



A Marquess for Christmas

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Lady Patrina Tidemore gave up on the ridiculous notion of true love after having her heart shattered and her trust destroyed by a black-hearted cad. Used as a pawn in a game of revenge against her brother, Patrina returns to London from a failed elopement with a tattered reputation and little hope for a respectable match. The only peace she finds is in her solitude on the cold winter days at Hyde Park. And even that is yanked from her by two little hellions who just happen to have a devastatingly handsome, but coldly aloof father, the Marquess of Beaufort. Something about the lord stirs the dreams she'd once carried for an honorable gentleman's love.

Weston Aldridge, the 4th Marquess of Beaufort was deceived and betrayed by his late wife. In her faithlessness, he's come to view women as self-serving, indulgent creatures. Except, after a series of chance encounters with Patrina, he comes to appreciate how uniquely different she is than all women he's ever known.

At the Christmastide season, a time of hope and new beginnings, Patrina and Weston, unexpectedly learn true love in one another. However, as Patrina's scandalous past threatens their future and the happiness of his children, they are both left to determine if love is enough.

A Marquess for Christmas Details

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Author : Christi Caldwell

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From Reader Review A Marquess for Christmas for online ebook

Sam says

3.5

This book has all the heartwarming ingredients you'll ever want from a huge height difference (she's only 5'3" and he's a good foot taller), snow, *snowball fights*, two mischievous kids, and close-knit families. I had no idea that this is a novella, so I expected more scenes (ahem.), but the pacing was done right. It was a good ride, and would definitely recommend!

Jenny E says

I enjoyed this book, but the ending left me feeling cheated and ultimately ruined my overall impression of the book.

After all the great sexual tension and build up in the book, I had assumed their relationship would come to fruition like it does in romance novels and be consummated, but the book ends before that happens. It felt incomplete to me and therefore I felt sort of "cheated" after having read the entire build up of the story and enjoying the character.

I had enjoyed the book until the lackluster ending, but it's obvious she writes romance novels for nuns, so I won't be reading another.

Mariana Maiz says

It was cute, and I liked getting to know Patrina better. Reading so many Regency books, one after another, made me realise how stupid that Society could be sometimes, with all the believing in a rumor and claiming a young lady is ruined because of it. But then again, if you really think about it, today's society is the same way. Maybe the ruination factors changed, but not how the media will shame any woman for not following a very strict rule book of how to behave.

I liked the children, especially Charlotte. I think the Marquess' sister plotline was a bit forced (and honestly, Christi, must EVERY book you write have a villain???) and as always we have a special license to wed. Here is a challenge: let's make it less about the desperation and more about them falling in love and actually waiting the three weeks to get married. It's fine when it happens in one book or another, but with Christi Caldwell, it is the rule, and there aren't exceptions for it. It would be nice not being able to guess what is going to happen based only on the previous books written by the same author. Ok, we know that this kind of book will end with a wedding, people in love and happily ever after. But must it always be the same way?

Kelly_Instalove says

Lovely story - but a few annoyances that bumped it down to about a B-:

- Historical nit-pick #1: The conveniently disappearing governess/nanny/nurse/whatever. In the very first scene, my brain immediately went to "why is the marquess standing around in the snow instead of their governess?"
 - Historical nit-pick #2: The ever-popular "we've known each other for four hours, let's use first names!" No. Just no.
 - Editing nit-picks (Kindle edition): *Atrocious* proofreading. "Un-phased" instead of "unfazed," blatant punctuation errors, and way too many awkward forced dialogue quirks like "Er..." and "um...."
-

Carol *Young at Heart Oldie* says

This is a charming romance by an author who has become a firm favourite of mine. Christi Caldwell always writes stories that are full of emotion and heart with characters that tug at your heartstrings.

Patrina and Weston share a common bond – both gave their love to undeserving people and both are suffering the consequences.

