

To Love a Wicked Scoundrel

Anabelle Bryant

Download now

Read Online ➔

To Love a Wicked Scoundrel

Anabelle Bryant

To Love a Wicked Scoundrel Anabelle Bryant

Is there a Lady in the land that can resist this scoundrel's charms...?

At her step-mother's command, Isabelle – and her irrepressible step-sister Lily – are leaving the pleasantries of the English countryside behind them, and heading straight to the bustling heart of a London season. Isabelle couldn't care less about fashionable society, and is even less interested in the name on the lips of every ballroom gossip - Lord Constantine Highborough, reputedly a scoundrel of the highest order! But once he sets eyes on the stunningly beautiful Isabelle, London's most notorious rake knows exactly where to direct his devilishly bewitching smile.

And everybody knows that Constantine always gets what he wants, usually leaving a trail of broken hearts behind him...

To Love a Wicked Scoundrel Details

Date : Published April 9th 2014 by Carina


ISBN :

Author : Anabelle Bryant

Format : Kindle Edition 164 pages

Genre : Romance, Historical Romance, Historical, Historical Fiction, Adult

 [Download To Love a Wicked Scoundrel ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online To Love a Wicked Scoundrel ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online To Love a Wicked Scoundrel Anabelle Bryant

From Reader Review To Love a Wicked Scoundrel for online ebook

Amy Alvis says

Isabelle Rossmore's step-mother is demanding that they travel to London as she is ready to get rid of her widow's weeds. Since Isabelle doesn't want to be separated from her sister, she agrees to go. She soon meets a gentleman that peaks her interest. Unfortunately it's the man her step-mother has decided she wants to have an affair with.

Constantine (Con) Highborough, the Earl of Colehill, is smitten the first time he lays eyes on Isabelle. Unfortunately things go wrong and he ends up promising a dance to her step-mother instead of Isabelle.

Known as a scoundrel and a very eligible bachelor, Isabelle can't imagine what Con sees in her. She was told over and over again by her father that she was a disappointment to him. That along with other verbal abuses gave Isabelle a very low opinion of herself.

Having been abused by his father, Con has hardened his heart to everyone but his few closest friends. But as he opens up to Isabelle, he realizes that cracks are forming in that hardened heart of his. With the help of Lily, Isabelle's sister, Con eventually convinces Isabelle of his sincerity, but will a misunderstanding end it all?

I can not believe that this is the first book written by Anabelle Bryant. Her storytelling rivals any established author in the market and I look forward to reading many more books by her.

I absolutely LOVED this book. I really liked Isabelle and how she called out Con. He was so use to getting exactly what he wanted that he was a little shocked when Isabelle basically turned him down. But that didn't stop him. One reason that he got what he wanted was that he wasn't willing to back down from something once he started. He wanted Isabelle and he was going to do what he had to to get her.

Isabelle on the other had was almost the opposite. She had no idea what Con saw in her and couldn't believe that someone who could get anyone would want her. Con had to show her that she was special. Up to that point the only person to show Isabelle love was her sister, Lily. Con had to use all of his charm to convince Isabelle that he was sincere in his interest of her.

Isabelle and Con were perfect for each other. I can't wait to read more books by Anabelle Bryant and be consumed by her words. I just couldn't put the book down!

Thanks go to Carina UK via NetGalley for a copy of the book in exchange of an honest review.

Patty McKenna Van Hulle says

Anabelle Bryant

This story has a 6 year old Fairy Godmother in training, a likeable step-mother who wants a brief and

passionate affair, an Earl who gets knocked down a few pegs and a redhead female who doesn't want anything to do with London's Season.

Isabelle Rossmore is practical, quiet, reserve and loves nothing more than being in her colorful garden. Her father emotional abused her until he died. The Earl told her she was ugly with her red hair, unusual coloring, figure and that she was always a disappointment to him. Isabelle grew up to believe she was flawed. He remarried to Lady Melissa because he wanted a son. Melissa is a lively, exuberant and full of life, an exact opposite of Isabelle. The marriage was a disaster, but they had a daughter, Lily. Isabelle loves and cherishes Lily as her own. She doesn't want Lily to ever feel unloved like she did.

