



The Wild Princess: A Novel of Queen Victoria's Defiant Daughter

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The Wild Princess transports us back to Victorian England and plunges us into the intrigues of the royal court, where the impetuous Louise brazenly followed no one's rules but her own—even marrying a commoner, which no one of royal blood had done in the previous three centuries.

The Wild Princess: A Novel of Queen Victoria's Defiant Daughter Details

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From Reader Review *The Wild Princess: A Novel of Queen Victoria's Defiant Daughter* for online ebook

Rebecca Huston says

There is only so much I can take from historical fantasy before my brain rebels and screams *no more no more!* This one tells the story of the year 1871, a momentous one during the reign of Queen Victoria, what with a strong Republican movement and in December of that year, the near fatal illness of the Prince of Wales and an assassination attempt in February 1872. But instead of working with what was actually known, the author decides to write a thoroughly craptastic fantasy novel involving Princess Louise, a dark and handsome American in black and one of the most stupid bomb plots ever. Not to mention Louise having an illegitimate child with an artist's model.

But oh my friends, it gets worse. Lorne is a de-facto homosexual, there's the obligatory deflowering with little pain or foreplay and instant multiorgasmic heroine -- just add Mighty Wang. It's pretty damn clear that the author didn't bother to do much research or pay attention when she was, as the novel is riddled with all sorts of inaccuracies. Not to mention, the writing is stilted and downright filled with anachronisms.

Too, in an attempt to give this the look of something old, the designer tried to make the opening page of each chapter look antique and old. Instead, it's a greyish, smudged up mess that looks like garbage and that had powdered graphite spilled all over it.

This one gets just one star, and a NOT RECOMMENDED from me. So far, it's won the title of Worst Book of the year. And to increase the horror, there's to be a sequel. Gag.

For the longer review, please go here:

http://www.epinions.com/review/Mary_H...

Amy Lignor says

As all historical genre lovers know, there are many books being created about the British Royals, especially the Tudors and, most recently, the Windsor's. That being said, it may actually come as a surprise that this book covering the fiction and fact of the life of Princess Louise - daughter of Queen Victoria - turned out to be a very unique read.

Louise was known as "The Wild Princess," and she was one of those triumphant characters that seemed to act as if she was a woman living in the 21st Century. She definitely had a mind of her own and was not afraid to use it.

Going back to Louise's wedding day in Victorian England where she's about to marry a commoner, the Duke of Argyll, John Lorne, the story takes off at a fast and entertaining pace. The Queen had just about given up the hope of ever being able to marry Louise off; she only wanted her children to marry royalty from one country or another, but Louise fought back. She wanted a life of her own where she could study art

(which was her true passion) and live and love the man SHE wanted, not what the Queen gave to her to choose from.

The Queen finally relented and decided that she could marry John Lorne. Even though he was not in the privileged circle, he was a kind man and the Queen believed he would take very good care of Louise. As with anything, however, when it comes to the twisted world of English royalty, there was a much larger secret in play that the Queen had no inkling of...or, did she? The fact was that the kind, loving, sweet John had a few tricks up his own sleeve that very well could blow the roof off the Palace and perhaps even the monarchy.

A fascinating book with a lot of Court intrigue, the fact that in real life Louise was a conundrum to her people is expertly told. No one ever really knew if Louise married for love, or to cover up a scandal of monumental proportions. The author has inserted her own 'idea' of what really went on so long ago and she has made her characters fun (i.e. they are not as stuffy as some.) From forbidden love to Irish radicals to plenty of romance, Mary Hart Perry gives fans a truly 'cool' story. Louise was an interesting Princess who had dreams that she wanted to fulfill, which makes for a very enjoyable tale.

Anagha Uppal says

4.5 stars

"She knew all about love—that beautiful, exquisitely painful but precious journey."

Let me just say that The Wild Princess was one of those books that's really hard to rate - it's not amazing enough to earn that elusive 5 stars but it really doesn't have any negative points to fall back into the 4 star trap, know what I mean? Overall, I'd say The Wild Princess is a wonderfully entertaining quick read and I definitely recommend it to every reader out there!

