



The Scoundrel Takes a Bride

Stefanie Sloane

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Lady Sophie Afton wants one thing and one thing only: Revenge against the man who ruthlessly killed her mother fifteen years before. Painstakingly preparing herself for the task and awaiting just the right moment, she approaches Lord Carmichael armed with the skills required of a spy and the knowledge that the Corinthians have reached an impasse in her mother's case despite all the progress made by her dear friend Viscount Hardwicke. The Rook was only the beginning. Another man cut her mother's throat, but it will take a woman to bring his identity to light.

Carmichael cannot refuse her. And just at the moment Sophie believes she's on the cusp of experiencing the defining moment of her life, Nicholas Young appears. The younger brother of her betrothed, Nicholas had disappeared years before into the wild of the East Indies, where, if rumors were to be believed, he'd made his fortune through questionable means. In truth, Sophie had given little thought to her childhood friend. Until now. There was no denying that she adored Langdon Young, Nicholas's older brother and the man she was meant to marry. But the moment Nicholas stalks back into her life, Sophie knows she will never belong to another. His touch inspires desire, his kisses need, and his skin on hers brands Sophie for life.

Aided by her Corinthian counterparts, with Nicholas at her side, Sophie delves into the dangerous depths of the London crime world in search of what she's longed for her entire life. Or is it? Can revenge mean more than love?

The Scoundrel Takes a Bride Details

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From Reader Review *The Scoundrel Takes a Bride* for online ebook

Adria (Musings and Reviews) says

Originally posted on Adria's Romance Reviews (Blog post may have additional content such as playlists, interviews, giveaways, etc).

* A copy of this book was and provided by the publisher via NetGalley/Edelweiss for the purpose of an honest review. All conclusions are my own responsibility and I was not compensated for this review.

What's it About? The setup is that years ago Sophia's mother was murdered and Sophia is determined to find out who killed her mother and why. So she enlists the help of a childhood friend, Nicholas who just so happens to be the brother of the man Sophia has been engaged to all her life. It just so happens that Sophia isn't in love with her fiancé, she's in love with Nicholas and he's in love with her but neither one knows it. So off they go to try and solve the mystery of the murder and along the way those pesky feelings decide they won't be ignored anymore.

Overall reaction to the story? I expected way more than what I got with this story. The plot sounded awesome but the execution of it was pretty much a letdown. The characters are dull, their dialogue unimaginative, and the mystery aspect of the plot didn't exactly have me excited either. All in all I probably should have DNF'd this one at the halfway point when I still wasn't getting into it and I had been reading it off and on for three months.

Describe the hero in five words: Dull. Tortured... That's all I've got. See my explanation below.

Did you like him? There wasn't enough about him to tell!!!

Why? There is a decided lack of character anything so I really didn't get to know Nicholas as a character. He seemed like a halfway decent fellow but the author didn't give any insight to who he was as a character. I didn't know who he was as a second son, as a friend, or as a lover to Sophia. Nada. Just that he was in love with her since forever and was willing to help her find out who killed her mother. There's also something about him being a heavy drinker yet he doesn't suffer withdrawals when Sophia asks him to stop. Oookay.

Describe the heroine in five words: Also dull. Tortured. Determined... There, I got three this time.

Did you like her? Again, not enough information to tell.

Why? Seriously, Sophia could have been an amazing character. She lived in a time where women were seen and NOT heard yet she was hell bent on finding out who killed her mother. Yet, that wasn't conveyed in the book. At all. I knew she wanted answers but I didn't feel her desperation or her sadness at having lost her mother in a violent way. This should have made her stand out but it didn't. To me she could have blended

into the wallpaper and no one would notice.

Let's talk about the romance: Oy I think this was the most disappointing part of the story for me. There was zero tangible emotions between these two characters who had supposedly loved each other for a long time. You would think there would be a wealth of pent up passion, tension, and longing to convey to the reader right? Well not really. The interactions between Nicholas and Sophia were wooden and hardly inspiring. The sex scenes read more like fact sheets with very little communication between them. No dirty talk, no talk of romance, nothing. Just... A lot of description which isn't always a bad thing but in this case there was no balance between the technical side and the romantic side.

How about that supporting cast? So what about that fiancé Sophia has? You know, Nicholas' brother? Well he was a disappointment too. When the couple comes clean about their romance to him, Langdon (That's the brother) takes it a little too well. I can understand if he's feeling relieved at not having to marry a woman who doesn't love him but what about that male pride these types of guys are always going on about????