Constantine Highborough, the Earl of Colehill, is called a scoundrel and most eligible bachelor in the London's scandal sheets. The ton whispers that he can have anything he wants. Con is deeply scarred inside and out by his father's emotional and physical abuse. He is an illusionist by hiding himself under many layers. Con loves nothing better than painting (in secret) to bring color into his life. Con's life would be disorganized and lonely without his friend/valet Brooks. His only true friends, besides Brooks, are Devlin, a duke, and Phin, a viscount. No one has ever seen under his armor and he likes it that way.

Melissa wants to go to London for the Season because she wants to meet and hopefully capture Con for herself. She has memorized all the scandals that involved Con and Isabelle could care less about gossip. Isabelle doesn't want to go, but her 6 year old sister, Lily, and Melissa talk her into it. Con is in town and sees Isabelle across the ballroom. He finds her breathtaking and does the unthinkable, he asks a footman to delivery a dance invitation to her. The footman asks the wrong woman, Melissa, and things go so wacky after that. Without the help from bubbly, adorable and rambunctious Lily and her crazy button collection, Con and Isabelle would never keep bumping into each other. What will Melissa do if she finds out about Isabelle and Con? Will Isabelle be able to peel his many layers and find the true Con? Can Con proof to Isabelle that she is beautiful inside and out? Can they defeat the many obstacles coming at them? And let's not forget, did adorable Lily get a dormouse?

This book dealt with something that touches my heart, abuse. It's one difficult subject to write about. Only a handful of books that I have read, like "A Lady's Revenge" can do justice to the subject so well that I know in my heart that characters are healing! Now Ms. Bryant is one among the very few. I do not think Isabelle and Con would have healed without one another. Little hilarious and angelic Lily was the cherry on top of the sundae character for me. I laughed so hard it hurt with her developing MANNERS! Since we have a cherry, Brooks is the whipped cream. (Have I made you hungry yet!) He has a outrageous story about how Con and he meet. I don't want to spoil it for y'all. Of course is not a romance without the steamy, sensual and awesome scenes and Ms. Bryant does deliver. I am giving this book 4 fingers up and 8 toes.

Received a NetGalley ARC for honest review.

Heather andrews says

Con that boy is used to getting what he wants but I think he secretly likes that Isabelle is a challenge, "he scoffed at her suggestion. If the servants proved as unreliable as earlier, he'd have been left unsatisfied once again. Clearly, the fates intended otherwise. "I meant to waltz with you this evening." I mean the boy resorts to asking Isabelle's six year old sister questions about Isabelle, "does your sister have a beau?" He smirked as he voiced the question, unaccustomed to showing concern over male competition." Apparently Isabelle asks questions of her own and shocks Con, "what a waste of a question, love. You might have asked me if I sleep

in the nude. Or what lies behind the third door of your bedchamber?" Con is a sweet guy when it comes to Isabelle and her comfort for her first time, "love, do you think you can accept -" She smiled at him, a bewitching grin, and raised her hips in an impatient gesture. He slid inside fully. "- more of me." Con he doesn't like to beat around the bush, "can we put aside this wooing business? I have no patience for it. You are mine." His arms locked around her in a tight embrace. "You have my heart, and every other part of me. I want you back in my bed." I loved Con and I loved Isabelle and I loved their story.

R.C. Matthews says

This was a five star book for me all the way till the last 25% of the book.

Isabelle is a really heart-warming heroine. I love it that she was considered a 'spinster' at age 26 and wins over the catch of London. Her relationship with her stepsister Lily (6 years old) is enchanting. There were many moments of interaction between Lily and the other characters that had me giggling. Personally, I love it when secondary characters really come to life on the pages.

Constantine was a worthy hero - completely taken with Isabelle from the moment he set eyes on her. I'm always a fool for love at first sight so I hopped on for the ride. And what a ride it was. I loved these two together. And I especially enjoyed the fact that Isabelle was a bit unconventional and went against society's demands in order to savor a few lovely memories when she would be forced to leave London and return to her spinster life.

Both characters suffered through sad upbringings and my heart went out to them. And this made them kindred spirits. I always enjoy it when the characters have a secret passion, and Constantine's secret passion was great.