Plot: The novel is a fairly slow-paced one, but it makes sense since much of it is romance. The pace speeds up as needed though; some parts (especially the end) are quick and really fun to read. Princess Louise has had some indiscretions as a young girl which now makes her ineligible for a high marriage like her sisters. She is married to a Lorne who turns out to be gay and has married her only to protect himself from the wrath of people who think men like him should be tortured and executed. Louise is crestfallen - she had been looking forward to having children with a loving husband, nevertheless, she agrees to keep his secret. Starved for affection, she meets the handsome, dangerous-looking secret agent the Queen has just employed from America and the story begins. There are two main plots at once - the romance between her and Stephen, as well as the numerous attacks being made on the Queen's family to get Ireland's independence. There is one very unexpected twist in the story that you just have to read and enjoy.

Characters: The superb characterization is what really drives this novel. Even the minor characters are given 3 dimensions - they each have their own personalities and understandable motivations for their actions, whether good or bad. Louise is everything you could want in a historical fiction protagonist - beautiful, headstrong, flawed - a rebel against the system. Following the legend of Princess Louise's wild nature and the rumors of the circumstances around her marriage, Mary Hart Perry created this amazing character haunted by her past and stifled in the constraints of being royalty. Her romantic interest, Stephen Byrne is super hot but also very intelligent and caring - so awesome! Lorne seemed to be the only one-dimensional character - every time he's mentioned, he talks about his fear of going to prison and so warns Louise off

other men. Come on!

Narration/Tone: The story is told through alternating POVs, most often from Louise and Stephen's point of view. The author really used that to her advantage to fully elaborate on their feelings for each other when they're together and show what's happening with each while they're apart. The vivid descriptions let you easily get lost in whatever's happening - tension between Stephen and Louise, fights, or just another day at Louise's women's store. Hard to believe this is Mary Hart Perry's debut novel, it's just so good!

World: Since this is historical fiction, a review would be incomplete without describing the setting and customs of the time. Princess Louise's personality is so unique at that time because she refuses to conform to society's rules. She isn't necessarily as wild as...curious. And determined. Most females were not spoken of in such terms during that period and that is what intrigued Stephen about her because he was an outsider too. He was *American* and he refused to wear a gentleman's clothes or act gentlemanly since that wasn't who he was.

Wow, I'm rambling aren't I? This book just brings that out in me. Another reason why you should read this book!

Extra Thoughts that don't Deserve a Separate Category: *The Wild Princess* is an engaging, quick read that has a strong main character and an imaginative plot. It is based very loosely on the rumors of the real Louise's marriage and childhood indiscretions, but overall it's a fictional account as the author herself points out. The historical aspects combined with the mystery, romance and suspense Perry has created makes for a very entertaining read. It reminded me a lot of *Their Eyes Were Watching God* because it is about a woman way ahead of time, looking for love who finds three men, the third of whom is absolutely perfect for her. This is the first of a planned series of 5 books each involving one of 5 daughters Queen Victoria had. The second will be called *The Bashful Princess* and will be about Louise's younger sister, Beatrice.

Here is Perry says about her next novel (which I am already excited about):

For more royal intrigue and Victorian romance, look for Princess Louise and Stephen Byrne when they return for guest roles in *The Bashful Princess*, by Mary Hart Perry, the next novel in the "Novels of Queen Victoria's Daughters" series. Youngest of all of Victoria's children, Beatrice is destined to remain forever her mother's companion in her declining years, and if the queen gets her way, Bea will remain "pure" and never marry. But attending a royal wedding on the Continent exposes shy Beatrice to temptation in the form of not one but two charming suitors—Prince Henry of Battenberg (one of four famously handsome brothers) and a charismatic Highlander who claims to be the nephew of the recently deceased John Brown, favorite of the queen. Will Beatrice remain meekly loyal to her mother, or fall in love and into a political trap meant to draw England into war?

Wendy Hines says

Watching and reading about the Royals is like indulging in chocolate. It's decadent. Most little girls dream of being a princess and growing up to meet, fall in love and marry their prince. For Princess Louise, Queen Victoria's fourth daughter, she got one out of the three.

A independent, headstrong young woman, Princess Louise was the wild child of the bunch and her mother was determined to curb her ways. She married her off to a British subject, the Marquess of Lorne. Did Louise love him? No, nor did they have children, but *The Wild Princess* explores Princess Louise's life and how one American, Stephen Byrne, recruited for the Queen's Secret Service, keeps Louise's secrets and those of the

crown.

