



Miss Treadwell's Talent

Barbara Metzger

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Finders Keepers

One-and-twenty and still unwed, Maylene Treadwell has a talent for finding people and things, but not husbands. High-spirited and unconventional, she is more a worthy adversary than a blushing bride--a fact made all too clear to the Earl of Hyatt when he comes to call. Well-favored, wellbred, and well-financed, the Earl is nicknamed "The Ideal" by an enraptured society, especially those members with daughters to wed. But his long bachelorhood has ended in an engagement that may end in a mystery, for his fiancée has disappeared

Upon meeting the boorish earl, Maylene is convinced the girl ran off with good reason ...until his lips claim hers in a breathtaking kiss! Caught off her guard, Maylene believes she has lost her mind as well as her manners. But she and the nonplused nobleman form a heated alliance, sparring with words and succumbing to passion. Soon, Maylene begins to curse her inborn talent because the more time she spends in the Earl's embrace, the more she wishes his betrothed to remain lost.

Miss Treadwell's Talent Details

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Author : Barbara Metzger

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From Reader Review Miss Treadwell's Talent for online ebook

Mary says

The 'talent' part of the book is a bit thin on the ground but boy was the bickering fun!

Mary says

A funny, clever read.

Kathy * Bookworm Nation says

3.5

It had been a while since I read a Metzger regency and thought this one sounded like fun. Her books are usually hit or miss for me. I thought this was a fun and entertaining read, with a light romance. I enjoyed the unique plot (our heroine's mother is a psychic) and filled with quirky characters (clients).

The overall story was cute, I did think the séances were a tad repetitive. I would have enjoyed more scenes with Maylene actually doing the leg work. I did like how the Treadwell women really came together and found a way to support themselves after the death of Lord Treadwell, who had left them with basically nothing.

Lord Hyatt never quite won me over. He could be pretty rude to Maylene and I thought she should have made him work for things a bit harder. I would have liked to see a sincere apology from him. I did love that she'd dish it right back and stood up to him though. I did enjoy how he basically fell for her right from the start, but didn't understand what was happening. He just couldn't keep himself away from her! In the end, they will probably make a good match of things.

Overall, if you're looking for a more unique storyline than the traditional regencies, this is a good one to pick up. Charming and lighthearted.

Content

Romance: Clean, just kissing. Mention of mistresses

Language: Mild

Violence: None-mild

Religious: None

Source: Amazon

Susannah Carleton says

Delightful! A charming tale, with interesting characters, mysteries solved by unusual means, and love found by seemingly unlikely couples.

Yue says

A light, fluffy traditional regency romance, with colorful characters and a touch of paranormal. Maylene, her mother and aunt run a house that holds seances. There they are visited by several characters that want to talk to their dead relatives or find lost love ones. Socrates -what a name for a hero!- Hyatt is a distrusted rake that is there with his soon-father-in-law to find his lost fiancée.

I liked the banter between Maylene and Hyatt. I also liked that there is never a dull moment; there is always a seance, or a ball, or a walk in the park, or a short trip to Bath. And it is never just Maylene and Hyatt alone, but always surrounded by the secondary characters.

It is a mostly clean romance, meaning, no more than kisses. But also "mostly" because there are several mentions of mistresses (like Hyatt's) and more than a few less-than-chaste kisses between Hyatt and Maylene. Their attraction to each other is very passionate.

I did not like the way they ended up telling each other they love the other. Like, it was a bit out of nowhere. They are discussing and fighting and trying to deny their attraction, and then they are confessing their love and discussing their marriage. That part was a bit MEH.

Lyuda says

3.5 stars. If you want to take a break from angst-soaked romances and looking for something light and funny, don't miss this book. It has delightful 'love/hate' sparring of main characters, witty one-liners, and tightly executed although somewhat farcical plot.

Annette says

Maylene Treadwell and her mother have seances to earn a living. Lord Treadwell was a gambler and a ladies man who spent their money and left them in need of making a living.

Socrates, the Earl of Hyatt is the IDEAL. Not only a perfect looking gentleman but also a perfectly correct man of the ton.

Soc knows for a fact that Lady Treadwell and Maylene are cheats, social climbers, con artists, and basically evil. He is wrong on every count.

Lady Treadwell tries to help people who need help - she offers sound solutions to those who have loved ones who have passed away.

Maylene finds things. She is a logical person who solves puzzles and helps find items that are lost. At times what is lost are people.

This is a fun book. The relationship between mother and daughter is quite obviously reversed. Mother acts like an impetuous child and Maylene manages to keep them from starving.

The relationship between Maylene and Soc is filled with humor and events which appear to be one funny accident after another. They argue at the same time being very attracted to one another. Both find the mutual attraction bothersome and in spite of themselves are unable to do anything about it.

All the secondary characters are wonderfully colorful and add to the texture of the story. In each relationship we know what the eventual outcome will be, but the journey to the outcome is a wonderful one.

I am a huge fan of Barbara Metzger's writing. Her books are well plotted, with wonderful characters and humor which makes every book enjoyable.

If you like laughter with your romance, this is a book you will enjoy.

Frances says

Miss.....

Maybe I have read too many of these books by Metzger, either they are getting better or I am becoming less discerning.

