

*Lynne Graham*

DUARTE'S CHILD



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## **Duarte's Child** Lynne Graham

Only days before she was about to give birth, Emily left her husband, Duarte de Monteiro. She'd heard from a friend that he wanted to keep their baby—but not his wife....

Now Duarte has traced Emily and his baby son and brought them back to Portugal. He's proud; he wants to keep his wife—especially as he can still possess her with the slightest touch....

Emily still loves Duarte, but has he brought her back because he loves her—or because he loves his son?

## **Duarte's Child Details**

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# From Reader Review Duarte's Child for online ebook

## LIA says

the heroine is so pathetic. I can't stand her, she can't even defend herself.

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## Jenny says

This is an original book because it is the heroine who cheated on the hero. She feels neglected by her husband and when a charming painter takes an interest in her she is dazzled and excited. Her husband sees them kissing and the heroine who is also pregnant is afraid her husband will take the baby away from her so she flees. Of course the hero never had such an intention but the evil OW made the heroine believe the hero was out for revenge.

I have issues with cheating even if it is mostly emotional thus I couldn't enjoy this book. Plus the heroine was so self centered and immature I couldn't care about her plight.

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## Kaycee ♥? says

Finally, a Portuguese hero after reading so much about Greeks, Italians and French for the past days. When I learned that the hero was Portuguese I immediately went to Google to check Portuguese men. Haha! And I was like *"Oh my! They were hot!"*

Anyways, the blurb already gave us an idea what happened. Duarte caught Emily in the arms of another man. He accused her of having an affair without letting her explain. So when her 'evil' friend, her husband's secretary, told her that Duarte's planning to divorce her and get custody of their son, she left. Later on, she realized that she was set up by the evil friend/secretary to have her out of the picture so that she can have her husband. However, months later, Duarte found her and the baby and brought them home without intention of giving her a divorce but to make their marriage work.

Can they manage to move on from the suspicions and trust one another so they take a shot at love and have real marriage?

I've already read books with this kind of story line. The only thing that made this different from other books was the "other woman" befriended our heroine and gained her trust before she worked her claws. And because of Emily being so naive, trusting and kind of stupid/daft she believed the other woman and all things go horribly wrong. Well, I can say that Emily also at fault here. I mean why didn't she confront Duarte instead of running away? Why let him treat her like that?

And as for Duarte, I don't know why but heroes tend to believe other women first rather than believe their wives/girlfriends. Although Duarte was a bit overbearing, and sometimes acted like a jerk, I still liked the fact that he confronted the other woman soon after upsetting Emily. Another Duarte's shining moments was

when he showed up unannounced after Emily went to her mother. He still went to support her even though she told him no. And I loved that he encouraged Emily to stand for herself and speak up.

Overall, *Duarte's Child* was a good read with some angst, an interesting twist and backstory, a good resolution and my favorite part - *epilogue* !

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## StMargarets says

This is a marriage in trouble story with the Portuguese business tycoon hero finally tracking down his shy, English Rose wife and six month-old son. Heroine has been living in a caravan and making her living giving riding lessons. The opening is both angsty and turns a bit comical as the hero has to explain himself after the stable owner calls the police. The heroine is thwarted from her runaway by a bee sting and the hero has to take her to the emergency room. It's a good way for the reader to see that he really cares about the heroine because for the next few chapters he gives her a hard time for her "cheating" and for depriving him of his child for the first six months of his life.

The heroine does feel guilty - not because she cheated - but because she didn't push the artist OM fast enough or stand up for herself when the hero discovered them. She also feels bad about leaving, but she was terrified he would take her baby once he was born because the hero's PA (the wanna be OW) gave her a heads up that he was consulting his lawyer in how to get rid of the heroine and keep the baby.

The heroine is bundled back to Portugal and their points of contention are resolved one by one:

(view spoiler)

I liked the Cinderella heroine - she did grow and change in this story - as did the hero. The hero was no smooth-talking seducer. He really was clueless about what was going on in his own house. The OW was truly evil, the H/h had enough good moments in the middle of their drama that the reader is convinced they will have a happy marriage now that the misunderstandings are cleared up. Justice was done and the OW's misdeeds were rubbed in her face. I loved it.

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## Fiona Marsden says

And this is why Lynne Graham used to be an autobuy for me. A reunion between an alpha male gorgeous hero and his little English wife who believes she is so unattractive. Graham can pull this unlikely pairing off like no one else.