With vivid details of royal life and all it entails, Perry has obviously done her research. It reads like you could be watching it through the window. Her characters are well developed and the pages just fly by as this reviewer found herself immersed in the decadent and secret world of Princess Louise, later known as the Duchess of Argyll. Fans of Philippa Gregory will devour this novel and the forbidden love and secrets embedded in it's tome.

Karielle at Books à la Mode says

The Wild Princess by Mary Hart Perry

Release Date: July 31st, 2012

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Source: From the publisher, via Innovative Online Book Tours for review

Four of the five daughters of England's Queen Victoria and Prince Albert were regal, genteel, and everything a princess should be. But one was rebellious, scandalous, and untamed.

THIS IS HER STORY. . . .

To the court and subjects of Queen Victoria, young Princess Louise — later the Duchess of Argyll — was the "Wild One." Proud and impetuous, she fought the constraints placed on her and her brothers and sisters, dreamed of becoming an artist, and broke with a three-hundred-year-old tradition by marrying outside of the privileged circle of European royals. Some said she wed for love. Others whispered of a scandal covered up by the Crown. It will take a handsome American, recruited by the queen's elite Secret Service, to discover the truth. But even as Stephen Byrne — code name the Raven — vows to risk his life to protect the royal family from violent Irish radicals, he tempts Louise with a forbidden love that could prove just as dangerous.

In the vein of Philippa Gregory, Mary Hart Perry tells the riveting story of an extraordinary woman — a princess who refused to give up on her dreams, including her right to true love.

What Stephanie Thinks: I am SO glad I didn't give up completely on historical fiction. As you may know, historicals are generally my least favorite genre because to be frank, I often find them too detailed and too dull. There are marvelous exceptions, of course, and The Wild Princess is one of them.

Mary Hart Perry's voice is lush and simply masterful. She certainly knows how to weave a romance into historical context, alongside sizzling suspense and lingering mystery. Louise is quite a character, both in the book and in Victorian England, and I think her delicious misconduct is beautifully portrayed. She's the kind of princess I would want to be. Not the prim and proper one who gets the throne and her mother's adoration, but the one who knows how to have fun, the one who learns from experiences rather than advice, the one who is shaped into the strong, naïve, but at the same time, incredibly worldly young woman she became. This does come at the price of a reputation, a brisk air of notoriety. Louise faces hushed whispers and blind accusations within English society. But at least she is her own being; at least she has herself. In such an era and circumstance, I don't know what could have mattered more.

And like all women who live up to insurmountable expectations, Louise has a rocky, and tremendously heartbreaking past. The novel revolves around the Fenian terrorist threats upon the country in 1871 as well as Louise's golden 'wild days', five years prior. Stephen Byrne, a bucking, irresistible non-gentleman of a character, as a member of Her Royal Majesty's Secret Service, has the responsibility over the royal children against such attacks in the book's present day. Except there's one problem: he is irrevocably attracted to the young and feisty Princess Louise, and unfortunately, she is quite apt to his charms.

The frisson between them is undeniable, and it is H-O-T! Their witty exchanges leave me smiling and desperate to see consummate their love for each other. I seriously loved the characters and their dialogue. The Wild Princess tells the story of a tragic incident as well as a slow but sure recovery that is suspenseful til the very end and thrillingly scandalous and so very improper in all the right places. I would have liked the romance aspect of Stephen and Louise's relationship to be a little stronger. As steamy as their encounters are, there are only a few intimate scenes, and vague and lyrical descriptions, rather than arousing details. Other than that, I commend Perry for penning such a poised, yet naughty, substantial, yet entertaining novel brimming with danger, scandal, and the journey of true love.

Stephanie Loves: "One step forward was all he needed to wrap an arm around her waist and pull her hard up against his chest. Her eyes flew wide. She whimpered as his mouth came down over hers. Unlike the other, this kiss was hard and hot and shockingly intimate.

When he released her mouth, she felt dizzy, bewildered. Perhaps her teasing had backfired?

'Don't play games with me, Princess,' Byrne warned, his voice abrasive with emotion she couldn't identify.

'You won't like my rules.'" — I absolutely LOVE their chemistry. It's witty and tender at the same time, not to mention hot hot hot!!!

Radical Rating: 8 hearts- Would recommend to lots of really good friends.