I felt so much sympathy for Patrina. She eloped with a man she thought loved her, only to discover that she had been duped by a heartless schemer hellbent on revenge against her brother, Jonathan. The consequences perfectly highlight the double standards of the ton – the scheming Marshville comes out of it unscathed while poor Patrina becomes a social outcast resigned to spinsterhood. She is full of regret for her foolish action because she realises that she has jeopardised her sisters' future marital prospects. She had changed from a smiling, carefree woman into a guarded, fractious one.

Living with a wife who had betrayed him in numerous affairs during their 10 years of marriage has left Weston a bitter, angry and heartless man; one with a "*steely guard around his heart*". His love for his children, Daniel and Charlotte is never in doubt but, in his desire to protect them from any further hurt, he let them run wild and they had become "*reprehensible misbehavers*". The children's unruly behaviour leads to a rather unconventional and amusing initial meeting with Patrina!

First appearances can often be deceptive. On first meeting Weston, Patrina sees him as insufferable, overbearing and aloof but gradually her opinions start to change – "*The somber gentleman she'd come to expect had a lighthearted glint in his eyes*". Weston has vowed to never trust another woman but Patrina with her warmth, courage and kindness to his children threatens to slip past his defenses.

The love that grows between them is sweet and heart-warming. It was lovely to see how Patrina makes Weston happy for the first time in years and restores his zest for life while Weston and the children teach Patrina how to smile again.

Knowing that her scandalous reputation can only hurt them, I admire Patrina's willingness to put Weston and his children's happiness before her own. Thank goodness Weston is a hero who is not willing to give up on the woman he loves and his proposal scene is emotional, amusing and romantic.

I came to adore Weston's children for championing of Patrina and their delightful habit of hiding behind the drapes to eavesdrop.

The curtains rustled yet again, and Amanda angled her head. "What was that?" Weston schooled his features. "What was what?" After all, if his sister discovered Charlotte and Daniel's tendency to eavesdrop, he'd not be spared her scathing diatribe on all the ways in which he was failing as a father.

Although Weston's sister obviously loves her brother and the children, her attitude rankled with me. She so perfectly reflects the high-handedness of Society in her prejudice towards Patrina.

The unwavering love and loyalty of Patrina's sisters, Penelope, Prudence and Poppy is very touching. I'm rather fond of Poppy, the youngest who seems to have a wise head on such young shoulders. I also like her directness...there's no beating around the bush with Poppy!

The delightful Epilogue just rounds off everything in a most satisfying way.

My Verdict: Full of warmth, emotion, sadness, laughter and romance, this enchanting novella can be read any time of the year.

REVIEW RATING: 5/5 STARS

Scandalous Seasons series (click on the covers for more details):

This review is also posted on my Rakes and Rascals blog:

<https://rakesandrascals.wordpress.com...>

Connie Fischer says

London, Winter 1818

Lady Patrina Tidemore, age 20, is one of four sisters, Penelope, Prudence, and Poppy. Her life is rather sad because she has been ostracized by the ton. She foolishly agreed to elope with Albert Marshville, brother of her sister-in-law, Juliet. Fortunately, they did not end up getting married and she is still a chaste woman. However, all the ton sees is a ruined young woman. Her escape comes each day as she visits Hyde Park and stares at the Serpentine lost in thought.

Weston Aldridge, the 4th Marquess of Beaufort, age 32, is a widower. He was married to the beautiful Cordelia for 10 years. However, she continued to betray him with other men. After her death, he does not mourn her but is thankful for the two children he has from their marriage. Charlotte and Daniel are normal, fun-loving children.

Today, it is snowing heavily and Patrina is shocked to be the victim of children throwing snowballs at her. But when she decides to join in the fun and throw snowballs back at them, their father, Weston, arrives and he is aghast at her behavior. They argue when Weston accuses Patrina of mistreating his children not realizing that they were actually playing. They finally part on unfriendly terms. However, a chance encounter

that finds Patrina rescuing Charlotte, brings them all back together.