Emily is on the run from Duarte after her besty warned her he planned to keep the baby and ditch her once she'd delivered the heir he wanted. It might sound a little silly but Emily and Duarte were on the out and out since he caught his PA's cousin snogging Emily and declaring love to her and Emily, in shock at this unexpected declaration, didn't fight him off. Making her a bad wife and a trollop.

PA is stunningly attractive and so of course Emily takes advice from her about everything, including clothes, trusting that the woman is wanting to help, and not sabotaging everything she does as she tries to be a good wife to the hot and tasty Duarte.

Too Stupid to Live? I don't think so. Emily is quite young and has been the Cinderella in her family for her whole life so she kind of expects to be laughed at and humiliated and NOT LOVED despite the hopes she keeps hidden in her soft heart.

Six months of parenthood has matured Emily by the time Duarte turns up, so we see her reacting differently to the slings and arrows chucked at her. Except of course the painful treatment from Duarte interspersed with hot flushes.

I really enjoyed this story. It has some humorous moments, lots of lovely angst and the prerequisite grovel from the hero. Who incidentally did not take advantage of what was on offer from the OW.

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### **IamGamz says**

I enjoyed this book more than I expected to.

It's a reunion story with the H being a typical, clueless, Latin, macho alpha.

He marries a quiet, shy, virgin and expects to fit into his high profile life, makes no concessions for her, and gets angry when things go awry. Then there's the ex-mother-in-law still living in the house you bring the new wife to - wth was that all about? And the shrine to the deceased wife. The H was a "bit" on the insensitive side.

The h let's the H walk all over her and allows herself to be scammed by the wannabe OW. She makes the immature decision to go on the run while heavily pregnant. She then spends almost a year moving from place to place and living hand to mouth out of a beat up caravan with a newborn. Thanks God that kid was healthy and didn't need any emergency care!

I reveled in all the drama and angst! I relished in reading an over the top HP once again. It's been a while, for me and damn it was good! ?

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### **Vanessa says**

Emily and Duarte are estranged as she believes that he wants to take their baby from her after she gives birth and kick her to the curb (all because of the helpful advice and secrets of a concerned "friend"). Duarte finally tracks Emily down and is appalled at the living conditions that she has subjected their son too. He can't believe that his cheating wife had run away from him and he still can't trust her after catching her w/ her

lover.

I liked this story overall. Yes Duarte was a bit overbearing and sometimes a jerk, but he believed what he had seen long ago. Emily was unable to explain the situation to Duarte satisfactory and so that further made her story look doubtful. Once Emily returns she soon puts the pieces together and figures out who was at work to destroy their marriage from the beginning. However, she has her work cut out for her when she tries to convince Duarte of the same.

@@SPOILERS@@ My all-time favorite scene is when Emily comes upon Duarte and OW in a compromising situation and she tells him to prove to her that nothing had been going on b/w he and the OW! He soon realizes that he can't prove it to her that she must trust him as he must trust her when she says she didn't have an affair all those months ago. He does eventually listen and he seems very contrite after realizing some things. I also thought it was very romantic and observant of him when he showed up in the limo after her confrontation w/ her POW mother! I felt like he was there to catch her when she fell after discovering the truth of her origins. @@END SPOILERS@@

There were misunderstandings, meddlers, and miscommunications thrown in the mix as well, but some good conversations were had and the HEA was believable. He did tell her that if she returns w/ him she can have the dress, the honeymoon and the moon as well! Boy did he deliver. It took time but he stuck to his word. He even admitted that in the beginning of their marriage he was only looking out for what pleased him and she was just along for the ride. Emily changed through the book and did stand up for herself a bit more although she does try to revert some, but Duarte encourages her to speak up and confront him too.

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## **Kiki says**

I loved the fact that the heroine gave as good as she got.

She has been accused of cheating, her pride was hurt and he has called her names and truthfully abused her emotionally in my opinion.

Of course not in HPland where they melt at the slightest touch even when their husband calls them whore. Been there, done that. Seriously? NOT a turn on.

But when the table turned she gave him the exact logic that he gave her. Asked him to prove his fidelity, which is quite frankly, impossible, as you can't prove something you didn't do, and when the hero told her that and demanded she trust him and take his word for it, she very confidently reminded him that he never did the courtesy of trusting her.