Angelyn says

This book was clean and very funny. After her father loses their fortune and dies, Miss Treadwell's mother becomes a psychic but Miss Treadwell's detective work is behind her mothers success. Very fun book.

kris says

Miss Treadwell's mother can speak to the dead. Miss Treadwell can find things. Socrates is an Earl and Very Unimpressed. They fall in love while searching for his absentee fiancée!

The fantastical was not as well done with *Miss Treadwell's Talent* as it was with *The Scandalous Life of a True Lady*. Especially as so much of the plot hinges on finding the missing Belinda--and her whereabouts are exposed in the first few chapters. It made the rest of the pointless searching fall exceptionally flat because SHE WAS IN BRIGHTON! AND MARRIED! COME ON!

Watching fools flail about needlessly is never that entertaining, methinks.

I wanted more of Miss Treadwell's supposed logical intelligence, and more of Socrates's sensual feeling-spllosion. That sort of disparity intrigues me, and I think it would have made their relationship much more

interesting.

kate says

A Soft 5

I love farce and I spent summers with my aunt who ran a boarding house and read tea leaves in the front parlor in Asbury Park N.J. near the boardwalk. So this one hit close to home. Made me laugh out loud. You might want to deduct a star if your favorite aunt wasn't "talented".

Pina says

I read this book a couple of years ago and I remember laughing out loud a lot!!

Fluttershy says

Loved it! Very fun.

Camy says

A fun, light, funny romance. There were a few coincidences and the story is a little bit farcical, which I usually don't care for, but not so ridiculous that I wanted to stop reading. In fact, it was very entertaining the entire way through. The dialogue has some really funny lines that made me laugh. A very engaging story from Metzger.

QNPoohBear says

3.5 stars

Miss Maylene Treadwell's Papa died leaving she and her mother penniless. With no great beauty or dowry to attract the gentlemen, May remains unwed and perilously close to being on the shelf at one-and-twenty. Her mother sees to enriching the family coffers by holding seances in her home. Visitors must pay a contribution to the "Fund for Psychical Research" if they wish to contact their loved ones beyond. Lady Tremont's conduit to the spirit world is a mysterious male named Max, who helps her locate those she wishes to contact. May secretly thinks her mother's so-called "talent" is phony but as long as they're helping people find happiness, that's all that matters. May has her own talent. She's a finder. Her mother believes Maylene's talent is akin to her own but May knows she finds things due to intelligence and hard work. She's even asked to track down a Duke's missing heir. When the Duke of Mondale's daughter Belinda, the almost fiance of

Socrates, the Earl of Hyatt goes missing, he thinks Lady Tremont and Maylene can help. Soc scoffs at the idea and proceeds to insult Lady Tremont, her talent and Maylene. That sets May's back up and she engages in a battle of sexes and a battle of wills with Soc to see who is right. Soc is so confused by this young woman who looks like she has a lamb on her head. She infuriates him and he believes she's a scheming social climber; yet he can't stop thinking about her and kissing her. May knows that the one known as the Ideal is only trifling with her. Everyone knows he keeps the most expensive high flyers. She's mortified that her mother is flinging her at Soc's head and even more embarrassed that she enjoys his kisses.

The plot is very unique. It's not super historically accurate though, it reads more Victorian or modern with a few Regency references tossed in for good measure. I liked the spiritualist aspect of the story and I was really surprised by the epilogue. I learned to rethink my views of spiritualists and mediums. I really liked the mystery angle though I figured out right away where the missing people were. The audience is keyed in to that pretty early on too. The plot would have been more interesting if that was not known. The love story doesn't work for me, however, because I loathed the hero. I'm not marking this one as kisses only because there is some subtle sensuality, talk of mistresses, etc. and some implied passionate kissing. It's perfectly free of anything smutty and not even as skirting the edge as some of her other novels.

Soc is arrogant, rude and insulting. Not only does he barge in where he's told the ladies are not receiving, he is downright insulting and rude to his hostess! He insults Maylene without knowing who she is, which I find incredibly rude, and continues to voice his opinions even after her identity is known. He's impatient to keep an assignation with his mistress and everyone knows he's a notorious womanizer. He's passionate without being kind and loving. He continues to misjudge May's motives, even near the end after he realized he was in love. I would have liked him better if he had come to the realization that she was not what he initially believed her to be. He does have a few good points but mostly I hated him.

Maylene is the type of heroine I enjoy. She's intelligent and resourceful without being too modern. She wants to marry for love but she knows that's not a possibility and is pragmatic about it. She loves her mother, despite her mother's embarrassing tendencies and treats everyone as an equal. She can outwit the hero any day! I don't think they're a good match. They're both very fiery and though they won't be bored, I don't think there's enough love and trust yet.

The secondary characters are fabulous as only Metzger can create them. She uses the dog/s differently in this book than in any of her others. It was a little surprising and strange but also very funny. Aunt Regina is a hoot and would be friends with Kathleen Baldwin's Aunt Honore. Lady Tremont is also quite amusing. I admire her for making the best out of a situation. Her plot is quite sweet and touching though it's also funny. Lord Shimpson, the brainless Mama's boy adds a lot of humor as well. His Grace of Mondale is a modern father and I'm willing to let his feelings slide because Belinda is his only child and it's a time period when children were beginning to be valued and allowed to have opinions.