The story went down a path at the very end that seemed overly dramatic to me and unnecessary. I was tempted to skim the pages because I was irritated. However, I read every last word. All in all I really enjoyed this story and it kept me turning the pages to the very end.

Farrah says

A very sweet, delight of a romance, To Love a Wicked Scoundrel was a fantastic historical romance. I really liked this book and I really enjoyed reading it. It was a truly lovely book.

Isabelle was a wonderful heroine. She was very sensible and, thankfully, not prone to listening to gossip and making judgments based on it (with one exception). After being told by her father for all her life that she was plain, unfortunate, and unworthy, she had some serious self-esteem issues, but even so, she was tougher than she looked. She was a lovely character and I really liked her.

Constantine was amazing. He was a true charmer and it made him endearing right away. Like Isabelle, he had a terrible relationship with his father that affected him even to adulthood and it made him wary of emotional attachments. But, even with his hesitance, it was obvious that he was very sweet and rather adorable. I absolutely loved his character.

The romance was lovely. Isabelle and Constantine were so sweet together and a perfect match. The chemistry between them was simmering from when they first met and led to some steamy scenes. I thought they were a wonderful couple.

The plot was fast paced and I was hooked the entire way through. I really enjoyed the story and the ending was perfect.

To Love a Wicked Scoundrel was a delightful historical romance read. This book was sweet, enjoyable, and absolutely fantastic. Romance lovers, this is a must read book.

*I received a complimentary copy from the publisher in exchange for an honest review

Samantha Tonge says

I loved this book which was difficult to put down! The old-fashioned English style was easy-to-read and nicely set the tone of the story.

Would modest, virtuous Isabelle from the countryside fall for devilish Constantine, the handsome rake from London? The hero and heroine are highly appealing characters, each have suffered their own challenging childhood. But is this enough to bring and bind them together? You won't want to waste any time in finding out!

A gripping, erotic read, written sensitively and with panache. Isabelle's little sister, Lily, is adorable and whilst the sensual scenes are hot, hot, hot, it is overall a sweet romance read. Very enjoyable.

Christy English says

Anabelle Bryant's debut novel TO LOVE A WICKED SCOUNDREL is an absolute treat. I have been looking forward to this book for months, and I was not disappointed. Con is indeed a scoundrel and a rakehell, a man who loves nothing and no one, save for perhaps his secret painting. Painting all day, and carousing all night, Con is a man who burns the candle from both ends in a sort of endless, hopeless whirl that does not feed his soul.

Until he sees Isabelle, and everything changes.

I wish I could say that he is reformed the moment he meets her. I wish I could tell you that he does not plot to seduce her, that he does not kidnap her and carry her to his home in the country where they can be alone. I wish I could say he did not provide her with a beautiful wardrobe from Paris and other accoutrements of a mistress, which of course, Isabelle refuses to keep.

But if all the above was not true, there would be no need for Isabelle to tame him, would there? Pick up this book...I think you'll enjoy watching these two lovers get together as much as I did.

Amy ~ Love At 1st Read says

I can't begin to tell you my excitement when I realized Anabelle Bryant had a series I hadn't yet read. I quickly grabbed the set and now my summer will be complete. Any time I can snag one of her books, I feel like I've hit the jackpot. With her captivating plots, strong characters, vivid writing, and great historical detail, she truly makes writing an art form.

For Isabelle Rossmore, London was the last place she wished to visit. She much preferred the countryside to the London Season. But still she found herself accompanying her step-mother, Meredith, and her 6 year old step-sister, Lily, to the city. Meredith was tired of her widows weeds and meeting Constantine Highborough, the scoundrel she'd been following in all the scandal sheets was just what she needed. Isabelle doubted his rakish appeal was warranted, but once she met him, she too fell under his spell. This fallen angel with an easy, affable charm was completely at odds with the seducer of the scandal sheets. Still, she'd be wise to steer clear and ignore his attentions. Yet no matter how she demanded her body not react, it refused to obey. Lord Constantine Highborough, Earl of Colehill was adored by Society. The ton hung on his every word and trailed his every move. He was a man of little patience, accustomed to getting what he desired when he desired it. And when he saw the lovely and intriguing Isabelle Rossmore, he wanted her. But Isabelle wasn't like the many ladies willing to offer casual favors. With the others he'd always had the luxury of detachment. Emotion had never clouded his mind. But with Isabelle, he could lose his heart.