Teressa Morris says

Victorian times are normally considered particularly prudish, a setback in the more relaxed morals of the Age of Enlightenment. But in *The Wild Princess*, Mary Hart Perry shows us the romantic, passionate side of the Victorian Era, in Princess Louise, Victoria's fourth child. Louise is headstrong and independent, both traits that were not popular in female royalty at the time. Victoria tries to tame her "wild" daughter by marrying her to the Marquis of Lorne, the first time since 1515 that a royal had married a British subject. Historically there has been much speculation about Louise's marriage to Lorne and why the couple never had children. This book explores those reasons and also how Louise might have handled a potentially "loveless" marriage.

The description in this book is so vivid and expansive I felt like I could actually see the beautiful clothes and exquisite furnishings of the time period. Perry's historical facts are all spot-on and she uses some of the innuendo and suppositions from historians of the present and writers of the time to flesh out the main characters and make them more identifiable.

But *The Wild Princess* is historical fiction, and with that license, the author is able to embellish on the story with her own characters, who although not present in actual history, serve to further the story by making the real characters more approachable.

I am in love with this book. I think I will save my second read for a nice long soak in a bubble bath with a

box of chocolates by my side and my third read for a day when I'm not feeling well and I need something comfortable yet exciting to keep me company. Mary Hart Perry is already writing the second book in the series, *The Bashful Princess*, about Prince Beatrice, Queen Victoria's youngest child. I can't wait.

Lisette says

Princess Louise, the fourth of Queen's Victoria's daughters, has always been the impetuous one. Willful and determined, she's intent on living life by her own set of rules. Yet protocol dictates that she do exactly as she's been told by the Queen herself.

Deep inside, Louise knows that going against her mother's wishes can be considered an act of treason. Yet she can't deny the fact that she yearns to live her life freely without the public scrutiny of both England and the royal household. She can't help but argue with her mother whenever possible in order to demand more of her freedom. Every part of her yearns to be done with the injustices she feels are committed against her and she will do anything in her power to get exactly what she wants, when she wants it.

Her mother has been willing to forgive her for her past indiscretions. To some extent, anyway. Yet Louise knows that nothing she can ever do or say will erase the disappointment her mother feels on occasion whenever she looks her way. Part of her wishes she could erase what she's done, while another part of her knows that she never would have gained the freedom she has now if she hadn't taken a stand for what she believed in. Granted, she's not entirely free to do as she pleases, but what little freedom she does have is enough to keep her from acting out irrationally.

When the Queen decrees that she must marry John Lorne, the Duke of Argyll, Louise fancies herself happily married and surrounded by her own beloved children. She knows John's a commoner, yet she's willing to forget that little detail in hopes of making her marriage with him work as much as possible. In her mother's eyes, her husband-to-be is a kind man and would give her what no other ever has.

When her marriage turns out to be anything but ideal, Louise begins to wonder if she can actually make things work between them. Her husband's preferences are nothing what she imagined them to be and she'll have resign herself to that fact that she'll never truly have her happily-ever-after whether she wants to or not. Never-the-less, she's determined to hold up her end of the bargain in hopes of living a comfortable life with the man she's now married to.

From the moment he set eyes on her, Stephen Byrne realized that Princess Louise was a force to be reckoned with. Rash, independent, and quite determined to do things exactly as she wants to do them, he knows that protecting her to the best of his ability will prove to be a heavy burden. Yet it's one he's determined to fulfill, none-the-less. Repeated attempts on her life and that of the Queen's make him weary of trusting those around him. Yet if he can't trust those within the royal household, who can he trust?

Battling his attraction for the beautiful Louise, Stephen knows it's a matter of time before the two succumb to their own desires. A relationship between them is forbidden, but when matters of the heart exist between two willing souls, there's no stopping what will eventually rise to the surface. Even if it means that protocol must be broken in order to achieve as sense of normalcy that belies the turmoil roiling within the royal household.

As a lover of all things historical, most especially the history surrounding that of England and France, this was truly a very intriguing and thought-provoking read. Laced with a bit of truth, the story is, for the most, a

fictional account of Princess Louise's life. I must say that it was a wonderful insight into what the author thought the Princess's royal life, and that of the entire royal household, back then was like.