Click It or Skip It? Skip It. *The Scoundrel Takes a Bride* sounds like a good read on the surface but it doesn't take long before it falls flat and stays that way until the end. However, since the author does have some solid ideas I would be willing to try a more current book of hers to see if things have changed.

Monique says

LOVED it!!! Quick pace, well thought out characters and well written. will be borrowing the rest of the books in this series from the library ASAP.

Kelly says

A version of this review also appears on Reading with Analysis.

I feel a bit ambivalent about this book. On the one hand, I wanted to like it because its heroine is a smart, driven woman who meets her fate head on, pursues interests beyond the typical historical romance female purview — needlepoint, shopping, and talking about men — and, furthermore, excels in her pursuits and earns the respect of the male characters. That is heady stuff. On the other hand, I had a lot of issues with pretty much everything else about the book, including its pacing, character/story development, and the romance between Sophia and Nicholas, and however much I wanted to, I didn't like it at all.

In the early chapters, my main issue with the book is that it assumed that I knew who the hell the characters were, and I didn't. The problem seems to derive from this book being the fifth in a series. Characters from the prior novels are mentioned but not introduced. When I scanned through the reviews of the previous novels, I encountered similar observations. This problem is not new to the fifth book, it would seem. Who/what are the Young Corinthians? Who is Lord Carmichael? I don't know! Apparently you have to read

books 1-4 in order to form a clear idea.

My other problems with this book mostly stem from the implausible romance between Sophia and Nicholas. Sophia goes from stoically accepting a life without passion as Langdon's wife to getting naked with Nicholas way too fast. She's like, "Wow, you mean you've always loved me? Dude, me too! lol! Ima take my dress off now. kthxbye." And it was bewildering rather than romantic, because it seemed so grossly out of character. It even seemed a bit out of character for Nicholas, who spent his life pining after Sophia and convincing himself that she was better off without a loser alcoholic like him... Their getting together worked for the formula of the novel (and now for the moment about halfway through the story in which our characters have sex... tada!) but did not fit the characters or pacing of this specific story.

As for the rest of the book, including the mystery (who is the Bishop? Who killed Sophia's mother?), it was somewhat overshadowed by the jumpy pacing and unresolved ending. The overall story of the series does not progress at all with this novel — the Young Corinthians, whoever they are, end up precisely where they started. Even though I don't really care about the progress of the story, it was still a tad discouraging that the story did not advance at all.

In the midst of all of this, though, there were some things that I liked. Nicholas' household, particularly Singh and Mouse, were delightful secondary characters. I really did enjoy Sophia's competence at Bow Street, and there's nothing that I like better than a pining hero, but these things just weren't enough to make me like the book overall.

Inshirah Kamal says

"We humans cannot manage to breathe without destroying."

Elaine says

Entertaining book. Didn't take to the h/H - not as I usually did with others in this series. Plot o.k. but I felt this story was not as good as all the previous books.

Tin says

The mystery began in **The Saint Who Stole My Heart**, when Sophia's mother is found dead inside their country house. It is 15 years later and Sophia compels her three friends, Langdon, Nicholas and Dash to help her discover who had killed her mother and it is something that has consumed all of them, especially Sophia.

With Dash married, it is now up to Nicholas and Sophia to follow the lead that Dash has uncovered but this proves difficult because Sophia and Nicholas have never had the friendliest of relationships: not as children and not as adults. Why? Because Nicholas has secretly loved Sophia all his life but it has been arranged for Sophia to marry Langdon, Nicholas's older brother.

I discovered one new thing about myself when I was reading Stefanie Sloane's *The Scoundrel Takes a Bride*: it seems I really love the friends-to-lovers storyline and that I really, really love *childhood* friends-to-lovers

storylines.

It was obvious, from the first chapter, that Nicholas harbored a secret affection for Sophia that he could not express as a young boy. He left England, hoping to forget his love for Sophia and, when he returned, it seems that all the old feelings were never forgotten. One can feel overwhelmed when something this immense, this deep, this old happens -- and Nicholas is, once again, unable to say what is in his heart. Instead, he does his best to push Sophia away; to push his brother, Langdon, away.

I loved the restraint and the tension every time Nicholas was with Langdon or Sophia -- more so, when he was with *both* Langdon and Sophia. I can sympathize with Nicholas's position: Langdon and Sophia would be married very soon and the exigency of the situation must cut at Nicholas like a knife.