Just when I think I've found the perfect couple, Anabelle Bryant writes another book and I fall in love all over again. I absolutely adored Isabelle. She'd enjoyed her sensible, practical life in the country. She'd never thought it a dull life until she met Con. She quickly discovered he wasn't the reputed rakehell promoted by the papers. He was charming and kind. Isabelle had never thought herself pretty. Her father had always told her she was a disappointment. Unattractive. But with Con, she felt beautiful. All the things her father criticized her for, Con loved.

Con has to be one of the most loveable heroes I've ever read. His life was a result of his father as well. While society sang his father's praises, Con knew well the cruel treatment his father reserved for his family. Especially for Con. The adoration of the ton and the attentions of countless females "had given him everything he needed to ignore the hatred and contempt buried within him". His heart had been buried under years of resentment. But with Isabelle he found his heart again.

I think I was just as eager for each encounter as Isabelle and Con were. Their looks, touches, and flirtatious banter kept me breathless with anticipation. And when they kissed. Oh my! No one writes a kiss better than Anabelle Bryant. The pacing and the exquisite detail are breathtaking. Ms. Bryant's world building is extraordinary. Her books are utterly immersive. The dialogue, characters, and setting feel so authentic that I find myself smack in the middle of her world, forgetting all the mundane details of real life. I look for stories that are fun, steamy, and emotional all in one book and that's exactly what I found in *To Love A Wicked Scoundrel*. Like all of Ms. Bryant's books, this one left me with a smile on my face. A Book Obsessed Chicks Review Team Selection.

Brian Benson says

This was my first venture into the Historical Romance genre. I write, and usually read detective novels. My daughter advised me to expand my reading horizons. I'm glad I followed her advice. I won't soon forget Isabelle of Rossmore, Anabelle Bryant's main character. She has done a superb job, in this her first novel.

Rouges, Romance and a certain gray-eyed redhead have been my reading pleasure the past two days. Isabelle's 'amaranth tresses' have not been far from my mind. Bryant weaves a beautiful tapestry in this unfolding tale of romance set in London during the Regency Era. This lady definitely knows how to turn a phrase. Her writing certainly gave me a feeling for an era, I knew little about. I highly recommend this book to all my reading friends. Grab it, digest it, you will not be disappointed. Well done Ms. Bryant 5 stars....)

☞???? [Punya Reviews...] says

My review contains spoilers and they're mostly my thoughts as I went with the book... for more, visit [Punya Reviews...](#)

To Love A Wicked Scoundrel is a debut novel by Anabelle Bryant. I was quite impressed with the author's writing style because it was so seamlessly flowing. Though, at first, I had some issues with the storyline and its characters, I quite enjoyed reading it.

Isabelle has loved living in the country all her life. Though her father was a nobleman, she has never had any interest in the glittering world of London. It's probably because her mean father never once made it a secret that she was a sore disappointment for not being a boy. There was also times when he'd go and criticize her gangly appearance and plain looks. Isabelle grew up believing all these negativity about herself, now, at 26, thoroughly resigned to becoming a spinster. Her father, recently deceased, remarried a while ago. Isabelle's step-mother, Meredith, is much younger than him. They too have another daughter, Lily, who is now 6. Yes, Isabelle thought she's content to spend time in her garden, chasing Lily around the house or listening to her incessant chattering and curious questions; all things she loves and enjoys. But Meredith has another plan for them. Now that she's a widow, she wants to 'enjoy' life to the fullest. She has a target in her mind too- to peruse the alluring charmer and the favorite scoundrel of the Ton, the rakish Lord of Highborough, Constantine or Con, for a whirlwind affair. It's said in the broadsides that Con is well-known for his rakish pursuits of beautiful widows, if not for his splendid golden good-looks. So Meredith, being a beauty herself, thinks she has a good chance of starting her time in London with a bang!