As Weston and Patrina get to know one another a little better, theirs is a rather rocky relationship. Patrina is ashamed of her misconduct and Weston is bitter over his late wife. Are two damaged people able to set aside the past and learn to live and trust again?

This is a story that will tug at the reader's heart strings and is written where you can actually feel their pain. I really loved it and looking forward to more novels from Christi Caldwell.

Kate says

This book was just flat out badly written. Crazy comma usage, purple prose, overuse of adjectives, weird capitalization. And the plot itself didn't make a lot of sense and really would have been better served in a full length novel. I didn't know the characters because they were both wishy-washy in their convictions and their characterization was conflicting. And this novella (I didn't realize it would be when I bought it) has one of my biggest pet peeves, which is children who are written so "precociously" that they aren't like actual children anymore.

Megan says

I do struggle sometimes with romances set in the past because sometimes the way the women are portrayed sucks or sometimes the way they get spoken to isn't very nice. However it probably is in keeping with the time.

A 'terrible' scandal has threatened this girls happiness and of course she is shunned by the 'ton' and thus becomes unwanted and ridiculed. Its pretty stupid that this used to happen just because of her reputation. And yet a man can be called a rake or a rogue and still be able to wed and not become shunned (or at least to the extent women were).

I love the children in this, the way they always hid in their father's study and listened in made me chuckle.

Edwina " I LoveBooks" "Deb" says

GET A EDITOR!!

I very rarely say this but Christi Caldwell is truly in need of editor. Her timeline is just ridiculous. The first 5 stories in the Scandalous Season series, which included this one, all take place in the year 1818. So please explain to me how the Heroine of A Marquess for Christmas Lady Patrina Tidemore ages from a 19 year old to a 21 year old in the same year. Also, there is absolutely no romance in the story. Yes it is a Novella but no romance in a Historical Romance story is just strange. The story ends very abruptly. Also, in my opinion I don't like it when the heroine of the story future child with the hero will not and can not be the heir apparent. That is a personal opinion.

The story opens with Patrina sadly reflecting on the mess she has made of her life and the scandal she has

caused her family. In book 4 "Always a Rouge, Forever Her Love" Patrina has eloped with Baron Albert Marshville. Albert never intended to marry Patrina he just wanted to use her to ruin her family. She is attacked in a snow ball fight by two little hellion siblings Daniel and Charlotte. They are the children of Weston the Marquess of Beaufort. Weston's wife is dead and she died betraying him with another man. Weston and Patrina meet on several other occasions and eventually realize they like each other. After a few more outings with Weston and his children Weston decides to propose marriage and Patrina except. His sister Viscount Mereweather doesn't think this is a good idea because of Patrina's botched scandalized elopement . They marry anyway END OF STORY!!

Daniel and Charlotte were endearing cute children. Patrina's sisters haven't changed a bit from bk4. The other problems I had with the story is Albert Marshville in bk4 was a Baron in bk5 AMFC he is Sir Albert Marshville and Charlotte starts out being 8 yrs old only to end up being 7, how does this happen. I think Ms. Caldwell need to read her own stories. Its a shame to think readers won't pick up on this. But if you read the reviews I guess she is right. It didn't seem to matter to devoted Fans of Christi Caldwell.

L.A. Miller says

As I read the book I was immediately drawn into the characters and settled back looking forward to each turn of the page. I enjoyed Patrina's character from the first snow ball she hurled at Weston's children. Weston was true to what we all expect in a historical romance, dark, brooding, his heart sealed away after his wife destroys it. The children were endearing, hoping for love, but daring not to expect it. So why the low score? The ending left me feeling cheated. Yes there was the happily ever after but after all the sexual tension built up between Patrina and Weston, I would have loved to have seen the author continue on till at least the wedding night. Though her reputation was soiled, it would have been more pleasurable to witness Weston's surprise when he learns on their wedding night that his bride was still untouched. I felt as if the whole chemistry between the two was building to that moment but the author fell victim to the Victorian propriety. Still in all it was an enjoyable read if you are looking for light hearted romance.