"All I want is the truth --"

"The truth is that you are to be my brother's wife," Nicholas snapped. "A fact that has eaten away at my heart all of these years until there's very little of it left. That is the truth, Sophia."
- p. 129

I thought Stefanie Sloane wrote this part of the story very well and I would have been quite happy to have followed this love story from beginning to end -- but, this is only part of the story. The greater part of the story involves the mystery of Sophia's mother's murder all those years ago. In Dash's story, they discovered the man who had killed her -- but, apparently, he was only the tip of the iceberg -- and the man who masterminded the murders is known as The Bishop.

I had some reservations about how Nicholas and Sophia dealt with their investigation: they lied to a lot of people, *innocent* people, to get information. I especially felt sorry for Maggie Pemble (read Chapter 24). =(

I felt our hero and heroine crossed a line and this was no longer a fight of good versus evil. I wondered why they never asked Langdon's help. Also, why Bow Street wasn't involved when Sophia works with them? Though it is explained in the story why, I felt it wasn't a convincing reason, especially pertaining to Langdon. (I'm not sure if it's just me, but I thought Mr. Bean of the Bow Street Runners was a bit creepy and made me think he was involved in the murder. Read pp. 115-120)

I also felt a bit disappointed with how Sloane chose to write the ending -- I understand that there ought to be a story left to tell in Langdon's book but I couldn't help but be frustrated to follow a thread, thinking to reach the end of it, only to discover that it is part of a seemingly never-ending spool.

I've been following Stefanie Sloane since her debut novel and, while I never completely fall in love with her stories, there's always something in them that makes me want to read more. I have to say that she has a way with writing interesting characters. In this novel, it was Mr. Pavan Singh who stole the show. (Loved his words of wisdom. ^_^)

"Sahib, it is said the most beautiful things in the universe are the starry heavens above us and the feeling of duty within us. My duty is to you, so here I am. And the stars that fill your London sky are the very same ones that watch over my beautiful valley in India."

I was also very intrigued by the Halcyon Society and Mrs. Mason.

Bonnie says

I received this free from the publisher through the LibraryThing early reviewers program.

I am starting to feel like a curmudgeon with these negative reviews. I like books and review them well but this book (like the other early reads before it) is missing something. In this case, the absent something is a good writer. The core story here is good, I liked the characters very much, but the writing is terrible. I like romances and can forgive a lot of heaving and shuddering and melting, but the prose in this book is so purple it is as if it were written by Barney the Dinosaur. If I had not gotten this free in return for a promised review I doubt I would have finished the book.

Anastasiaadamov says

I think title totally missed the mark. Whole book read more like a mystery novel than it did as romance. Was not that impressed.

Brynna Curry says

Reviewed for: You Gotta Read Reviews

Rating: You Need to Read/ 4 stars

Blurb: In Stefanie Sloane's irresistible Regency romance series of spy games and seductive passion, a rogue discovers that his desire for the wrong woman is so very right.

A notorious scoundrel, the right Honorable Nicholas Bourne has spent years in the East Indies amassing a fortune through questionable means. Still, his loyalty to his older brother, Langdon, and his childhood friends remains true and trusted. But when Lady Sophia Southwell, the woman promised to Nicholas's brother, seeks his help on a dangerous mission, he is troubled—and torn. Unable to dissuade her from her quest to find a killer, he vows to keep her safe. This makes his mission the hardest test of his wits, honor, and skill. For Sophia is the secret love of his life.

For years, Sophia has planned her daring act of revenge against her mother's killer. She has painstakingly prepared herself by studying the criminal mind. Now she knows that the moment is right and that Nicholas is the man to help her. But she doesn't count on the reckless temptation of his rugged sensuality or the captivating intensity in his deep eyes. When desire and emotion intoxicate her as they venture together into the darkest corners of London's underbelly, Sophia must contend with a yearning even more powerful than the quest for vengeance: the call of love.

Review: Since birth, Lady Sophia has been betrothed to her dearest friend Langdon Bourne, Earl of Stonecliffe. They have a comfortable but passionless relationship. Neither are in any hurry to walk down the aisle, though their friends think they should.

When Sophia was a child, her mother was murdered. Unfortunately, Sophia and her friends Langdon, Dash and Nicolaus were the ones to discover her. Now new information has come to light that may lead to the man responsible for ordering her mother's death. Knowing Langdon, who prefers Sophia to follow quiet pursuits, would fight her efforts to find the killer she seeks out Nicolaus to aide in her scheme.