Isabelle, on the other hand, has no interest in such things. She rather becomes worried once Meredith tells her of her plans. To Isabelle, Meredith should rather spend more time with Lily, but she has never really been much of a devoted mother. Lily more or less grew up with Isabelle acting as her parents. Not that Isabelle ever minded but a little girl needs her mother's attention more than anything. But Meredith puts forth some points, like wouldn't Isabelle want to enjoy some times out of this drab country life? Doesn't she want to visit London's ballrooms to enjoy the goings on? Since Isabelle never had a coming out, Meredith is very sympathetic. She somewhat forces Isabelle to come out of her cocoon and move to London with her for the next few months. But the fact is, Isabelle is both scared and tempted. She wants to go there, yet old vulnerabilities have done their work on her self-esteem. But when 'the force' in question is her step-mother, there's no stopping her. Hence, in a few days, Isabelle finds herself in London, in a rented house seated very conveniently opposite to the famous Lord Highborough's townhouse.

Our introduction to Con wasn't anything out of the ordinary. By all means, he's living the life of a charming rake to its fullest. Being the only heir, with his father now deceased, Con is also the Earl, and apparently, he doesn't care to settle down anytime soon. If possible, not ever, even if to beget an heir to continue the line. Though the broadsides somewhat exaggerate the number of his conquests and escapades, Con is by no means a saint. Many of those stories are true. He loves women and will have a good time with what's offered to him. He has tasted the charms of many glamorous courtesans and beautiful widows, the Ton loves him for

his elegance and golden good-looks. By all means, he is living every man's dream! But what is the real Con like deep inside? It's a question Con would never answer to anyone, ever, because he doesn't want to face the *real* Con, the vulnerable one who wants nothing to do with this lifestyle. Even though everything is done so that he can forget certain things about his past, it seems his process of doing so has not been successful of late.

Con sees Isabelle for the first time in a ball and he falls head over heels. No, he doesn't acknowledge it as such but as mere lust for a beautiful woman. I wasn't very impressed by his very determined pursuit of Isabelle, even knowing she's a virgin and a spinster. Because, honestly, I didn't think he had anything more than seduction in his mind. Isabelle, on the other hand, proves to be way too naïve for my liking for a 26 years old. I didn't know where this is going with *that* naïve heroine and this too rakish hero who probably has no honest intentions.

Though her meeting with Con remains somewhat of a secret at first (because it was rather accidental), Isabelle doesn't confide in him of her true identity, thinking she'd never see him again. But she recognizes him instantly when Con introduces himself. His charm, good-looks and his bold appraisal of her, when she has always known herself to be 'plain', tilts Isabelle's much mundane existence. She falls in total infatuation with him. I'd stress 'infatuation' because, as I mentioned, she was too naïve to even contemplate the word 'rakes' and what they can do. Please remember, I still wasn't that into Con, no matter how many times the author drummed in his good-looks into the narratives. I don't fall for rakes that easily. It needs more convincing than good-looks and charming words. Together, I was rather suspicious *and* apprehensive of what was to come next.

In between, we come to learn that Con is an artist. He loves to paint but has no plans of letting the world know about it. Only his staff members, especially his valet Brooks, know about this secret endeavor of his. When a big compilation of his recent art-work is stolen, Con starts an investigation, which leads him to the British Museum. Even that he uses in his continued mission of charming Isabelle into his bed.

Intrigued by this beauty, whom he has tend think of as a 'Goddess', Con asks his valet to find more information on Isabelle. Soon he learns that she lives just next door. Lily, the sweet and ever curious child, proves to be a bridge, even when Isabelle was trying hard to show she doesn't care. In truth, she cared too much. Her heart would beat faster when Con was nearby. And he was nearby too often. Next we find Con paying calls in their townhouse. At that point, Isabelle has become an obsession for him too. He needs to see her every day, using any excuse he can dredge up. Soon things went to kisses and fondlings, to secret midnight meetings. Though Isabelle wants to 'give herself' to this man she thinks she has fallen in love with, she knows the outcome would be devastating. It'd break her heart for sure because he probably doesn't feel the same... In that one midnight meeting, when I was sure Con this time will charm her into his bed, Isabelle, quite reluctantly, decides she can't go through it.