From the moment I started reading, I was hooked to the story. So much so, that I didn't much else until I finished reading. It's that good, I assure you.

Mary did a wonderful job in instilling such emotions within the book's pages that the reader is able to immerse her/himself completely within the story. We're able to see Louise's pain and heartache as she tries to overcome the adversities she's plagued with throughout her entire life. We can feel her love and her hatred as she does her best to not lose control completely within any situation.

I found the background into what her life might have been like truly entertaining. At certain points in the story, I found myself wondering what it was like to live within that time period. I could feel Louise's pain as she tried to come to terms with that fact that while she was free to do as she pleased, she was still confined to the protocol dictated by her standing as one of the royal princesses. A delightfully fictional historical account of her life, I think *The Wild Princess* is a great read. One I truly recommend to others for reading.

Kayla Beck says

Review Originally Posted at Bibliophilia, Please

When I first discovered that Innovative Online Book Tours was doing a review tour for *The Wild Princess*, I jumped at the opportunity. Historical fiction is one of my favorite alternatives to science fiction/fantasy. Philippa Gregory is one of my absolute favorite authors, so I could not get my hands on the book quickly enough.

The Wild Princess does not release until July 31st, so the copy I was provided with was an eARC. That being said, there were barely any technical issues on the **Writing**. The only thing I had a problem with was Princess Louise's name was often misspelled as "Louse", but I am pretty sure something like that was caught before the finished copy was printed. I did not see much symbolism or themes, and that was completely fine with me. This book was nothing but a pleasure-read, despite it being a review. **4/5**

The **World-Weaving** was pretty good for a historical romance. I had no problem believing that Mary Hart Perry's interpretation of the British royal family behaved in the manner she described in *The Wild Princess*. Stephen Byrne was a completely fictional character, but there were times that he felt more real than Louise. The supporting characters also lent much to the book. John Brown was a real person, and I love that it gives a little wink to their relationship. (I know it is something Perry would have had to mention with the bit of controversy surrounding it, but it was thankfully not overwhelming.) As for the main character, Louise, I quite enjoyed how Perry portrayed her as a woman well ahead of her time, who was passionate and strong-willed. I read a lot of YA with female characters given much freedom and opportunity to be strong, but Louise was born into a gilded cage, and made her life her own in this novel. The Civil War ammunition veterans who worked for the Fenians were my least favorite characters, but they were needed antagonists in the plotting of the story. Louise's husband, Lorne, was also somewhat of an antagonist, but he was not evil or even unlikable for me. Yes, he was not the man that Louise deserved, but that was how it went in "arranged" marriages. (Historically, Lorne and Louise's marriage is usually described as a "love match", but Perry did not use that scenario at all. I will not spoil it for you.) Victoria was also a bit of a villain when it came to Louise, but as a mother and a historian who understands the necessity of maintaining royal perfection, I did

not begrudge any of her actions. She was merely a mother who wanted to protect her daughter, her family's reputation, and the monarchy.

The setting itself was enjoyable because it had Fenian plotting at every turn to create tension in the beautifully described royal opulence. Louise's time spent in the more common areas of London also seemed very real. The scenes with the royal family traveling or on the parade route were some of my favorites, and I did not even care to check the historical accuracy of it. (That is usually one of the first things I check.) Did a royal take a bullet for Victoria or face death during another attack? I don't know, but it was a lot of fun to imagine that she did. **4.5/5**

The **Pacing** of the story was the one problem for me. I enjoyed the story itself, but there were periods of time that I felt like nothing was happening. The blame for this can be easily blamed on the fact that I've read quite a few novels lately that are action-packed, and it's been a while since I've read an adult novel. When all the pieces came together, I could not put the book down. I suppose I was just impatient for Louise and Stephen to come to terms with what was happening around them. Perry also made us aware of nearly every aspect of the plots against the royals, so there was not much suspense about what would happen - only a question of when.

There was a few flashbacks in the story that helped the characterization of Louise, which made *The Wild Princess* more enjoyable for me. Those were some of my favorite parts of the novel. There was also a side plot point that involved one of Louise's school friends that I would have liked to see wrapped up, but some questions have no answers. **3/5**

My **Attention Span** would have been a lot shorter when it came to this book, and I would not have read it nearly as quickly if I had not read it during the Once Upon a Read-a-Thon. I'm glad that I pushed myself through it because it really was a lovely book. However, there were outside forces at work here, so I don't feel I should offer a score based on this factor.

