always found gender-bending to be a great way of exploring gender constructs and sexuality, so I was wholly on board with this premise. And, honestly, I prefer Robin Hood as a woman. She's confident, witty, and sarcastic in equal measures and she never once considers herself inferior to men.

I actually think the story would have benefited more from having other characters as women too, or even the entire band of outlaws. It would be like Sailor Moon meets Sherwood Forest. But as Robin takes front and centre stage, I can understand why she's the only one.

Her relationship with Marion is tender, full of warmth, and was perhaps my favourite aspect of the novella. Their fierce protectiveness of each other was understandable, but constantly hindered their ability to carry a plan to fruition. I did, however, really enjoy the scene when they fought together against guards who were presumably all men. Power to the women.

It would also have been great to see the other outlaws developed further, as we don't get much detail about their characters. This is likely due to the brevity of the story, but Little John, Much, Edda and the rest end up being sidelined by Robin and Marion for much of the plot. The Sheriff, too, was rudimentary as a villain for me, and didn't feel like enough of a threat until the very end.

The end of the story, though, was definitely the apex; the showdown between Robin and the Sheriff and the outlaws' desperate escape from the castle was as dramatic as it was tense. Up until this point, the chapters had been reasonably slow-paced, but this sequence really changed gears. Hamilton's strength seems to lie in writing fight scenes, as they were engaging, vigorous, and bold.

The true strength of this novella lies in its diversity; Edda is a Muslim, Will is gender-fluid/non-binary, Marion and Robin are lesbians, and it's hinted that Little John is asexual. The characters accept each other for who they are, and no-one is judged on their orientations. In a current climate where prejudice against marginalised people persists in every-day life, this was refreshing and powerful to read. Despite being set in historical England, it has hints of a society we should strongly aspire to.

Overall, this was a fun adventure of a story, full of diversity and action. I hope we get to see more of the

secondary characters in the next book, and I'm curious to see where Robin and Marion's relationship heads next.

Laura (bibliophile) says

Review to come but this was SO GOOD

Norah Una Sumner says

My heart is on fire.

I absolutely loved this novella. I've read it in one sitting and honestly, I regret nothing. The characters are extremely well-written and easy to relate to, the story is fast-paced and action-packed, the romance is too sweet for words and that ending left me craving for more. I really can't wait for the sequel!

Fadwa (Word Wonders) says

Actual rating: 4.5 stars

Full review originally posted on my blog: *Word Wonders*

You know, I think this is one of those books I'll keep yelling about until the end of time because IT'S SO GOOD. REAL GOOD. I've been eyeing it for MONTHS before it came out, the premise had me super excited, I mean who wouldn't be. A robin hood retelling? An F/F romance? GIMME, and to be completely honest, it didn't disappoint at all.

The writing has sort of a whimsical vibe to it that I thought fit the time period perfectly and is easy to follow, which with the fact that this is a novella makes *Lambs Can Always Become Lions* a very fast read. It's written in dual POV from both Robin and Marian's perspectives which gives the reader a more wholesome look at thing and works very well with the plot and how the story is weaved, especially since both spend most of their time apart.

The story starts with a steady pace and picks up very fast to leave you gapping at all the events happening in front of you and YOU CAN'T HELP YOUR PRECIOUS BABIES WHO ARE SUFFERING (If you didn't notice, writing this review rekindles all the feels). I was deceaved, even though I had a clear idea of the main events from the synopsis/the start of the book, I had no idea Charlotte was going to play my feelings like that. For how short it is, *LCABL* is action packed, it really is, with amazingly well written high stress fight scenes (some of my favorites ever) and I must admit, this book has a bunch of kickass characters to whom I got attached very quickly.

Robin is fierce and sassy with a soft side to her that cares deeply about her friends and Marian. I LOVED HER SO MUCH. She made me laugh more times than I can remember, made me swoon but most importantly got me cheering for her and rooting for her life and safety, which were put in harm's way one

too many times *glares at Charlotte*. To me, she's one of those characters who are impossible to dislike because of the witts as well as her kindness.

Marian is a lady, and has more to offer than what meets the eye. She's brave, loyal and resourceful, ready to do whatever it takes for the people she loves. I was invested in her fate as much as I was in Robin's because both of them are well rounded, genuine characters. And I love love love girls who kiss and save each other. Let me just tell you about their relationship, IT'S THE MOST ADORABLE THING EVER. I knew I'd love this book early on, why? Because where the books starts, Robin and Marian are in an already established relationship and that's one of my favorite things ever because there's no newness to it and it's just 100% sweet tender love. AAAAH. I CAN'T STOP GUSHING!

I really appreciated the fact that Robin's crew was made diverse. Little John is asexual (the word isn't used but it's very heavily hinted), Edda is a black Muslim woman and Will is non-binary. That being said, I wish we had more of them. I think we see them enough to get a sense of who they are but I wanted more of them and I hope that happens in the next installment. I really loved the family vibe their banter gave off and how easy it was to see how much they care about each other.

All in all, this is a book that you should read. YES YOU. GO BUY IT !! It's fast paced, engaging, and even has its cute times in the midst of all the chaos. So what's not to love about that? I am REALLY excited for what comes next considering how things were left off at the end and I can't to see what adventures the characters embark in next.

Shirin says

Pure™ and Wholesome™ so I'm really glad we're getting a sequel. This diverse book is short & the pace is easy to follow so I recommend it greatly! Also like Charlotte is the best so why not right??

Maf (Bookworm Wanders) says

I have to be honest, i was so so so excited when i first got this book but became a little worried when I saw how short it is, however it was so amazingly written, it didn't feel undeveloped or rushed and i loved it SO much.

full review to come

Marty :} (thecursedbooks) says

This one is one of my favourites because it's a retelling of Robin Hood, where Robin is a girl and a badass one too! We also have an already established relationship between Robin and Marian, who were the cutest (really!). There were fighting scenes, there was a lot of diversity, including a Muslim character. I adored it with all my being and I can't wait for the sequel, I mean it, the way it ends – it makes you wonder what's to come. What will happen next, I know that I'm very curious about how this one will continue!

Natasha says

3.5/5

Charlotte Anne Hamilton says

UPDATE 13/5/2017: Final version now uploaded ready for publication on Monday. I'm super scared and nervous about this but I'm so proud of this and I hope you all enjoy it!!

UPDATE 11/3/2017: Pushed back the release date from 1st May 2017 to the 15th May 2017, just so I have more time to ensure it's perfect for you all <3

UPDATE 11/2/2017: WE NOW HAVE A COVER!! HOPE YOU ENJOY IT!! now... I've got to get back to writing this thing...

this is my very first venture into publishing. It is a short story & very dear to me