Meredith, at first, being the flighty woman she is, thought Con's calls are meant for her. But the truth comes out quickly when it became apparent that Con and Isabelle can't keep their eyes off of each-other. She becomes mad as a hell cat, calling Isabelle names, that she had ruined her 'fun'. I was pretty pissed at her because she was being completely childish. She pinches on to Isabelle's old wounds about her looks and what a disappointment she has always been. That was way too much. Then Meredith commands that Isabelle leave for the country because she can't bear to see her around anymore. Isabelle, heartbroken, alone and feeling the burden of guilt, prepares for the journey.

On the way, Isabelle is in for a huge surprise. What she thought was the attack of a highwayman turns out to be the kidnapping of her lifetime! Con appears like a highwayman and whisks her away to his estate nearby.

I was rather unsure of this development; especially because Isabelle was over the cloud to see Con again, when she thought she never would. After receiving the news through Brooks, Con had only one thing in his mind, to get to her. Pretty heroic, right? But I still wasn't sure of Con's intentions. And knowing how much of an infatuation Isabelle had for him (it was always his 'manly beauty' and 'dazzling smiles' that stuck her speechless, over and over again), which I didn't think was the basis of a solid relationship. To my utter dismay, Isabelle does sleep with Con, thinking it's 'that one and only time' when she gets to taste heaven in the arms of the man she loves. I was surprised she didn't think of the consequences, namely an unwanted pregnancy, if not her own reputation.

But Con did. And he begins feeling guilty that he has somehow taken advantage of this girl. Earlier, when one of Isabelle's elderly relatives warns Con about his pursuit, he got angry. The old woman, knowing his womanizing, asked him to shift his attentions to Meredith instead, cause she's the type of 'fun' he loves to have. But Con has already made up his mind because he has begun to think Isabelle as his *own*, however insane that sounded. Though Con could be a big baby at times, and expect to have his way no matter, this struck a chord; especially when the matron tells him that she has a suitor for Isabelle in her mind, someone older and more grounded than Con. He can't even imagine Isabelle marrying a man so old that he must look like her father! And so, taking Isabelle in his estate to cure himself of this itch seemed to be the only solution. But that's not how things end, for when Isabelle was about to leave, Con had no intentions of letting her slip away. If possible, ever. He promises to come for her soon and have a talk about what has transpired between them.

The author, meanwhile, gradually began revealing the bits and pieces of Con's past and *why* he had scars under his beautiful blonde hair. Just why he doesn't believe in love or anything that deep or intimate. Why he's scared of falling in love... and yet, for the first time, with Isabelle he probably has. Apparently, Con's life wasn't as perfect and privileged as should've been for the only child and heir of an Earl. His father was a brute and abused him often when he was young. Con never forgot and grew up disillusioned. When Isabelle learned of this while staying at his estate, her heart broke for him. They have something in common after all. Con felt the urge to confide in her things he had never told anyone before. The only woman to whom he's ready to show his *real* self.

Isabelle, the only woman who has ever shown him 'light' with her artless innocence.

When Isabelle was on her way home, news arrives of Lily's illness. Very worried over it, she returns to London. Thankfully, in the meantime, we find Meredith not holding any grudge anymore. Her daughter's grave illness has shaken her to the core. This time Meredith seemed rather mellow, being more of a mother to Lily than she has been in the past.

In London, Isabelle sees Con again but they don't have a chance to talk about their relationship. But Con is in love and he wants marry Isabelle. It was that simple to him. Can you tell I was more and more beginning to feel for him, not only because of his vulnerabilities that was so achingly portrayed, but also because of his determination of having Isabelle in his life? Against all odds, even when no one believed that he's capable of tender feelings, not even his friends. He gets annoyed when he hears that the only suitor Isabelle had in that quaint little village, Lord Lutts, has proposed to her. Lutts was, however, gotten rid of rather conveniently for my choice at the end of the story. I personally didn't think Lutts's sudden proposal and riddance added anything interesting to the story. To taste Con's patience, that old relative of Isabelle's brings in the other old suitor to meet her as the story progressed. Con couldn't believe the competition! LOL But that man was also gotten rid of soon enough.

