



The Penniless Bride

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Lord Robert Selborne intended to kiss the chimney sweep's daughter for luck at his cousin's wedding...not marry her! But of all the ladies assembled, she was the only one who captured his interest. And unless she became his wife in name only, he would forfeit his inheritance....

Having been raised by a brutal father on the London streets, Jemima Jewell had few illusions about life and love. Until Rob's lips met hers in a soul-stirring kiss and he impulsively made her his wife. And his penniless bride now hoped her love would provide Rob with a fortune far greater than the one he sought....

The Penniless Bride Details

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Ana says

A chimney sweep heroine? How cute is that? The Penniless Bride is a darling romance that will not only make you smile, but you'll learn quite a bit about the dangers chimney sweeps faced long ago. Cornick took her research and ran with it to create a heroine that you'll never forget. While I had to suspend disbelief that society was ultimately so accepting of her background, this novel provides a sweet and charming escape into romantic fantasy. ~ Ana, www.ireadromance.com

Veronica Jonsson says

Den här tyckte jag väldigt mycket om.

Isa says

Historia no muy larga para pasar el rato con cierta precipitación al final con la historia de Jack y Lexie. Necesita una revisión de palabras juntas, guiones cortos en lugar de los largos y ausencia de alguno de ellos.

Angelica says

3,5 *

Aisha says

3.5 stars

Mary - Buried Under Romance says

A very lighthearted, sweet read.

4.5 stars/5 stars

When I came across this book by chance while browsing, the plot immediately intrigued me. While I've read many books where the heroine is of a lower social status than the lord hero, this is the first I've come across where the heroine is actually a chimney sweep's daughter!

The story begins comically when the hero, Robert Selborne, comes back from war and finds out that in order

to receive his inheritance from his deceased father and grandmother, he must 1) marry a lady who was present at his cousin's wedding (which is the next day), and 2) be celibate for 100 days. This obviously puts him out of sorts, but he decides to go through with finding a lady to marry, in order to restore his principal home, Delaval, to order. Unfortunately, due to the passing of his father and grandmother, his cousin's wedding has been reduced to having only a few ladies of marriageable age, and none that appeals to him. This is when he spies the heroine, Jemina Jewell, who is a chimney sweep's daughter but has received a lady's education. They quickly strike a marriage of convenience, and against statuses, fall in love with each other.

While many critics of this novel mention the credence of such a fairy tale story, I am not so cynical as to not enjoy a good story when I see it. The primary cast is wonderful; the hero is nice beyond belief and sincerely wishes to find love in his marriage. He, of course, falls head over heels in love with Jemina, who, due to her status in life, has a rather cynical view on the notion of love in marriage. It was refreshing to find for once a heroine who holds the cynical view on love rather than the hero, as it happens far too often in regency romances. Eventually, Jemina does learn to place trust in her husband, and learns to love him just as much. Another aspect of this novel I really liked is the fact that both parties are honest with each other in what they want. Robert and Jemina both know that he wants her, and neither can or tries to deny their attraction, but know that they must stay celibate to receive Robert's inheritance. The scenes in which Robert tries to battle his lust for his wife is highly amusing.

Further embellishing the story is a wonderful cast of secondary characters, who throughout my reading has invoked a great deal of giddiness and joy. Even the mean Cousin Augusta is more for comic effect than pure malice.

Final thoughts on the novel: There are no cliched plots in this novel, and everything resolves itself into a splendid happily-ever-after worthy of Disney recognition. Yes, the plot is hard to believe, and yes, you may find the characters too nice or sweet, or just simply too wonderful that you want them to exist in real time. But the bottom line is that this is a lighthearted, joyous read of two people learning to love each other, and I highly recommend it for anyone who loves a good fairy tale.

Laura says

I really enjoyed this story. It was a sweet romantic story. I was a little off in guessing the story line. I was sure the father of the heroine would come back in to the story, but he never did.

Phylisha Stone says

This book gets a A+ in my book. Great story, great characters featuring a educated young women who is the well to do daughter of a chimney sweep and a young man of the ton who chose military life over his fathers wishes. I learned some new things about regency times regarding the inviting of chimney sweeps to high profile events such as weddings for good luck. I will be reading more of nicola cornick's books.

Desi says

Entretenida!!

Natalija says

This was a lovely read! I liked both Rob and Jemima and immediately knew they would make a great couple. As to the plot, it thickens towards then end, and that's what knocked a star off for me. There were too many events, and I don't think a second love story was that necessary. It felt very rushed and lacked credibility as far as the acceptance of Jack goes. Despite these minor comments, the story was definitely worth reading.

Ivonne says

2,5*

Não sei se foi por ter lido "alguns" romances do género e de a fórmula me parecer igual, mas esperava melhor de Nicola Cornick. Foi um romance leve, com algumas falhas e omissões no plot [exemplo: como sabia Letty da localização do Jack?], mas entreteve por umas horas.

Leanne says

Having jumped to this book from reading Ms. Cornick's Kidnapped: His Innocent Mistress, this romance was too mild and slightly boring to me. The romance felt a bit flat to me, but the premise was promising. I loved the chimney sweep's daughter idea, but everything felt so practical and pragmatic.

Elle says

I really liked this story, but I wondered how "true" it was. What I "know" about the period is pretty much defined by what I read in historical romances, which I know often exaggerate things to lend drama to the story. Still, the conventions of the genre leave me thinking that no matter how high he is in the social hierarchy, marriage to a chimney sweep's daughter would pretty much end him, socially. The social snobbery of the day definitely plays a part, and Cornick is at pains to make sure we know her father is a master sweep, which would put him a cut above an actual sweep. Even so, (view spoiler), I had some trouble believing that there was even a hope that it would work out. Even so, I did enjoy it.

Cornick's early books tend to A) be relatively clean for the genre, generally with one rather tame intimate scene towards the end, and B) draw on the intricacies of the relationship and the social conventions of the Regency era to create the drama of the story. These are Regencies, through and through.

Catsalive says

<http://www.bookcrossing.com/journal/2...>

Great fun. Highly fantastic, of course, but very enjoyable reading. Robert & Jemima were very likeable characters, & there was a bit of humour throughout.

Robert, Earl of Selborne, has a problem - relatives who did not consult each other before writing their wills!

The last will and testament of the late Earl of Selborne:

"My son is to choose a bride from amongst the young ladies present at the marriage of his cousin, Miss Anne Selborne, and is to marry one of them within four weeks of the wedding... Otherwise all unentailed properties and monies relating to the estate of Delaval will pass to my nephew..."

The last will and testament of the late Dowager Countess of Selborne:

"In order to prove himself worthy of his inheritance, I require that my grandson, Robert Selborne, demonstrate the same temperance in his private life as I shall expect him to do with his fortune... I am setting a condition of celibacy for one hundred days from the reading of this will..."

When Rob meets Jemima Jewell, the spirited daughter of a Master Sweep, he has the idea of making a marriage of convenience to meet the needs of both wills. Jemima has many talents - she can sweep a chimney, climb tall trees and speak the argot, but can she succeed as the wife of a peer? And can she meet the greatest challenge of all - that of making Rob love her?

Fina Andres Garcia says

Una historia entretenida pero algo floja, tiene que ser de las primeras que escribió, al principio cuesta engancharse, creo que también necesita algo de repaso por la editorial, hay muchas palabras juntas, guiones por en medio, letras que faltan, etc.

Lo mejor los dialogos, que se lee bastante rápido y el final, es una pena porque tiene muchos elementos para ser una gran historia.