That's what I liked about the book, not the sex or the chemistry, the fact that the hero was actually a decent human being, no blackmail nonsense and he accepted his fault and redeemed it.

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## **Missy says**

A sweet read.

You can really feel the love that Emily and Duarte share, but of course they aren't telling each other. Lots of tension and agnst between them.....and red hot passion.

Lots of trust issues between them complicated by lies they have both been told. I got to admit that the liar really is an amazing piece of work....telling each of them different sets of lies and no one catches on....one nasty villain.

Duarte really loves his wife and son but just is so hurt and upset that he doesn't know what to do. Emily was very naive in the beginning but being a single mom has helped her mature so she is no longer as afraid to speak her mind.....and she lets out the hurt she feels.....which helps them solve their issues.

A nice sweet read....well written with nicely fleshed out characters. Their little son is a really cutie.

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### **Jacqueline says**

Another angsty LG read. So that was fun. Hero was super assy to the heroine when he finds her again after she ran off.

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### **Vintage says**

I am little surprised at the number of highly starred reviews.

I love Lynne Graham's heroines usually. They are usually soft-hearted and romantic, but can still have the alpha romero heroes running in circles trying to catch up to the fact that they love their duck out of water heroines. Ellen almost falls under this category, but just misses by being the biggest doormat ever. She was probably born with "Welcome" stamped on her behind.

Who doesn't she let stomp all over her? The hero? No, he's mean and abusive even though he has a magic penis. Don't they all. Her awful mother and father? Nope. She runs home and they pretty much kick her out. Her evil and condescending sisters. Nope, not them either. Her husband's ex-MIL who tells tall tales and has a plethora of pictures of her dead daughter, the H's apparently gorgeous and perfect first wife? Nah. The evil OW. Heck no. She got the ball rolling not too mention encourages her to dress like a fluorescent carrot. The scene where she picks out a new outfit is pretty funny. About the only character that doesn't push her around his her infant son, and Ellen can see that he is just like the H so guess where that's going when he hits puberty.

Ellen eventually gets a grip and lays down the line to her H, and (view spoiler), but I seriously wanted to see more of smackdown with some of these characters. I don't know what it is about romances or perhaps Harlequins specifically, but these little lower case h's never really get mad or tell anyone off. WHY NOT?

Anyhoo, the hero, oh yeah, Duarte finally finds out the truth and feels appropriately horrible. For whatever reason, I did not feel the romance. Perhaps too much to overcome.

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### **KC 2.0 says**

I enjoyed this plot-heavy, Cinderella romance featuring a doormat heroine who, in the process of getting her man, also grows a backbone. There's enough angst, betrayal, drama and misunderstandings to make the ride

to the HEA a bumpy one.

Emily was a sympathetic heroine: she was shy, sweet, clueless about fashion, and cracked me up with how much mooning she did over Duarte's hotness. To make matters worse, Emily was too naive and trusting for her own good. The wool did come off her eyes eventually. Once that shift happened, events rapidly progressed in Emily's favor.

Duarte was initially clueless about his feelings for Emily and only realized the truth after she left. A clue to the nature of these feelings: (view spoiler) Like Emily, Duarte was also manipulated by his colleague who did her best to sabotage his marriage. Luckily, the viper was finally caught out at the end, forcing Duarte to realize Emily was innocent of the crime he'd accused her of. So, all's well that ends well.

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### **Booklover says**

I really really liked this one, a pregnant Emily left her husband, Duarte de Monteiro back in Portugal. The reason was because "a friend" told her that after she gives birth to her child, Duarte would take the child away from her. But now Duarte has found Emily and he doesn't plan to let go either his wife nor his son, Jamie and yet he's still angry at her for leaving him. Other factors also play into the problem of their marriage. There was also that "friend" who secretly added poison into their marriage, before their separation. But besides the friend, their relationship have never been the best Emily was weak and never stood for herself and believes everything this friend cum OW tells her and runs away

like all hero's of LG's book Duarte is one great character but also dumb, he trust this OW then his wife and taunts her and hurts her, this friend cum OW keeps telling everyone around office she is his mistress and they are gonna get married but he is too busy to notice that this friend wants him for herself, through almost half the book Duarte only trust this OW and keeps telling Emily to grow up n stop being jealous but then after 2 years she is not weak anymore she stands for herself and makes hubby see what is saying is true and now she understands how she manipulated but big hurdle is proving it to Duarte finally after many hurdles and fights she is successful and Duarte tries make up for all the mistakes he had done

when she gives the details of apartment Duarte realises she is saying the truth and everything falls in place, this OW is fired and all is fine and these two talk and realise how cause of their weak trust towards each other this third person was successful in adding more problems in their marriage and we have HEA

