



Cullen's Bride

Fiona Brand

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PREGNANT WITH HIS CHILD...

When Rachel Sinclair met former agent Cullen Logan, she was all too aware of his dark past. Soon, though, she was falling in love with him, reputation or no reputation. But Cullen wasn't so easy to convince, even once she announced she was pregnant -- with his child. ...

DADDY WITH A PAST

Cullen knew that being with him was probably the most dangerous choice she could make. He also knew that the only honorable thing to do was marry her. But being around Rachel made Cullen all too aware that the only thing more dangerous than his past was the danger she posed to his heart.

Cullen's Bride Details

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From Reader Review Cullen's Bride for online ebook

Aayesha Khatri says

I DON'T KNOW WHY I PUT MYSELF THROUGH THIS TORTURE. Harlequins and Silhouettes aren't generally known for their good writing BUT I KEEP READING THEM. Ugh. This one was worse than usual. And yet, YET, I still keep going back to Harlequins. Stupid me, huh? You can say that again. I don't know what it is about them that pulls me. Maybe it's just hope that one day, one day, I'll find another 5 star like that Contaxis or Bride or whatever its name was. Maybe it's just because I enjoy reading about the tortured, self-deprecating TDH guys. Maybe it's the sex. Maybe (this is the most likely one) I just want something I can finish quickly, something to read during times as these (exam-time, see). It's just that I so desperately miss reading during my exams and I suppose that ANYTHING would do, even awful books like this one. But in all fairness, I *LOVED* the guy to bits. Loved him, loved him, loved him.

I cannot express my dislike for the author's writing. She was honestly one of the worst I've read. There was no sequence or flow to the context or the conversations, she put inappropriate words in EVERY sentence (I'm presuming a thesaurus was put to great use) and the writing just had 'WRONG' written all over it. The only redeeming point was Cullen *swoon* My wonderful, tortured, abused, amazing man. I loved him. AND I HATED LAUREL OR WHATEVER HER NAME WAS FOR BEING SUCH A BLIND, SELFISH B****. I mean, STOP COMPLAINING ABOUT HOW BAD YOU'VE GOT AND LOOK AT *HIM*, WOMAN!!

Look at how amazing a guy he is! Look at how much he's willing to sacrifice for YOU AND THE BABY!!! Look at how he's torturing himself, look beneath the 'hard, cold granite wall' he puts up! I honestly hated her. And not only that, BUT SHE WENT ON ABOUT HOW SHE WAS WILLING TO 'FIGHT' FOR HIM. And what does she do? Sit and complain and feel sorry for herself and tell herself that she WAS going to fight.

[image error]

God. Awful heroines. I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THEM. WHY CAN'T THEY ALL BE NICE AND SWEET AND STRONG AND TRUSTING AND TOUGH LIKE GARWOOD'S OLDER NOVEL HEROINES??? WHYYYYYYY???

Danielle The Book Huntress (Back to the Books) says

I just picked this book up on a whim, but boy did Cullen win me over. He is hot hot hot. I loved the story of these two who don't expect to find love, much less together. If you like Linda Howard's earlier series books you'll love this one.

MBR says

Fiona Brand is an author whose name gets associated with that of Linda Howard. I have always heard that she has a similar writing style to that of one of my favorite authors of the romance genre and that is one reason why I picked up Cullen's Bride to sample her writing. And of course a lot of raving reviews of the book by my Goodreads friends had me buying my very first Fiona Brand and indulging in it as soon as I could.

27 year old Rachel Sinclair returns back to the small town of Riverbend after a divorce that had completely shattered with plans to turn her life around. Now the owner of a hair salon, Rachel doesn't expect much trouble from her sleepy hometown until she experiences otherwise. To her rescue comes 33 year old Cullen Logan, Riverbend's one time bad boy and outlaw turned military man and still an outcast in his hometown.

The attraction that flares up between Rachel and Cullen is an immediate and a strong one at that, one that Fiona weaves so cleverly throughout the story. Rachel might have grown up with 4 overprotective half brothers who had tried to shield her from the reality that is life. But Rachel is a grown up woman, a woman who is determined in her efforts to live her own life on her own terms. Even when all her survival instincts tells her to flee in the opposite direction whenever she is around Cullen, her heart and other emotions that would like nothing better than to be claimed by the big, tough and a little bit rough around the edges former bad boy wants nothing more than to embrace him heart, body and soul.

Cullen is haunted by the very thought of sullying up the beautiful and dainty Rachel with his touch, his distrust for himself something he has lived with for a long time. But the need that takes a hold of him whenever he runs into Rachel is one that grows in its intensity from one encounter to the next until its very explosive against-the-wall culmination that changes both Cullen and Rachel's lives forever.

I love it when a book is filled with sexual tension that just grows exponentially until I can barely remember to breathe while reading. And Cullen's Bride turned out to be a book that delivered extremely well on that aspect from the very sexy Cullen Logan who just seems to fill up the pages with his mere presence. He is what you would call a tortured and tormented hero whose childhood had been nothing but disappointment and his rebellious attitude as a teenager that had stemmed from his frustration with just how meaningless his life had been. The military had been the one place where Cullen had fit in and it had molded him into a more dangerous version of the man he had been, one that is more alluring because even with that iron-clad control of his, nothing can change the fact that underneath all that civilized demeanor lies a man who is wild in his passions for the right woman.

