



A Most Unsuitable Earl

Ruth Ann Nordin

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Ethan Silverton, the Lord of Edon, is very content with his life. He's carefully sculpted it so that everyone thinks he's a notorious rake. For years, he's worked hard to build his reputation to secure his place as the most undesirable bachelor in London. And it's worked. No decent lady will have him.

But one simple error in judgment has just sealed his fate. His intention was to dissuade a horrid mother from matching him up with her equally horrid daughter. Seeing no one but Lady Catherine without a dance partner, he tells a lie. He approaches Lady Catherine as if they are betrothed, and the ploy works. The horrid mother and her daughter abandon their pursuit of him.

Except Ethan's mother spies his ploy and is so relieved that she's found a way to marry him to a reputable young lady that she tells everyone of their engagement. To his horror, word spreads and it's his duty to see the lie through. This is the worst thing that can happen, and no one but his mother is happy about it. Not Lady Catherine. Not her doting father. Not even Ethan. But his mother is sure it'll all work out...eventually.

A Most Unsuitable Earl Details

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From Reader Review A Most Unsuitable Earl for online ebook

Hannah Fielding says

This book was a pleasure to read. My favourite element was the characterisation; such vivid and wonderful characters. I am sure we all know someone exactly like each one. The man who pretends to be hard and bad to the outside world, but inside is nothing like that at all – bringing out the protective side in any woman. The mother who understands her son well enough to know she will never get the grandchildren and family life she desires without taking extreme measures to stop her son continuing to destroy his life, and who in the process manages to give him everything that he never even knew he wanted:

“You were mentioned in the Tittletattle again.”

His ears perked up at the mention of the scandalsheets. “I was?”

“Don’t act so pleased.”

He stopped smiling and gave her a solemn nod. “You’re right. I have behaved abhorrently.” After a pause, he added, “What did I get caught doing?”

Then there is the insecure lady who dreams of a husband and a wonderful family life, but she is too scared to reach out and take it. And her overprotective father, who treats his precious daughter like she is made of cotton wool, who lavishes her with wonderful presents and shopping trips, and who would duel to the death rather than see her hurt in any way.

“What a terrible thing it is to fall under wrath of a protective father,” he mumbled as he rushed through the process of removing the fencing gear.

“I’m sorry, my lord. Did you say something?” the valet asked.

He shook his head. “Not of any consequence.” What did any of it matter? He was doomed no matter what he did. Between his mother and his father-in-law, his only means of escape was death. And given his young age and health, he feared death was a long ways off.

Just as in real life interactions, these character types make you want to shout and scream. The author throws characters together with explosive consequences. It’s obvious what each character needs to do, but you’ve no power to influence them, but have to sit back and trust that the author will lead you to a satisfying ending, as she does.

I loved the backdrop of Regency London’s society and the balls of the ton, where desirable husbands or wives are paraded, sought and found. This is a story in which love, money, reputation and banter are sprinkled about in plentiful quantities, and in which lies and deceit produce an emotional, tender and at times raunchy story of how a fake-rake was finally tamed. The author expertly explores what happens when two people who seem so very different are forced to marry each other, creating a wonderful story of love against the odds.

I very much look forward to reading the next book in this series, which the author has set up through the introduction of Ethan’s good friends Agatha Lyons, Lady of Richfield, and Mr Christopher Robinson – both intriguing characters that I can’t wait to learn more about.

bell says

I rarely write reviews, but this book was so horrible I just had too. Now, I am the first to admit that my taste doesn't seem to lean with many other readers, but I can honestly say I don't understand the allure of this book. I barely finished this book. I literally skipped page after page just to get to the ending. The hero was such a wimp, he acted like a scared 10 year old child. The entire story (until the very end) was page after page of him cowering, running away or hiding because someone spoke harshly to him. He didn't show any type of backbone. Even the other characters commented on it, "Will you always run away when the Duke of Rumsey comes by?" Both the hero and Heroine reminded me of two children trying to play house. There wasn't any flow with the story, nothing plot related was developed really well and like the hero the reader just wanted to get the whole thing over with. The ending was a mass of plot lines that were never really developed throughout the story (I don't want to add spoilers, so forgive my ambiguity).

Judy says

A Most Unsuitable Earl by Ruth Ann Nordin

Ethan Silverton, the Lord of Edon, has worked extremely hard the past five years....at cultivating a reputation as a rake. A really bad rake. The kind that makes even the pushiest debutante's mother shutter. And it's worked so far, very few of the Ton want their precious daughters married to a man with such an nefarious reputation. Until one night at a ball all that changes. Between a momma set on his title and money for her daughter, a tiny lie and his interfering mother he finds his life has changed drastically enough to cause a grown man to swoon.

Lady Catherine Morgan daughter to the Duke of Rumsey has yet to get a proposal even though her dear father has brought about every bachelor around for her that he can find. She may as well plan on giving up her dreams of home and family and accept her spinster status. Just when she has a glimmer of hope at meeting the right man, everything goes wrong. Before she knows it she is betrothed to the only man that would cause her to gladly stay a spinster rather than marry him.

Ruth Ann Nordin has written another outstanding story. Not only does the book draw you in to where you don't want to put it down until the end but she has filled it with humorous situations. Lord Edon is not quite who he seems to be and the prim and proper, not to mention boring, Lady Catherine has a side to her worthy of his rakish rumors. The characters all have such unique personalities like Ethan's mother who you may want to lock away, or at least practice using duct tape on, and Catherine's father who enjoys scaring the heebie jeebies out of poor Ethan. What chance does this marriage have when it seems their parents are continually looking over their shoulders?