Nicolaus has hidden his love for Sophia with bad tempered teasing and snippy attitudes since they were children. The younger brother of Langdon, Nicolaus was free to live a life of whim. Wild and unattainable, he prefers to bury his frustration in a bottle. When he fails to change Sophia's mind, he chooses to protect her during her dangerous pursuits.

Sophia is daring, definitely a woman out of her time. She has good handle on criminology and works with Bow Street runners (scandalous for sure). She has a lot of grit for a lady of her time. Nicolaus is more of a gentleman than he would like the world to believe. He takes in an orphan, allows an Indian healer to turn his house upside down, and does try to reign in his feelings for Sophia.

Still, aside from their admirable qualities, both Nicolaus and Sophia lie to hide their exploits and eventual affair from Langdon. I felt they should have been upfront with him as soon as they admitted their feelings for one another. Langdon seems to be clueless as to why his brother and fiance are spending so much time together, going off on excursions. I have to wonder why he is blind to their actions. Aside from that, if you like murder mystery with your historical romance, then *The Scoundrel Takes A Bride* is must read.

Kathie (katmom) says

I enjoyed this. Although this is book #5 in the REGENCY ROGUES SERIES, I was able to catch up to what was going on.

Lady Sophie's mother was killed years ago. Because of that she has become something of an expert in criminal cases. The Runners allow her to help them with cases. She's been honing her skills in the hopes that she will be the one to track down her mother's killer.

She's also betrothed to Langdon. She loves him, but is in no hurry to set the wedding date. Just when new information comes to her, his younger brother, Nicholas, returns. He's grown into a very dashing man. And she's interested. Which really does annoy her. Nicholas has been in love with her forever, which is partly why he's been gone so long.

As they work together, they realize that they do love each other. But what about Langdon? Yes, that IS the question. There wasn't a quick leap into each other's arms. They had to work at it. I like that.

The mystery part of the story was very nicely done, but be aware that while some questions are answered, the biggest one is not. Which, of course, leads to the next book. One can hope that Langdon finds his own HEA there.

The only drawback was that I thought that the promise the Young Corinthians extracted from the two of

them tied things up just a bit too nicely.

Thank you, NetGalley and Ballantine Books, for the opportunity to read *THE SCOUNDREL TAKES A BRIDE*.

I would recommend this to anyone looking to spend a few hours in happy reading.

Caz says

2.5 stars

This isn't a *bad* book by any means. It just required a rather larger than normal suspension of disbelief on my part than I usually like. And by that, I mean that yes, there is always a sense of *knowing* that this or that heroine could not really have acted in such a way at the time that the book is set for fear of transgressing the very strict rules governing society – but it's fiction after all, so there always has to be a certain degree of forbearance on the part of the reader. Yet some novels require a higher level of tolerance than others, and this is one of them.

Principally, I found it very difficult to accept that Sophia would have been allowed to have the degree of contact with the Bow Street Runners that she has in the novel, or that she would be allowed to work with them, even in the context of doing a bit of office work! This is the early 1800s and Sophia is a Lady; as such, she would have been barred from any such contact or occupation, regardless of the fact that she wants to track down her mother's murderer.

Then there's the fact that Sophia has been engaged to one man since she was a child, but has fallen in love with his brooding and handsome brother. I have no problem with that as a plot provided there is either :

a) good reason for the heroine to betray him (i.e, he's violent, a drunkard, shagging his way around London, etc.) or

b) the couple find a way to let him down gently and accept that he might not want to be around them for a while.

But neither of those is the case in this book; in fact, what struck a really false note with me was the fact that Sophia was so confident about sleeping with Nicholas (the broody, handsome brother). Nicholas is naturally reluctant to betray his brother, who is a decent and kind man, but Sophia makes all the running, talking about how she wants Langton (her fiancé) to be happy, even though she is not the one who will be able to make him so. Yet the next day, she's crying and says she can't bear to think of how Langton will feel once he finds out about her and Nicholas. The next day, she has a panic attack in Langton's presence because he's talking about setting a wedding date – but that night, is happy to shag Nicholas again, telling him she needs him inside her because she's had an upsetting day.

Erm...