Duarte-Emily were one cute couple, was really really happy cause Duarte respected his marriage vows and there was no cheating he was celibate for 2 years, was happy when they got their much deserved HEA

Great read, keeper for me  
Recommend it

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### **Debbie "Buried in Her TBR Pile" says**

I thought the RV/Caravan - Limo chase scene was comical - the visual in my head made me laugh. Easy and fast read. Glad the h finally communicated her thoughts and insecurities. H kind of clueless (a little hard for



me to understand why.) 3.5 stars.

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## Alex is The Romance Fox says

Not only is this story written by one of my fav fav Mills & Boon authors but the story is set in PORTUGAL (where I was born!!!) and the hero is PORTUGUESE!!!!!!!!!! Duarte de Monteiro

Finally, a Portuguese hero...after loads of Greeks, French, Italian, South American.....I am, naturally

Okay, stopping my jumping up and down right now and getting down to what this really fabulous tale is all about!!!

Emily is a rather mousy English girl, whose family treats her really SHABBILY. She meets the fabulously rich and gorgeous Duarte, when working in his English stately home's stables. She can't believe it....but he asks her to marry him (wow...within a few days of him meeting her....me...I would have been a bit suspicious....!!)...and even when he tells her he does not love her...WHAT DOES SHE DO???? YES....she agrees to his proposal...after all, she loves him...really she does...and she believes he will eventually fall in love with her.....RIGHT!!!! Of course it happens, doesn't it????

Anyway, Duarte takes her away from her rather drab and dreary life to his fabulous mansion in Sintra, Portugal.....let me faint here, right now!!! Sintra, a beautiful place just outside Lisbon...what more can a girl ask for????? Never mind that it comes with some baggage.....huge fotos hanging all over of his beyond beautiful but now dead ex-wife...but with the ex-wife's mother, who runs the mansion.....talk about Mrs Danvers (remember her from Rebecca by Daphne du Maurier????...what, you haven't read that book!!!! Get it now, and read it.....you just have to...it's one of those TO BE READ ones!!!) lookalike

Then there's Duarte's sexy PA...what a conniving bitch....and how stupid was Emily in believing anything she did and told her!!!! Is it possible for anyone to be that daft????? But yes, Emily was!!! And before she knows it...things go horribly wrong...yes, Duarte has still not fallen in love with her, even though Emily is pregnant with his heir....wow...we know how much these alphas love having heirs!!!!

So, Emily runs back to England...six months pregs and all.....because????? She's been told that once the heir is born, Duarte will discard her and keep the babe!!!!!! Now, wouldn't any woman do what she does????

No, not me!!!! But hey, I'm not Emily.

Her family is not interested in helping her.....geez.....are there people out there like that?????

Anyway, Emily is on the run from Duarte, because she knows how rich and powerful he is....and all the time I am sharing all her troubles .....I kept thinking.....

You gave up living in a place like

to living like THIS?????

But Emily can't hide from Duarte forever....he eventually tracks her down – there's a really funny scene when he discovers where she's been working....I knew all along he would find her...after all, he's got lots and lots of money and power!!!

I loved the chase scene.....here's Duarte in his super, duper car

chasing Emily and the baby heir, in her wreck pulling her caravan home....not forgetting his bodyguards chasing her as well...

There's no escape for Emily.

Soon, she and baby heir and Duarte and the bodyguards are winging their way, on Duarte's private jet, back to Portugal!!!!

Now, I was dreading the idea of Emily continuing being the downtrodden and ignored wife....I had this idea of strangling her if she did not take a stand. And wow.....before long, Emily takes charge!!! No more the quiet and mousy woman.....she finally WAKES UP!!!! And starts kicking some ass.....

. I did like that she wasn't mean about it though....she still retained her soft heart...but did I love seeing Duarte groveling....yes, he did a lot of that

By the end....I was like

Finally.....together, Duarte & Emily and little baby heir having their HEA....of course, that's no spoiler because we all know.....THERE'S ALWAYS A HAPPY ENDING!!!!

I so enjoyed reading this.....and if you love HEA's....get this book and start reading!!!

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