But fate was going to intervene and not make it as easy for them. Con's art-collection is found and he

becomes involved in a rather messy affair with the individual who stole it. It lands him in jail. He spends a couple of days there, having to depend upon his 3 other close friends to get him out. His friends, for the first time, could see Con's desperation and restlessness to reach this elusive woman. But the time wasted here, unfortunately, creates a misunderstanding between him and Isabelle, for Con is finally out of jail, he finds she has already left London.

It was all because of *that* particular news in the gossip sheets which effectively shatters Isabelle's world. Something she has always been secretly scared of. Apparently, a woman, one of Con's past lovers, has proclaimed that she's pregnant with his baby and it's all over London. Dejected, Isabelle promptly decides to leave London, thinking she was just another in the long list of Con's conquests. Little Lily has already been charmed by Con and his dazzling smiles, gifts of paintings and what not. She pouts about it but Isabelle can't stay here anymore. Meredith, on the other hand, suddenly transforms into the wiser of the two. When a letter from Con arrives explaining why he's being delayed, Isabelle destroys it without reading. Meredith warns her that she might regret it later. Indeed Isabelle does, not knowing that Con has already met with that woman and it has been confirmed by the physician that the baby is not his. She also never learns that he has spent the past week in jail, all the while impatient to be with her.

This time I was annoyed at Isabelle's swift judgment of Con. If she loved him that much, she wouldn't have sneaked away the way she did. It was just not done when the man in question needed her understanding. Which is why I kept thinking, was she *really* in love with him? TBH, even till the end, I was more convinced of Con's feelings, rather than Isabelle's because of the way he shows it in the end. He rides hard and fast to reach to Isabelle, to convince her of his feelings and intentions. He's the one who asks for her forgiveness. I was only glad that Isabelle doesn't make him wait in misery, granting him his heart's wish soon thereafter.

I also appreciated that the author made me have a total change of heart where Meredith was concerned, so much so, now I want her story too! As she realized just how deep things have gotten between Isabelle and Con, Meredith was the one who encourages Isabelle to give him a chance. I loved that finally she thought that she must explain exactly *why* Isabelle's 'father' was such a complete a\$\$hole to her, a secret that he never divulged until Meredith's prodding. She has always been concerned about his treatment of Isabelle but sworn into secrecy, she never could tell until he passed away. It was a shock to Isabelle but at last, she could come to terms with a few things and make peace with her life. Then there was Con's complete surrender to her.

I do believe, in the end, everything turned out to be for the best for everybody, especially true for little Lily, now that Con is her brother-in-law. :p Good story. The next, Duke Of Darkness, is of one of Con's friends' book. I'm hoping to catch up on that soon. 4 solid stars and very much recommended!

This ARC was provided to me by Carina UK via [netgalley](#) which didn't influence my review and rating in any way.

Brittany says

I received this from NetGalley in exchange for an honest review. I just loved this. I could not put it down and finished it in a few hours. It was such an engaging, fun, steamy read. I loved how Con and Isabelle's relationship grows and finally flourishes. This was a great read!!

Nemo says

For a full and edited review go to: <http://booksandbree.blogspot.com/2014...>

3.5 Wicked stars

Even though I have seen *Pride and Prejudice* more times than I can remember, I have never read a historical romance. I'm happy to say it won't be the last! I liked Isabelle and Constantine (I always thought that was a girl's name) and every other supporting character. Even though the story was centered around the romance there were still surprises and twists which added a dash of much needed spice.

Lord Constantine Highborough was known as a rakehell, and he had no intentions of marriage or even of loving someone until he met Isabelle. From there he became obsessed with her and nobody else could compare.

"He told me his heart does not work like other people's, his is broken and cannot love"

Isabelle on the other hand had constantly been told by her father how useless and ugly she was, she had HUGE daddy and self-esteem issues.

"Your father was right. You are nothing but a disappointment."

Which was something odd about the book, her father is talked about a lot but we never get to meet him. We just hear stories about how awful he was. Another thing that was weird was that Isabelle's step sister was only 6 yet she was "Intuitive beyond her years".

