

# **Flights of Fancy**

Jen Turano

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Miss Isadora Delafield may be an heiress, but her life is far from carefree. When her mother begins pressuring her to marry an elderly and uncouth duke, she escapes from the high society world she's always known and finds herself to be an unlikely candidate for a housekeeper position in rural Pennsylvania.

Mr. Ian MacKenzie is known for his savvy business sense and has built his reputation and fortune completely on his own merits. But when his adopted parents are in need of a new housekeeper and Isadora is thrown into his path, he's unexpectedly charmed by her unconventional manner.

Neither Isadora nor Ian expected to find the other so intriguing, but when mysterious incidents on the farm and the truth of Isadora's secret threaten those they love, they'll have to set aside everything they thought they wanted for a chance at happy-ever-after.

## **Flights of Fancy Details**

Date : Published January 1st 2019 by Bethany House Publishers

ISBN: 9780764231674

Author: Jen Turano

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Genre: Historical, Historical Fiction, Christian Fiction, Romance, Fiction, Christian Historical Fiction

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## From Reader Review Flights of Fancy for online ebook

#### Kristi says

What a fun start to a new series! Flights of Fancy was a cute romantic read with relatable characters and witty dialogue. This book was an entertaining, easy read.

It was impossible for me to not like the two main characters of the book. The author creates a wonderful scene at the beginning of the book to draw readers to Isadora, or Izzie, and make them instantly sympathize with and like her. Ian is equally as instantly likable and the two together are so much fun. It was nice seeing them form a friendship and then seeing a sweet romance blossom. Besides the two main characters, there are several secondary characters that add to the mayhem that takes place within the pages of the book.

This was a well-written story and moves along at a pace that kept the story interesting. There is plenty of humor and light-hearted banter keeping the story a light read. After reading this book I'm wondering why the author isn't higher on my must-read list. I like her writing style and the way she creates down-to-earth, real characters that are easy to relate to.

I definitely recommend this book for fans of historical fiction. It's an easy read and one that will have you looking for more from this author. I'm anxious to see what happens in the next book in the series. I can't wait for more from these characters.

I received a complimentary copy of this book from the publisher and was not obligated to write a review. All opinions are mine.

### Lindsey (Books for Christian Girls) says

About this book:

"Miss Isadora Delafield may be an heiress, but her life is far from carefree. When her mother begins pressuring her to marry an elderly and uncouth duke, she escapes from the high society world she's always known and finds herself to be an unlikely candidate for a housekeeper position in rural Pennsylvania.

Mr. Ian MacKenzie is known for his savvy business sense and has built his reputation and fortune completely on his own merits. But when his adopted parents are in need of a new housekeeper and Isadora is thrown into his path, he's unexpectedly charmed by her unconventional manner.

Neither Isadora nor Ian expected to find the other so intriguing, but when mysterious incidents on the farm and the truth of Isadora's secret threaten those they love, they'll have to set aside everything they thought they wanted for a chance at happy-ever-after."

Series: Book #1 in the "American Heiresses" series.

Spiritual Content- Church going; Talks about God & gifts; 'H's are capitalized when referring to God;

Isadora says she hasn't given God much thought outside of church, but starts to think more about Him as the book continues; Mentions of God; Mentions of prayers & praying; Mentions of churches, church going, services, hymns, sermons, & a reverend; Mentions of blessings & being blessed; A few mentions of Christians; A mention of thanking God;

\*Note: A couple mentions of ghosts & a placed being haunted.

Negative Content- Minor cussing including: a 'idiot'; A bit of eye rolling; Fighting & Punching (barely-above-not-detailed); Being gagged & kidnapped (barely-above-not-detailed); Being threatened with a gun; Mentions of a rumor that a man poisoned/murdered his previous wives; Mentions of accidents, injuries, & a death (including another man's crude comment on the accident, barely-above-not-detailed); Mentions of abuse from a father; Mentions of thieves & missing/stolen animals; Mentions of a fire; Mentions of threats & threatening; Mentions of punching someone; Mentions of gossip & rumors; Mentions of lies & lying; Mentions of alcohol, drinking, alcoholics/drunks, & taverns; A few mentions of prison/jail; A few mentions of a missing dog (that might have died from an accident, but it later revealed as just fine); A couple mentions of cigars; A couple mentions of hunting;

\*Note: Mentions of books & authors.

