



The Angel's Assassin

Samantha Holt

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A medieval story of love and betrayal.

As a rebellion sweeps England, Lady Annabel finds her home overrun by rebels. Much to her relief, a dark knight comes to her rescue, claiming to have been sent to protect her by her uncle.

But Nicholas holds a secret about the job he was sent to do and it is a far cry from what Annabel believes it to be. As the attraction between them grows, Nicholas begins to question the dark life he has lived. But is it enough to change him and will Annabel ever trust again after learning the true nature of his sinful duty?

The Angel's Assassin Details

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From Reader Review The Angel's Assassin for online ebook

Karen Whittaker says

This was a well written romance with excellent historical detail. The descriptions of the landscape and the way of life of the characters were well drawn and believable. Our sympathy is instantly with Lady Annabel and then later Nicholas, but the character of Benedict, though loathsome, seemed to be just a little too evil with no redeeming characteristics at all.

Nice twist at the end of the novel and as we would expect a happy ending.

Dena Scroggins says

The Angel's Assassin is a historical romance novel set in England and is a love story between Nicholas(a hired assassin and Annabel(a medieval princess who has been forced out of her castle). This book has romance, action, and suspense all wrapped up. The author, Samantha Holt, is an established and has written other novels including one called The Crimson Castle.

A.D. Spencer says

Angel's Assassin is an exciting and engaging read. Set in historic England, the young and beautiful Annabel becomes the center of a sinister plot. Annabel is kind-hearted and quick to trust, often placing those who would harm her in high regard. Nicholas, the hired assassin, finds himself in a predicament he's never experienced before ... he's developing a conscience. The man who has ruthlessly killed many men without guilt finds this task to be unlike any other. Can love be possible for someone with a damned soul? This is a great read that pulls the reader in. I was hooked from the very beginning. It is a quick read as well, great for passing the afternoon. The romantic scenes were tasteful and tantalizing, and I enjoyed the way the relationship between Annabel and Nicholas took shape. I'm looking forward to reading more from Samantha Holt.

Nicole says

I wouldn't say it was an incredible story but it was really good and entertaining. For such a short length, I was rewarded with a nice and dramatic love story about a man with no honor and a woman too naive to believe there's evil in humankind.

I really liked Nicholas, his character was a truly bleak one though not much is given about his past as I would have liked to known. Annabelle was just quite simple as a character, a typical young, naive high-born lady who secretly wished to have some freedom from the responsibility she had to bear. That aside, the couple complemented each other really well, since they had quite opposite personalities and outlooks on life. The ending was really sweet though everything ended quite happily, however, I did like the fact that they

added a time for this to happen and didn't seal it with an instant forgiveness.

An epilogue would have been nice.

Blondie says

This book is well written especially for a short story. It is not very often you get good character and story development in such a short story, but Ms Holt did just that.

This is a story about a man who believes he is nothing more than a shell of a person and who has no soul. He learns with the help of an angel that he is a man worth loving.

Silverana says

After reading the first several pages there were two things that led me to think I would have a hard time staying engaged with the story. The first was that the heroine, Annabel, frightened easily unlike the strong, take charge woman that I am used to reading about. She was also younger and did not immediately show knowledge of the world that a lot of the stronger, yet gently bred heroines show. However, Annabel is kind and selfless and transforms tremendously by the end of the book. I loved how she remained the more encouraging and optimistic of her and Nicholas's discovery of love. Near the end, the two actions that she takes against her uncle and Nicholas are not what we would expect of her. And although her decision regarding Nicholas is heartbreaking, her final declaration was satisfying.

The other thing was that the writing often didn't seem to fit with the time it was written for. It seemed to alternate occasionally between old fashioned terms and contemporary language. Regardless of this feeling, the overall writing was just about perfect; I felt I was right there with the characters, living through their hardships and good times. I could not stop reading!!

Nicholas. He has done things in the past that lead him to believe he is doomed for hell. He is described as having no feelings. But upon his meeting with Annabel, she is able to see his feelings towards her though he outwardly tries to deny them. He is shown as a strong, dark knight but his feelings turn to deep remorse and perhaps a little too soft, while Annabel's turn a little too strong for me. Nonetheless, I love the change that comes over him and how he tries to redeem himself. It was truly sweet how he considers Annabel extremely precious and pure, having been sent from above.

And, as always, Ms. Holt shows how a great romance does not need an old flame, a jealous mistress, or a love triangle to reach a turning point. Although this story is different from her others in that it includes a villain, she very nicely incorporates the villain's side into the story. This story was not as light-hearted as the others and a little longer than usual. Definitely a little different from her usual writing, but of course, another great read from Ms. Holt! Can't wait to read her future stories!

Kbee says

Gave it 4 stars just because it didn't keep me captivated enough, I took 2 days to read where it would of taken under one.