The **Extra Magic** for me came from the story Perry created based on rumors and whispers from the Victorian era. There is no historical evidence that some of the events in this book occurred, but it is a lovely to think that Victoria is spinning in her grave from the liberties taken with the royal family. Louise was given a life I feel that she deserved, and I have no doubt that was the author's intention. Every woman should have a great romance and fictitiously giving one to a princess whose life was never her own was a beautiful tribute to her life. **4.5/5**

Overall, I found *The Wild Princess* to be a lovely example of historical romance. I would be hesitant to compare it to the novels by Philippa Gregory except as a reference point personally, but that is merely because Mary Hart Perry has a style that is all her own. I look forward to reading her future novels about the Victorian princesses.

4 Stars

To satisfy FTC guidelines, I am disclosing that I received the book for free through Innovative Online Book Tours in exchange for an honest review. It has in no way affected the outcome. All opinions expressed are mine and mine alone.

Annabelle says

****FINAL RATING: 4.50 STARS****

CATCHALL

I don't read a whole lot of adult novels, because I just...don't. It's not like I have anything against them, I just choose to spend most of my time reading and reviewing young adult. However, when I saw the premise of this novel I knew I wouldn't be able to resist. And there aren't quite enough words to describe how happy I am that I decided to pick this up. Not only was it a beautiful love story; it was also so much more than that. There was legit danger and a mystery to be solved, and a brave princess who never backed down.

THE HEROINE

LOUISE

Louise was one awesome princess. She was brave, but not foolish. Bold, sometimes too bold, but she also knew when to back down. She's lived for a long time in the shadow under the influence of her mother, and she wants nothing more than to break free. But trapped by a loveless marriage, she resigns herself for a while to the life that she'll never have. However, it's only a matter of time before she takes matters into her own hands. She's strong and independent without being polarizing, and is herself with or without a man by her side.

THE LOVE INTEREST

STEPHEN

Stephen is our dashing American hero, who's about as sexy as they come. Dark and tall and dangerous, he intrigues Louise from the beginning. Though his job is to keep the entire royal family safe, he cannot help but be drawn to Louise, seeing to her personal protection before all else. He's not a shallow character, either. In fact, he's pretty awesome. He certainly keeps things interesting. It's obvious that he cares deeply for Louise, and wants to protect her.

THE PLOT

The plot is awesome. Although yes, this is a love story, there's so much more to it. There are people who want to free Ireland, and they've gathered into a coalition as they try to kidnap members of the royal family for hostage, planting one failed plot after the next. The first leads to Louise and her family nearly getting killed.

Stephen is launched into the investigation, as Louise offers him her own private investigation that would give her peace of heart. In an uneasy type of peace, the two work together and try to fight their growing attraction to one another as they work to protect Victoria and her children.

Everything unfolds beautifully and flawlessly. One event flows seamlessly into the next. Everything happens for a reason. Moreover, the things that happen make sense. There are a few extraneous plot lines on the side, and a few things that seem a bit obvious. However, overall it was wonderful and genuinely enjoyable.

It does I think dwell a bit too much on Louise's past. However, her past is important and it does have to be told.

So yes, I loved this! It was totally action-packed and romantic. There was ever really a good moment to put it down, because I constantly felt that I needed to know what was going to happen next.

THE ROMANCE

The romance in this book developed beautifully. Louise's and Stephen's relationship really grows, and doesn't feel fake or instalovey at all. There's a ton of chemistry, and so much tension. It's seriously one of the best-written romances I've ever read. And it's not smutty, which is a plus. It's passionate and yet also sweet, which makes it feel so realistic. I loved it. Honestly, it was just...wonderful. There's not much more to say here, but that's a good thing.

THE WRITING

Mary has utterly lovely writing. It alternates POV, mostly between Louise and Stephen but occasionally there's someone else, only rarely. Despite the writing style being the same, both of their voices were so distinct. Even without knowing who was narrating, I would have been able to tell just by their voices. While there's not so much description in this novel to speak of, it somehow glitters anyway. And the dialogue is so wonderfully done.