Sexual Content- Hand & finger kisses, two barely-above-not-detailed kisses, and a semi-detailed kiss; Wanting to kiss (barely-above-not-detailed); Touches (including unwanted ones, up to semi-detailed); Noticing, Nearness, & Smelling (including muscles and curves, barely-above-not-detailed); Mentions of a man staring/eyes lingering at Isadora's low neckline (and trying to touch the neckline, she rightly stomps on his foot after that); Mentions of kissing & kisses; Mentions of compromising situations; Mentions of liberties & chaperones; Mentions of jealousy; A few mentions of flirting; A couple mentions of winks; A mention of a man often taking liberties with the help; A mention of a married couple kissing; Love, falling in love, & the emotions:

\*Note: Mentions of a man prior three wives not being able to bear children & his belief that American women are fertile; Mentions of different women's figures & curves; A couple mentions of that same man commenting on Isadora's childbearing hips; A mention of a man picturing Isadora wearing a corset that he bought for her; A mention of a type of woman to keep a man warm at night; A mention of a little boy's "boy parts".

-Isadora Delafield, age 22 -Ian MacKenzie, age 33 P.O.V. switches between them Set in 1885 365 pages

Pre Teens- One Star New Teens- One Star

Early High School Teens- Two Stars (and a half)

Older High School Teens- Four Stars

My personal Rating- Four Stars

Let us first discuss my glee over this cover, shall we? I love the color scheme of it plus the facial expressions of the model. It all fits the story quite well.

Jen Turano's debut book, "A Change of Fortune", has continued to be my favorite book by her and while this newest still didn't take that first-place spot, it definitely reminded me of that book very much with the

disguise plot-line that I enjoy so much. While this new novel did feel a little more romance-y at a few points and there was the cad we are supposed to dislike, it was cleaner in the kisses and was an overall entertaining story. "Flights of Fancy" has begun this new series well and I look forward to read the next books!

Link to review:

https://booksforchristiangirls.blogsp...

\*BFCG may (Read the review to see) recommend this book by this author. It does not mean I recommend all the books by this author.

\*I received this book for free from the Author for this honest review.

#### Cara Putman says

Delightful! I found myself laughing out loud often. The characters from hero to heroine to children and animals were wonderful.

#### Lydia Howe says

#### WHY I CHOOSE THIS BOOK

I pretty much decided Jen Turano's books weren't for me a few years back because they're silly - like to the point where my personality didn't find them fun anymore because they are so unrealistic. I realize lots of people really like this style of book and that's great, I just don't.

And then today came. And I'm fighting off the flu so I didn't feel well. I had a stack of books just waiting to be read, but instead, I wanted something that would be exceedingly lighthearted and easy to read. I've heard various other book bloggers talk about this book recently, so I decided to give it a go. Also, I think the cover's really pretty.;)

#### WHAT I THOUGHT ABOUT THIS BOOK

This book was more enjoyable than I expected. I read it all afternoon and although I did skim in parts, it kept my attention and made me wonder what was going to happen next. It's kinda like a Hallmark movie, just not quite so predictable.

To make this easy, I'm just going to go with a few pros and cons that I came up with while reading the book. And please, keep in mind that this isn't the style of book that I normally read - so if you've read any of Jen Turano books in the past and liked them, then you'll probably really like this one. It's my favorite of hers that I've read. (I think I've read two or three before.)

Pros: I liked the main character. She was realistic most of the time, she didn't annoy me, and she was amusing. Plus, even though she wasn't telling the truth about her life, she basically told them that she wasn't telling the truth. Which that sounds weird, but it worked well in the book and was actually a big selling point

for me. Also, the book was well written and easy to follow which isn't always the case for me when there are dukes and such involved.

Cons: It was exceedingly silly - which is both a good thing and a bad thing. A good thing because it was amusing, a bad thing because it was kinda eye-rolly with how often "bad" stuff happened. Like rolling down hills, landing in mud, etc... Also, the main character was always being picked up and carried by the main guy when she had gotten hurt, etc... I mean, really though? I'm fairly certain that wouldn't have happened and so that type of thing bothers me a lot.

The book starts with the main character being at a ball with a duke, and the duke's not a cool guy and he's not being nice with how he treats the main character. He's just kinda leering at her, so it's not detailed or anything. Also, later in the book, there were a few things that happened that weren't "bad" but I wouldn't consider proper.

#### **CONCLUSION**

I'm glad I gave this book a try because it was what I was looking for today (silly, light-hearted, and not needing much brainpower), but not my normal read at all.

#### **RATING**

I'm giving Flights of Fancy 3 out of 5 stars.

((I got this ebook from NetGalley in exchange for me reviewing it, all thoughts and opinions are my own.))

## Nicki Chapelway says

4.5 stars.