I loved Rachel from the very start. From the way she pets and strokes the huge bear of a man who sends all her emotions into a tailspin to the way she stands up for what she wants and believes in and because Rachel knows when to advance and retreat in her mission to win the love of the one man who is reluctant to do just that made me fall for her big time! She matches Cullen in every way and is exactly what he wants and needs, even protecting him from the unjust voices in her hometown from making him feel unwelcome.

Tying up this story of need, red-hot desire with a reluctant hero and a determined heroine is a tad of suspense that just makes it a well rounded tale of romance very hard to put down. The one thing that the Kindle version of this book could have used though was a good editor; seriously some out of this world editing errors throughout the book that kept hindering with my enjoyment of the story.

If you love a hot, tortured hero who just makes your toes curl, Cullen's Bride is the book for you. I seriously dare you not to dream that you are Rachel the minute the heat is on!

Rating=4.25/5

Original review posted on MBR's Realm of Romance

My quotes included below the review!

Kimberly says

I read this book as part of the Blogger Bundle Volume IX. It was okay.

I didn't want to throw things while I was reading it which isn't always the case. It's an older book so there's a lot of I can't stand you, but let's have sex and get married anyway. It was written well. I wouldn't read it again, but I didn't think I was wasting my time reading it.

I had to remind myself it was set in New Zealand a few time. The setting was definitely not a character in the book so to speak. It could have been set anywhere and made sense as a cowboy romance. I'm not a big cowboy romance fan so I probably wouldn't have bought this on its own, but I could become a fan with additional exposure.

It took me a day to read this at lunch and between work tasks (software updates that were hurry up and wait - I'm not as big a slacker as I appear). It was a diversion and sometimes that's all that's needed to make for a good day.

Crista says

I know I'm a little behind (this series started in 1999!), but several people that love Linda Howard, like I do, have highly recommended Ms. Brand's SAS series. Cullen's Bride is the beginning.

I loved it!

This is a book that I couldn't put down. It was interesting, had some suspense, and featured a "to die for" hero. Cullen Logan has known little about family or love. Abandoned by his mother and raised by an abusive alcoholic father.....he's got issues. He believes that he has "his father" in him and vows to never harm a female or a child the ways his father did. He vows to never get involved, never marry, and certainly never have a child.

Rachel Sinclair has also known isolation. After her mother dies in childbirth and her father distances from her to deal with the pain...she's got some issues. She is newly divorced from her cheating husband when fate brings Cullen into her life.

I won't ruin this book by telling lots of details, but I will say that Cullen doesn't come around quickly. He fights his feelings for Rachel...and then fights some more and some more. She never gives up, and is turning

his life, and home, upside down while he fights his feelings...a loosing battle:)

The conclusion is so special. Cullen, more than many hero's I've read, deserved this happily ever after.

MelissaB says

Cullen took a little too long to get his act together for my taste. His inability to see and acknowledge how his actions hurt the heroine until the bitter end made him seem selfish in my eyes. Yes the ending was good but I hate it when a woman has to go through a pregnancy without the love and caring of a man. It makes me want to remove the jerk's testicles with a spoon, but this might be left over anger from Sarah's Child by Linda Howard because that is what this scenario reminds me of.

I wish the couple would have had more moments in the book where they were actually together and happy. The hero pushed the heroine away every time she tried to get closer, to the point where I was tired of seeing her feeling hurt and unwanted. If the hero would have gotten his act together sooner, I would have liked it much better. So the story was okay but I wanted a hero who wasn't quite so screwed up emotionally but I guess in the end he was supposed to be magically better but I was disappointed that I didn't really see their relationship grow because he spent the entire book avoiding her. Some parts of the book were good, I liked the New Zealand setting and the interaction between Cullen and his men.

SheLove2Read says

Felt like I was reading a Diana Palmer book! Luckily I'm a closet DP fan so this was great. Arrogant uber alpha male and somewhat less-than-spunky female. I so wanted to tell Cullen to get over it and/or tell Rachel to leave his butt in the dust!

Stacey (Sassy Book Lovers) says

Another one of my all time favorite books. I've read this one so many times and plan on reading it many more. It's a story of hot passionate love, it'll have your toes curling.

ReneeW says

3.5 stars (B-)

Hilcia says

4.5 Stars

This was Fiona Brand's first category romance (1999) and the first book in her SAS series (a re-read for me).

It's a wonderful book set in New Zealand with a hot, bad boy hero whose childhood was hell! He pulled himself through, left town and came back to work the family farm. Rachel is a strong woman and female protagonist. She grew up with her father and four brothers after her mom died, so she knows what it's like to deal with overly macho and protective males. I loved their story. There's a bit of a mystery and lots of fighting of feelings on Cullen's part while Fiona fights for them. Brand's writing was excellent in this book with great characterization and plotting, plus her descriptions of the setting pulled me right into the story. I felt as if I were right there with Rachel and Cullen experiencing the storms, floods and breezes in the farm or the town.

Jennifer says

Sometimes a brooding alpha male romance is all you really want in life.

Debbie "Buried in Her TBR Pile" says

I expected more from this book. Not bad - fairly easy read - I expected a little more depth. H does not cheat. h's husband (not the H) left h for another woman. She is divorced from her husband as the story begins. It takes a while for H to commit to the relationship but he does not avoid his responsibility when h becomes pregnant. His mother abandoned him at birth and he lived with an abusive father. He rebelled but got his act together by joining the military. 2.5-3 stars.

Booklover says

Wonderful Intense Second chance at love story,enjoyed it very much,the only thing that disappointed me was Cullen leaving Rachel alone,wanted them to spend some time together.Other then this its a very good book.

Good read

Recommend it