Sissy's Romance Book Review says

A Marquess for Christmas 'A Marquess for Christmas' by Christi Caldwell is book Five in the "Scandalous Seasons" series. This is the story of Lady Patrina Tidemore and Weston Aldridge, the 4th Marquess of Beaufort. Patrinia Tidemore was introduced some in the " Always a Rogue, Forever Her Love (Scandalous Seasons Book 4)" where we met her brother Sin (his story) and her sisters. Also to make note to you this is where Patrinia was ruined. This can be a standalone book but I just wanted to let you know that part is in another book. Pratrian's sister stories are in the following books.. Prudence Tidemore story is told in the book, "Captivated by a Lady's Charm (Lords of Honor Book 2)" which I haven't read yet. Penelope Tidemore story is in "The Scoundrel's Honor (Sinful Brides Book 2)" which is out Feb 14th 2017. Poppy Story is not out yet as of this review date of Jan 2017. Patrinia was ruined when she thought she fell in love with a man she met. Only to find out that he was using her to get at her brother Sin. So now she is a scandal about town and stays mostly to herself and family. But on one of her outing she happens to met to young children and their father. This starts a short friendship between Weston and her. But Patrinia knows that it can't last as Weston has a young daughter and the town would not be kind to her if she was to associate with them. But Weston thinks that if they have a marriage of convenience she can provide being a mother to his children and might help her with the town also.

Collette Cameron says

A Marquess for Christmas is an absolute must read for anyone who adores Regencies and Christmas.

I stayed up until 12:30 am finishing the book last night, and I get up at 5:00 am. I simply could not put it down. I kept telling myself just one more page, but when a story is as captivating as this, one more page isn't enough!

I adored Patrina and Weston. Ms. Caldwell's ability to weave realistic, loveable characters is a gift. The secondary characters were equally as engaging. I laughed, I cried, and when I read the last page, I sighed with satisfaction.

The story was unique and compelling too.

I can't wait to read Ms. Caldwell's next story!

Tanya Sridhar says

4/5 stars.

This was adorably sweet. Almost made my teeth hurt, but I was smiling like a goof ball while wincing from the sweetness. Overall a really cute, sweet, heart-warming novella. I was expecting a decent amount of angst from CC, but thankfully this was all sugar dipped in melted candy.

Patrina Tidemore had been at the center of a terrible scandal when she eloped with a base cad to greta green. However he had no intention of marrying her, only of ruining her as a revenge plot against her brother - the Earl of Sinclair. Men, I tell you.

She's living a melancholy, sad life wondering why she can never have the things she always wanted - love and a family to call her own. You know where this is going ladies. Two hellions launch snowballs at her at Hyde Park and she does what any respectable young lady would do, she hurls some back at them. Until their seething, dark and devilishly handsome (duh!) father calls her out and basically yells at her. He's the Marquess of something something, not that it really matters. All you need to know is - hot father what a tortured soul that no longer believes in love. You also better know where we go from here.

She fights back vehemently and doesn't let him make her feel inferior - that's where our story begins. I loved the children and the interactions all 4 have together. I even loved the romance, it was really sweet and believable. This is a completely clean book so no hanky panky. Sadly.

The last scene is also amazing!!

If you're looking for a sweet, short novella with a fiesty heroine and two adorable hell raising children then look no further.

Literati Literature Lovers says

The theme in A Marquess for Christmas is one of recovering from betrayal to trust and find love again. It is one of Caldwell's best stories and I honestly wish it would have been a full length book, as the characters are so engaging. First you have the scandalous Patrina, whom made a dash to get elope and was cruelly betrayed, and now scorned by the ton. Then you have Weston the Marquess mentioned in the title whom was betrayed by his selfish wife, and has been left to raise two precocious children. If there ever was a book that should not be missed out on it is this one. The book actually made my heart flutter and gave be butterflies as Caldwell enveloped me in this magical story.

Shawna says

2.5-3 stars - Historical Romance