I confess I haven't read the earlier books in this series, and having read the synopses, it seems that the book immediately before this, *The Saint Who Stole My Heart*, is closely linked to this one. A group of gentleman spies, the *Young Corinthians*, is on the tail of The Bishop, a notorious London gangland boss, whom Sophia and Nicholas discover had a hand in her mother's death. The reveal, when it comes, is rather a let-down, and

clearly there are threads left hanging for another book, which I imagine will feature Sophia's jilted fiancé.

I can't, hand-on-heart, say that I liked or disliked this book - it was just... "there". I didn't feel that I was pulled right into the story, and I wasn't particularly drawn to either of the protagonists. I don't know if that is because I was preoccupied with that whole "suspension of disbelief" issue, or if it was something else, but I'm afraid this story just didn't do anything for me.

With thanks to the publisher and Edelweiss for the review copy.

Debra Taylor says

A must read for Regency Romance fans . I'm such a sucker for stories that have a flawed hero . And Nicholas is one of the most flawed hero's this reader has yet to stumble upon . And Sophia was so spot on as the vulnerable heroine . Just the right touch of vulnerability to draw the reader in without making her a total doormat . Together they made the perfect couple that readers can't help but champion .

Sophia Southwell is haunted by her mothers brutal murder . She is relentless in her pursuit of her mothers killer .She has put her entire life on hold ...including the man she has been betrothed to since birth. Now she finally has new information about the murder . So she turns to the only man who can help her . He is her childhood nemesis & the brother to her own fiance .

Nicholas Bourne drowns his sorrow in drink . He has always known that he could never have the one woman he wanted more than anything . So naner..naner ..naner , he chose to antagonize instead of befriending her . He has tried putting distance between them hoping it would stop him from betraying his own brother . But now Sophia has requested his help in solving the murder .

I loved Nicholas . He was so dark . So flawed . And the author showed every inch of his struggle with his weakness . And his guilt at betraying his brother .The emotion was absolutely gutwrenching . I really got into the characters in this story . I kept hoping that his guilt wouldn't push Nicholas right back into the bottle .That is what makes Stefanie Sloanes stories so intriguing . They are very character driven . Which makes for the very best stories . After all , we all know that even the best plot will fall flat without exciting characters to draw the reader into the story .Let me say that this is one author who knows how to create memorable characters that you won't soon forget. I've been a fan since her first book . And I think I'm qualified to say that this one was her best effort yet .

The Scoundrel Takes A Bride is a top notch historical romance . If you love a good Regency romance with reach-out-and-grab-you characters...then this is the book for you .

Thanks to Netgalley & Random House for allowing me to review this book .

Phoenix77 says

I never want to close a door on a romance series. I figure I've invested the time to learn about the extended cast of characters and I get myself invested in the story arcs that play in the background of all the books. Since I had read the previous four books of the Regency Rogues series I was willing to get over my disappointment in Book Four and give it one last chance to recapture my attention. Unfortunately, while The Scoundrel Takes a Bride itself was alright it did nothing to really spark a renewed interest in the franchise.

Lady Sofia Afton has dedicated her life to solving the case of her mother's murder. Using her clout as a peeress she has wormed her way into the records of the Bow Street Runners as well as dug deep into the classified files of the Young Corinthians. She knows that the answers are there for the taking if only she had the resources to get into the darker sides of London's streets. She befriends fallen women and spends time at a halfway house to try to glean more information about the organized crime syndicates, but manages to balance that against attending balls and teas with the cream of the ton. From an accuracy standpoint, there is almost no way that a woman of this age could have gotten access to most of the information Sophia does in her investigations, yet the reader is asked to believe that just because of her charm and personality that no one would question her. I understand that all of these efforts illustrated Sophia's dedication to solving the crime and her intelligence as compared to the magistrates and super-spies who allowed the case to go cold. However it just seemed like too much; like she couldn't fail at anything if it related to her mother's death. This all might have worked within the constraints of a Contemporary book, but didn't work as well within the historical timeframe.