Other than those 2 things the book was okay, it wasn't the best book I've ever read but it also wasn't the worst. It was pretty basic there was no specific moment that made me squeal and go

"THEY'RE ADORABLE" if anything a lot of the time I was skipping pages because it was all the same. That being said it wasn't a shallow book, both Isabel and Constantine had been abused by their fathers, physically and emotionally, which led to their attraction not only being about looks.

Amanda Richardson says

I really liked this book. Isabelle and Constantine were such fun to read about. Isabelle feels like she is on the shelf at 26, when her stepmother, Meredith, convinces her to go to London after they mourn her father. Meredith at only 30 is a very young widow and has decided that she wants to have a fling with Constantine while in London because she reads so much about him in the scandal sheets.

At one of their first ball's Constantine sees Isabelle, is immediately entranced, and sends a footman to find her and put his name on her dance card. Footman makes a mistake and thinks Constantine wants to dance with Meredith, but Constantine meets Isabelle later in the library and does his best to kiss her. Constantine

wants to be with Isabelle more and more and Meredith is still working to get Constantine to notice her, which he isn't at all interested.

The situation ends up coming between Isabelle and Meredith and Constantine waylays Isabelle on her way back to the country and asks her to spend two days with him. Lovely story about a scoundrel and a girl who thinks she isn't good enough for him falling in love with each other. Love scenes took a while in coming, but they were at the right time and they were really good. I would like to read more by this author, really good story!

I received a complimentary copy from NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

Love Reading Romance says

Isabelle would rather be at home in the country with her garden, but her step-mother, Meredith, is determined to drag her along to the London season. Meredith has a plan for their time in London: she is going to seduce Lord Constantine Highborough, the city's most notorious scoundrel, but after only one ball, it is Isabelle who has caught his eye.

At a glance, Isabelle and Constantine make up one of my favorite heroine/hero combos: the reluctant goody-two-shoes spinster and the terribly naughty, terribly sexy rogue. Isabelle only agrees to join her step mother in London because she wants to look after her young step sister, and her relationship with her sister is really one of the sweetest highlights of this novel. Isabelle is cautious and caring, not only to her little sister. She supports her step-mother, despite having very different views on the world, which is why it is troublesome when she begins to fall for the man her step-mother is after.

She can't deny her attraction to Constantine, however, as he proves to be nothing like the gossip pages allege. He has a sweet side, cares for her little sister and despises the attention of London society. He is also a secret artist. Constantine certainly has a wicked side, with which he gained his reputation. He's happy to break rules if it means he can get closer to Isabelle.

Though I really liked both Isabelle and Constantine, some of their romance did fall a little flat for me. Their time together, especially with Isabelle's sister, is very sweet and makes them endearing, and they have a definite chemistry I've come to love in these roguish romances. However, there is a big focus on Isabelle's "innocence" which is something that always squicks me out a little - of course, it's worth noting that this will appeal to a lot of other readers. I also felt at one point like Constantine prioritized his paintings over his romance with Isabelle, which seems an odd misstep for this subplot.

All the same, this is an enjoyable romance, and I have to give props to Anabelle Bryant for the authenticity of the setting. To Love a Wicked Scoundrel is well researched and the historical details really add to the story.

More reviews at: <http://www.readingromance.com>

Robyn Koshel says

I devoured this book in one sitting. I thought “To love a wicked scoundrel” was a sumptuous period romance with all the opulence of a BBC costume drama.

Isabelle isn’t a silly little chit; she is a woman who know her own mind and won’t compromise just to land a husband.

Con- Rake or Rogue? He certainly acts like a rogue and likes to give the impression of both; but underneath, he is neither. I got the feeling her is a completely different man- as you will find out later.

Con and Isabelle’s first encounter was electric; I got goosebumps with anticipation. Isabelle enchants Con; his desire and wooing of her is just so enticing. I wished I was Isabelle myself a few times. To love a wicked scoundrel is a very steamy romance and utterly delicious.

This is the kind of book you wake up early to read on a spring morning, and read in the garden with a cup of tea. solitude and yummy treats is all you need for this wonderful experience.

To love a wicked scoundrel is a scintillating debut by Anabelle Bryant and one thing is clear- she understands passion. I eagerly await the next Anabelle Bryant book.