Love this story, though. Annabelle & Nicholas are cute. Love the way she gets real when realizing her uncle is a fraud. And how she had to fight with her heart and head when it came to Nicholas.

The end was kinda rushed.

Emily says

This story was ok. I liked it in the beginning, but it got really slow and boring toward the middle and I found myself picking up other books rather than finishing this one. I do give the author credit for using numerous historically accurate terms. Several weren't even in the kindle dictionary and I got to use Wikipedia. Nice enough sorry, but I prefer others in this genre to this particular one.

Tina Williams says

The Redemptive Power of Love

In this medieval romance penned by Samantha Holt, a dark knight finds redemption through the power of love, in a romantic tale that I found had an almost fable like quality.

In *The Angel's Assassin*, Nicholas, a hardened mercenary knight, is employed by Lord Benedict. He is tasked with taking his niece Annabel, under the pretext of protecting her from rebels, from her home at Castle Alderweald, and return her to Benedict's abode. Once there, he is to guard her until he receives word from his employer to return her to Alderweald, ensuring that she then meets with a fatal accident. In the intervening time Lord Benedict will persuade the king, Williams Rufus, that Annabel is a traitor, thus paving the way for him to inherit Alderweald, without suspicion falling on him. Nicholas has not killed a woman before, but accepts the task. When he reaches Alderweald Castle it is already under siege from the rebels. Nicholas therefore easily persuades the terrified young woman that he has been sent by her uncle to bring her to safety, and they escape on foot into the adjacent forest.

Nicholas has never met a woman like Annabel, whom he finds angelic, almost fey like in her appearance and he fights his attraction knowing what he must do. Annabel in turn is grateful to her rescuer, seeing him as a brave and honourable man. Forced into close proximity a strong attraction develops into something far deeper. Yet will Nicholas fulfil his contract? What will Annabel do if she finds out his real motives for rescuing her? Annabel's evil uncle will go to any ends necessary to claim Alderweald, even if Nicholas decides to leave his contract unfulfilled. The remaining plot contains some sweet and hot love making scenes, deceit, violence, betrayal and redemption.

Nicholas, a lonely man, has accumulated wealth due to his misdeeds but he sees no joy in life until Annabel. He is awed by her blind trust in him as her saviour, but also her kindness and intelligence. I loved the way she seems to mesmerise and bewitch him. Annabel has had no experience of men outside her own family. She is immediately grateful to her mysterious and taciturn rescuer and little by little she breaches his defences, finding out as much as she can about him. She knows that he is not unaffected by her presence and

finds him equally attractive.

I found the tale to be a sweet romance with likeable central characters. I love a dark hero and was praying for his redemption and a HEA throughout. Much of the plot centred on the couples' growing attraction towards each other, the conflict coming from Nicholas' own feelings of self loathing and from the machinations of Lord Benedict. I found that Annabel was not your typical Medieval heroine, as she succumbed to the physical side of their relationship more easily than perhaps a lady would have done at the time. However, she is portrayed as a character who knows her own mind and I think that any woman faced with a hero such as Nicholas would have acted the same way! I enjoy Samantha Holt's writing style, which enables the reader to get into the head of her characters and transports them into another time and place. If you like medieval romances I can also recommend her novel *A Crimson Castle*.

Caron Pescatore says

4 - 4 1/2 Stars

I'm a big Holt fan. I've read several of her short stories and one of her full length novels, and enjoyed them all--some more than others it is true, but none of her books have ever fallen below a 3 1/2 star read for me. Some of her books that I've read are; *To Steal a Highlander's Heart*, *Borderland Bride*, *Hunting His Highland Lass*, and *Black Knight*, as well as a number of others. I really enjoy Ms. Holt's writing style; and IMO, she has talent for creating wonderful stories. This particular book is no exception.

Nicholas and Annabel are polar opposites and make a wonderful couple. Annabel is all sweetness and innocence. She's very trusting, open, and loving. Nicholas, on the other hand, is all dark and brooding, withdrawn, distrustful, and hasn't experienced any real feelings his entire life. When he meets Annabel he is overwhelmed by her beauty, both the physical and spiritual. Considering he has been hired to kill Annabel, her immediate trust of him is disconcerting. As the two spend more time together, Nicholas becomes aware of the fact that he can't possibly harm Annabel and becomes her self-appointed protector. After all, the man who hired him to kill Annabel is still out there, and determined to follow through with his nefarious plan to do away with the sweet-natured beauty and steal her inheritance. I really liked the book. Nicholas is somewhat of an enigmatic character. He's never experienced any love his entire life, having lost his parents as a very young child, and being committed to the care of an unfeeling and neglectful guardian. Nicholas has has to work hard to survive in the world. He knows nothing of the softer feelings and is taken completely off guard by Annabel's effect on him. As for Annabel; she is all sweetness and light. She's a little naive at the outset, but by the end of the story it is clear to see that the betrayal she suffers at the hands of her uncle has toughened her a bit. I really loved the way the story ended. Although Ms. Holt did a good job of redeeming Nicholas, I still felt that the penance he had to endure before he won Annabel was definitely in order. After all, we're talking about a hero who was, quite literally, a murderer.