For the romance, the set-up of Sophia and Nicholas Bourne coming together through their investigation treaded too close to some of my biggest pet peeves within a story; Love Triangles and Cheating. Since her birth, Sophia has been unofficially betrothed to Langdon Bourne, Nicholas's older brother. As the three of them grew up together, Langdon's feelings for Sophia were always warm but since the betrothal was understood he never pressured her into a courtship or pressed for marriage. During this same time, Nicholas's feelings did change from a casual regard for Sophia into a deep burning for her that was always threatening to surface when they were together. To prevent himself from acting on his impulses Nicholas left England to make his fortune in India, only returning when the demons he was running from seemed to catch up to him there as well. Involving himself in Sophia's investigation forces Nicholas to accept his emotions and he is surprised to know that the pull between him and Sophia isn't one sided. Where I had my problems with this set-up is that the clandestine part of the romance goes on for too long. Sophia and Nicholas are fairly honest with themselves about how much they come to love one another and the great declarations of love aren't left for the last pages of the book. Unfortunately neither one of them wants to tell Langdon! He spends the better part of the book completely in the dark about his brother and fiancé falling in love and then he has to confront them with his evidence of an affair before they fess up. I just couldn't respect Sophia for leading Langdon on for so long even when her heart was completely engaged with Nicholas.

The Scoundrel Takes a Bride relies heavily on the assumption that the audience has read and remembers the details from the previous book *The Saint who Stole my Heart*. The Kingsman crime organization is more fleshed out in this story, but the groundwork of how Nicholas got involved in the investigation, of who The Bishop is and his ties to the murder, as well as Langdon's position within the Young Corinthians were all major plot points in the last book. I was fortunate to remember the details that were pertinent to Sophia and Nicholas's story, but a new reader would know right away that they are missing some important pieces of the puzzle. I was also unsatisfied by the endgame to Sophia's vendetta. We are led to believe that The Bishop was the big baddie, so his being caught and brought to justice should have been a turning point for all the main characters. Sadly, he is just another link in the chain and Sophia's confrontation with the man just read as hollow. There was no pay off for anyone.

For readers who have been loyally following the Regency Rogues series, *The Scoundrel Takes a Bride* is probably just as good as the other stories. The espionage and romance are both on the lighter side and the historical portion is definitely more wall-paper than realistic. Even my bleeding heart for the Langdon character won't be enough for me to read the next book when it releases next summer.

Kenzee says

Rating: 2.5 Stars

Let me start out by saying that I won a copy of this book with First Reads, and I had my expectations set very high. In fact, I desperately wanted to like this book. I love romance novels and am always looking for a new author. However this book just didn't work for me. If I had to describe this book in one word, it would be confusing. To be fair, this is the 5th book in the series, so I'll give some leeway for that. However, there was just too much (characters, in particular) that appeared in story with little to no explanation of who/what they were. There was also the instance of two different people (I think? More confusion.) named Lettie. Probably not the best idea.

Then there was the romance. What can I even say? It wasn't that I disliked the characters, or the concept (falling in love with your brother's fiancé). In fact, I thought the concept had extreme potential. The problem was how the romance progressed. All of the sudden, it's yes, I love you too even though I was just thinking about how marriage with your brother will be pleasant (if not passionate) because I love him. Then there's the sex scene. Can we discuss how he immediately pushes it in, with no foreplay. (she's a virgin for goodness sake!). Then stops, in the middle, foreplay ensues. Then the sex continues. Huh?

As for the rest of the book, the mystery of killed Sophia's mother and the identity of the mysterious Bishop, I feel it necessary to quote two former reviewers (you two nailed it). First, the story was overshadowed by the pacing. It was so disjointed, I had trouble keeping track of what was going on (and more importantly, why, since I couldn't follow the what). Secondly, it required a larger than normal suspension of belief than most novels, romance or not. First she suddenly remembers she used to draw as an little girl (and so amazingly accurate and life like too!). Even if I am going to pretend that she was a child prodigy, there is no way she forgot she used to draw. Murder or no, she was not that young. Then there was the scene they pretended to be actors. Then how they pretended to be someone else when they "broke into" Bedlam. Do I even need to explain how contrived that was?

All of that being said, there were some parts of the story that I enjoyed. I thought some of the secondary characters were wonderful. My favorite (and I imagine he will win over everyone who reads the book) was Singh. I also think that Langdon has the potential to be an interesting character (of course, we've seen what this author does with potential, so maybe not). Is he the perfect guy Nicholas seems to think he is? Or is there something hidden beneath the surface? And let's not forget the insane actress Maggie. I thought she was well written. Finally, the idea to include psychology was brilliant (though honestly, how it was brought in through Sophia was just plain ridiculous). Still, including the concept was interesting and something I haven't seen done before despite the many, many romance novels I've read. At some point, I will probably pick up the conclusion to this series (whenever it comes out) if only to satisfy my desire to know who killed Sophia's mother, and more importantly, why?

Stefanie Sloane says

Well if I don't love my latest book, who will?