**Sexual situations within marriage

<http://justjudysjumbles.blogspot.com/...#>

Kiki says

Hero's mother was just awful! They needed to kick her out of their life!

She thought nothing of ruining someone's daughter's life!

At least hero was a virgin and the scandals of him being a rake was completely fabricated, by himself!

Heroine was extremely naive, and the wedding night scene was hilarious!

Hero's reluctance to his FIL was hilarious and I think his friendship with Agatha was rather endearing!

Debbie Ehrman says

Suitable earl

I enjoyed reading this book and it stayed interesting all the way through. I like the way they tried not to marry but ended with the right person

Lidy says

The over dramatized antics of the hero Ethan, Lord Edon, was the most hilarious I've ever read. I loved every minute of his interactions with his mother and FIL. Couldn't stop laughing. Best story I've read yet by this author.

ABesse says

I find the idea of what happens in this book interesting. The actual execution however wasn't there for me.

It was kinda like chicken noodle soup with no salt. It's soup, it's there, but there's no joy in it. In the book things happened, there were words and people, and yet somehow it felt very much like nothing happened the whole time I was reading it.

A very meh experience overall.

Dawn says

++Spoilers++

3.5 stars

Hero Edon, a Duke, has spent a good deal of his time crafting his reputation as a rake. This is a facade and ploy in order to avoid marriage. During a ball there is a mishap where he winds up engaged to very proper Catherine, a Dukes daughter. They are both miserable at the prospect. Needless to say they eventually see that neither is who they claim to be and fall in love,

There is some mild conflict in between, but nothing major and easily resolved, making this a laid back kind of read.

The beginning was more enjoyable and I especially liked the humor that was thrown in, I only wish it remained consistent throughout.

Unlike other reviewers, I did NOT feel the hero was weak. But if you're looking for a bad boy alpha rake, you will not find one in any of this author's books. I for one am very glad of this for there is something to be said about sweet and honorable beta heroes, to which there seems to be very little of in HR's.

There were a few issues. One was the unresolved matter of Catherine's sketchbook drawings. I don't understand the purpose of them at all. The other is that I felt the whole misunderstanding with Agatha in the den was too easily resolved.

Lastly, the resolution with Catherine's father finally accepting Edon was wrapped up too swiftly and in an unrealistic fashion.

I am happy to report there were a few more love scenes than usual, but a little disappointing in spice considering the passion the H & h shared. Nordin's love scenes are pretty routine and don't vary much from book to book..but this is minor considering the most important aspect of her work to me is the fact there are no double standards. This is what I love.. Nordin clearly is a proponent of no sex before marriage for BOTH man and women, and she projects this in her work in what I feel is a believable and subtle manner without being preachy. BRAVO!

Anyway the love scenes were still sweet with mild spice but nothing erotic or crazy.

Overall, if you can stretch your imagination and not take it too seriously, this is a fun and enjoyable read.

Safety:

Hero-Virgin..First only and last time is with heroine and vice versa

Heroine-Virgin

Cheating-No

OM/OW-No

Violence/Rape/Abuse-No

Cursing-No

Adultery-No

Marriage/Baby-Yes

HEA/ILY-yes

ann cheeseman says

I really enjoyed this book. Look forward to more of its kind.

Linda D. Mansker says

Fun read

I consider the novels by Ruth Ann Gordon a guilty pleasure. I really like this one. No knew I'd who s/he to be, and this is not your average period romance. Lord Edon, the local rake, falls (with his mother's help) into an engagement to a someone everybody believes is the most boring, colorless woman they know. The lady's

father wants to kill him and the lady cries back casa

Jennette says

I have read a many of Ruth Ann Nordin's stories and have enjoyed most. I always like, that in her works when sexual situations are described, it is between married people. So many authors shy away from that aspect of marriage or place it before marriage with little or no consequences. This book like so many of her works has some truly laugh out loud moments. Unfortunately a few funny moments were all I can say about this story. As much as I typically love this author's works this one fell a little flat for me. I think I was more interested in what was happening with Agatha and Christopher than the main characters.

Eeva says

I think that the Author ran out of ideas (if she had any) so she put sex scenes to fill the pages. There is no plot whatsoever.

There is a weak hero, super crazy mother-in-law, ridiculous father, weird heroine. The book was written as a historical romance but nothing there is historical except the date. The language is too modern. The conversations between mother-in-law and the heroine are preposterous (seriously, the talk before the wedding night was so stupid that even conversations in Twilight had more sense). I cannot imagine the mother-in-law talking to someone that outranked her in that way.

I'm also disappointed that the only interesting character in the series - Perry - was mentioned only in book one and then he wasn't given a second thought.

Deb Diem says

A Most Unsuitable Earl by Ruth Ann Nordin is an entertaining historical romance. Ms. Nordin has given us a well-written book packed with outstanding characters. Ethan and Catherine's story is loaded with drama, humor, misunderstandings and sizzle. I enjoyed reading A Most Unsuitable Earl and look forward to reading more from Ruth Ann Nordin in the future. A Most Unsuitable Earl is book 2 of the Marriage By Scandal Series but can be read as a standalone. This is a complete book, not a cliff-hanger.

Pati says

Luv this author!!!

I am so glad I discovered this author...after reading book one in this series, I had to read book two right away to see if I had imagined how much I enjoyed it....I loved the flow of the story and the comical parts as well as the romantic...actually had me laughing more than once...thank you Ruth...am on to book three right now!!!

Cayla says

Not my favorite.

I typically enjoy Ruth Ann Nordin's work, but I felt that the bedroom scenes were not necessary to the story. It was too explicit for me and I was not comfortable with such descriptions. Ms. Nordin's writing is generally good, but this is not my cup of tea.