Kudos to you Ms. Holt! You've done it again! I should mention; however, that the book is in need of a little more editing. There are a few grammatical errors which, while not distracting, were noticeable. Incorrect spelling, incorrect words, the occasional missing word, and the like were present throughout the book. I'm surprised, because I cannot remember encountering this in a Holt book before, but perhaps my memory is just failing me in that regard. Anyhow, that aside, I quite enjoyed this book and would definitely recommend it as a worthwhile read. I'd rate it somewhere between 4 and 4 1/2 stars. FYI, this is not a clean romance. There are a couple of love scenes, which are graphic, but not, IMO, overly so. As far as crude language is

concerned, the only one of note is the fact that the a man's genitalia is referred by the "c" word. Happy reading!

Joy says

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*****spoilers*****

Annabelle's uncle wants her dead so he can inherit her castle and her massive wealth. Utterly blind to his evil machinations she peers at the world through rose tinted glasses and does so through much of the story.

His target was supposed to be the Lady Annabelle but when circumstance pushes them together, Nicholas is reluctantly forced to re-evaluate his entire life to this point, his c

Holly Bargo says

Sweet story of redemption

This is a sweet story of redemption with a bit of sex thrown in to spice it up. Annabelle is trusting, naive, and nice ... almost too darned nice. Nicholas is dark and conflicted, but not cruel. Benedict is refreshingly evil, a sort of old fashioned, evil character that one might expect to see in a Dudley Doright cartoon. While not a great book, it's good, a nice way to spend a couple of hours.

Rosemary K says

I received a copy of this book from Samantha Holt and I'm so glad that I did. I've just discovered a new author. She has written a very romantic story set in England in 1088. Nicholas, a hired assassin, has been sent to kill Lady Annabel but her gentle and loving nature change him. He sees this beautiful maiden as his redemption from his dark past. The inner turmoil and desire that drives Nicholas is so well written that I could put this book down. I had to know if there was a HEA for this couple but Lord Benedict, the Lady's Uncle, didn't make this easy. The ending had a surprise twist that finished the book on a perfect note.

Ali Roberts says

I've read pretty much all of Holt's books now and you can see why she's fast becoming a household name in the world of medieval romance. Her writing is vivid, beautiful and exciting. I imagine, for some, it might be too poetic but it fits well within the genre and it never fails to entrance me.

However, having said that, this story was slightly darker than her others to me. There was an undertone throughout most of the story that pushed it along. Nicholas was a deep and brooding character, who had very little to say for himself. Yet, somehow, he was ridiculously easy to fall in love with. There was an endearing quality to him as he found himself totally daunted by the sweet and caring Annabel.

I was concerned I wouldn't like Annabel as I tend to go for strong female leads but you see her grow into a much stronger character throughout the story and her self-assurance was a strength in itself.

The romance between them was just breathtaking. It was definitely a 'soulmates' type story and the first love scene was just beautiful. Nicholas' shaking hands...*sigh*.

There was only a minimal amount of dialogue between the characters and I must admit to enjoying the interchange between characters but it wouldn't have worked with the brooding Nicholas so it didn't bother me. If you do like strong dialogue, then I'd recommend reading The Crimson Castle, but honestly, give this is a chance.

Trish R. says

Little SPOILERS, maybe..

So, Nicholas was one cold, hard, and ruthless son-of-a-gun and Annabel was little Miss Sunshine. A perfect match, I'm thinkin'... She laughed and sparkled and he looked at her like she was crazy, even though he liked the way she laughed and sparkled. He'd been an assassin for so long that he forgot how to care for anyone, believe in anyone but himself. You'll know from the first chapter of the book that he was hired to assassinate Annabel but, alas, he fell in love with her instead (who didn't know that.) Of course, he thought he was hell-bound and not good enough for her. Fortunately, this is a novella so we don't have to read 200 pages of that nonsense. I just hate 200 or 300 pages of stupid angst.

So, Nicholas is tied to the back of a horse and made to walk until he can't walk anymore and he's dragged through mud and crap and then thrown into the dungeon. She goes to him to ask him for the truth and he tells her then she say she hates him while they're doing all they can to hurry to get 'nekked' so they can go at it. IN THE FILTHY, NASTY DUNGEON. How disgusting is that?

This was just an alright story because she loved him but sent him away like he was dirt and she was Miss Lily-White. I didn't like that too much. He did come back, naturally, but still.. AND I didn't like her Uncle Benedict or Godfrey either.

There was nice sexual tension and nicely written sex in this. But it could have been better.