THE ENDING

HEAs are one of my drugs of choice, and so of course I was immensely satisfied with this ending. It made me incredibly happy. As far as happy endings go, I'm not sure that I could have asked for more. It's perfect and adorable, and made me smile. It was definitely a bit far-fetched, but who cares? It was fun and I loved it. Totally romantic, and completely satisfying.

WRAPUP

I'll definitely be reading more of Mary's works, and I can confidently recommend this one! I know most of the people who read my reviews are YA readers, but I honestly believe that even if you read solely YA you'd still enjoy this one. It's not too heavy and it's still intriguing and majorly interesting. The story completely drew me in, and the characters are awesome. I really, really loved this one!

FINE.

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Redheaded Bookworm says

First let me say, Historical Romance is not my preferred genre. But after reading the synopsis for this book, I was intrigued. I mean, who doesn't love a good scandal? The descriptions in this book are very vivid. You feel like you are walking through the scenes in this book. The main character is a strong woman who stands for what she believes. I am really glad I gave this book a chance!

Kimberly says

I was so excited when I got the e-mail from Vickie at Innovative Online Book Tours that I could hardly wait to start reading it. What struck me right off the bat was that I could just tell that this book was a real labour of love for the author, her passion for the story really came through the writing and for me that was probably one of the most enjoyable thing about the book.

As someone who loves historical fiction this novel was right up my alley. This was my first time reading about Princess Louise because I tend to stay away from historical fiction that deals with the royals, not sure why I do it but I do. However, after reading this novel I think I may have to reconsider that and look for other novels like this.

I really enjoyed the way the author wove her story as it really seemed to come alive on the pages or in my case on my kindle. There was a lot going on in the novel as it dealt with the Fenians (an organization fighting for the establishment of an independent Irish Republic) as well as the happenings in Louise's life including her love life as she gets involved with Stephen Byrne, and American who is working for her mother.

I really became quite intrigued with Princess Louise because unlike most royals she was a bit of a bohemian in her time. She often mingled well with the common folk and thanks to an indiscretion as a young girl she was married to a man who later turned out to be gay. This dashed any plans she had for children and the fact that she was the first royal in 300 years to marry out of the royal families of Europe made her an interesting person to me.

All in all the novel was an enjoyable read. As a lot of other bloggers have said it was a mix of thriller, historical fiction and romance. An interesting combination in my opinion and one that worked out so successfully that the author Mary Hart Perry just got herself a fan for life. I think I'll read anything this woman writes because somewhere along the way I fell in love with her writing style. Since this novel is set to be the first in the series I'm eagerly anticipating the next, until then though I think I may have to re-read this one since I enjoyed it so much.

I would recommend this book to everyone, it's a great read because it's so dynamic, the writing, characters, plot and setting were superb. I think I may just have to buy myself a hardcover version of it I loved so much.

Kevan Lyon says

Historical fiction fans will love this fast paced, compelling story of Queen Victoria's daughter, Louise, known in her time as "the wild princess". Suspense, combined with a wonderfully detailed historical tale and a touch of romance make this a true pleasure!

Mary Loesch says

I love historical fiction, especially when they are done well. I admit that I have a secret passion for historical romance that I don't often indulge in. Why? Who knows! It just isn't something that I actively seek out for some reason, but I'm so glad that I had a chance to review *The Wild Princess* by Mary Hart Perry.

Here's the synopsis on Goodreads:

The astronomical success of the historical novels of Philippa Gregory and Christine Trent prove that readers simply can't get enough of the British royals--and now Mary Hart Perry enters the fray with an exciting, deliciously sensual novel of Queen Victoria's "wild child" daughter, the Princess Louise. *The Wild Princess* transports us back to Victorian England and plunges us into the intrigues of the royal court, where the impetuous Louise brazenly followed no one's rules but her own--even marrying a commoner, which no one of royal blood had done in the previous three centuries. Filled with rich period detail, *The Wild Princess* is an exciting, enthralling read. The Tudors have gotten the lion's share of attention in historical fiction; it's high time Queen Victoria and her family got their due.

Now the only thing I would contradict about this synopsis is the title of historical fiction. I think they need to include the word romance in there somewhere because if you are a reader thinking you are going to just read a straight story about Queen Victoria, you'll be upset. This is really a historical romance and one that is very well done!

Based on the life of Princess Louise, *The Wild Princess* reveals a sweet character that has already seen more than her fair share of trouble. After surviving a terrible scandal, Louise longs for a happy marriage in the arms of her new husband, Lorne. He's a handsome man and fits into her mother's idea of the perfect match. Oh, did I forget to mention that her mom is the formidable, no nonsense Queen Victoria? The problem is that even though Lorne is a good looking man with money of his own, he isn't exactly known for his relationships with women. In fact, he doesn't have any romantic relationships with women. Why? Let's just say that he's a big supporter of Oscar Wilde!

So what's a girl to do when she discovers that her husband would rather be hanging out with the guys at his club? Princess Louise throws herself into charity work and causes that support women's rights. That is until she meets Stephen Byrne, a rugged American from Texas who is supposed to be helping track assassination attempts on her mother. When she meets him, the sparks fly and we discover exactly why Louise has the title of "the wild princess."

I liked the story a great deal. The characters were fun and well developed, and the plot flowed so easily that it was hard to put the book down. I loved the character of Louise and the mix of history in the story. This is such an interesting time period, and the author really captured the look and feel of it. There are some fun, if predictable plot twists, but to me, some of the best scenes were the ones where the two main characters got to consummate their passion. Here's why: typically, sex scenes in romances like this one are graphic and drawn out. These scenes were intimate and detailed, but not over the top with a bunch of erotic mumbo jumbo. I also kept wondering how the author would resolve the love story in the end. After all, this is Victorian England! Royals can get divorced all they want now (thank you, Charles and Di), but back in the day, it was pretty taboo. Unless, of course, you were Henry VIII and then all bets are off! In short, the ending was satisfying and I felt like the story was complete.

Check out *The Wild Princess*! It's a great summer read!

Andrea Guy says

I've never read any historical fiction about Victoria or her daughters, so I had to give this book a shot, and I have to say, this is a must read. *Princess Louise* is a historical figure that there is much speculation about.

Like any good work of historical fiction, it made me want to learn more about the lady in question. She she was a royal ahead of her time. She worked for women's causes and fraternized with the common folk, something that simply wasn't done. She was a royal that was totally unconventional. She attended art school and was actually an accomplished sculptor.

But this book is more about her marriage, which most believed to be a sham, because Lorne, the Duke Of Argyll didn't particularly care for the ladies. Why they wed is a mystery. Their wedding, which was lavish by any standards would suggest a love match, so would the fact that this was the first time since the 1500s that a member of the royal family wed a commoner.

But there's more to the book than merely a scandal surrounding her husband's sexuality. (Which at that time was illegal) Louise wants to find her first lover, a model she met in art school, who mysteriously disappeared.

I absolutely loved this book. I was fascinated by Louise and felt bad for her childless state, but I was proud of her for doing what she wanted.

This book paints a great picture of what Queen Victoria was like and how family life was for these royals. This is a must read for all lovers of historical fiction!

Melissa says

How many of us have ever dreamed of being a part of the Royal Family? I know I have. How many hearts were broken when William married Kate last year and are still holding out hope for younger brother Harry. Well this book is for all the admirers of the royal family. The book chronicles the life of her husband Lorne. Princess Louise was the daughter of Queen Victoria. Although this book is about a real character the story that unfolds is one of pure fiction. The book, called *The Wild Princess* is written by Mary Hart Perry. It is a book about royal life, romance, and history entwined into a wonderfully delightful tale. Here is a brief summary of the book.

To the court and subjects of Queen Victoria, young Princess Louise—later the Duchess of Argyll—was the “Wild One.” Proud and impetuous, she fought the constraints placed on her and her brothers and sisters, dreamed of becoming an artist, and broke with a three-hundred-year-old tradition by marrying outside of the privileged circle of European royals. Some said she wed for love. Others whispered of a scandal covered up by the Crown. It will take a handsome American, recruited by the queen’s elite Secret Service, to discover the truth. But even as Stephen Byrne— code name the Raven—vows to risk his life to protect the royal

family from violent Irish radicals, he tempts Louise with a forbidden love that could prove just as dangerous. In the vein of Philippa Gregory, Mary Hart Perry tells the riveting story of an extraordinary woman—a princess who refused to give up on her dreams, including her right to true love.

This book is an amazing read. You learn a little bit of history while being entertained. It is an easy read that any reader of period novels would especially enjoy.