Honestly, I could go on and on about my love for Jen Turano's writing until Buttercup came home. She is my favorite historical author. I know that some people have a hard time with the ridiculousness of her stories, but honestly, they make me laugh so hard. They are always the perfect mix of comedy, romance, drama, and inspirational all wrapped into one enjoyable book sized package.

This might have been her most ridiculous story yet and that is saying something since I distinctly remember a problem with peacocks in In Good Company. But I think that the chickens beat out the peacocks.

Ian and Izzie were both extremely interesting characters, I loved how Turano showed a little bit more of the business aspect in this story instead of just the upper class.

This isn't my favorite of her works, but I was still filled with such a nostalgia after I finished this one. I wished that I hadn't because I missed it.

I received a free copy of this book from the publisher, all opinions, however, are my own.

## Lisa at Farm Fresh Adventures says

It was a lovely book! I enjoyed especially Buttercup and Elmer. LOL. My question is simply, are the next books about Beatrix and Poppy? ♥?

#### Rachael says

This book was fun...just so much fun...lots of animals...goats, chickens, a cow that loves a lovely home...clumsy socialite woman...adorable man attorney...four ornery and totally lovable children...and an Aunt and Uncle that started it all on a farm. Who couldn't enjoy a read with all of that (besides we actually do bring our goat in the house from time to time- FUN!)

It's a charming story as only Jen Turano can deliver!

Really don't miss out on this author. She is her very own genre!

I received this book from the publisher. All opinions are my own.

#### Alysha (For The Love of Christian Fiction) says

A high society lady goes undercover to escape marriage to a heinous man. She lands her self in a predicament (or two) that she isn't quite capable of handling. Cows who can open doors, goats who have a taste for freshly laundered clothes, and chickens…everywhere.

This all shapes up into a hilarious tale you'll want to finish!

The book boasts some adorable characters, from chubby babies to mischievous cows. Many a smile happened while I read this book.

There was instant chemistry between the two main characters, which always makes a book more enjoyable to read for me.

Not only was there chemistry between them, but everyone just meshed well together making it seem like all had known each other forever. There was just a "home sweet home" feel when they were all together.

Uncle Amos & Aunt Birdie were the best! I loved the "grandparent" feel they gave to EVERYONE. They didn't care who they were "related" to, everyone was to call them Aunt Birdie and Uncle Amos. They gave with such selfless hearts, real servant hood. I just really loved them!! ?

There was a ton of growth for both of the main characters.

You can truly see the change in Isadora as she comes to find herself as an independent women, instead of being what her mother taught her she had to be. She grows from this sheltered, spoiled, demanding? gentlewoman to this strong, brave, determined, confident young lady. Everything she knew about life flipped upside down, but she quickly realized that the life she lived wasn't the only way one could be happy.

Ian also grew a lot in this book. His dreams and desires he'd had his entire life changed when 4 little kiddos

and one ridiculously under-qualified housekeeper wormed their way into his heart. He learned that status didn't mean as much as he thought it did, and family was everything. He, like Aunt Birdie and Uncle Amos, was such a giving soul. He didn't question anyone who needed help, he just extended his hand and his wallet. I will say this, I was very disappointed in how Ian handled learning the truth about Isadora. He never hid that he wanted to marry well and climb the social ladder. I am BEYOND glad he came to his senses, but still...?

This book has two "bad guys" and both were appropriately slimy. Each has his own agenda, but they never conflicted with each other and both subplots were dealt with in quick succession. I love it when the good guy gets the win and the girl.

This book had some adorable moments, and made me laugh a few times. Jen just has a way with spinning stories!

I rated it a 4/5 stars. I cannot wait to see what other shenanigans we get into with our next heiress!

\*I received this book from the author\*\*All opinions are my own\*

### Ibjoy1953 Hannabass says

#### MY THOUGHTS ON THIS BOOK

This book was a very delightful read! I love Je Turano books and this one is as good if not better than her other reads! Isadora was desperate to hide from the horrible Duke her mother was trying to marry her off to. Why he had been married three times before and all of his previous wife's had mysteriously disappeared. Isadora did not want to number four! So with the help of several influential people, Isadora landed a job at Glory Manor. But the Glory was not what Isadora expected st all. What had she gotten herself into?

I love Isadora's character, and she was so adorable as she tried to do her job at the Glory Manor farm. She had farm owner Ian so confused, he was drawn to her, but her housekeeping skills were such a manner that she ended up being banned from a number of them. But her personality was so adorable, everyone fell in love with her. Especially the four children Ian's aunt and uncle took in because there was no space for them at the orphanage.

So much is happening in this story it is impossible to capture it all in a review. So I'll just tell you, this is a book you don't want to miss! The characters are so loveable and realistic, they will steal your heart and keep it! You will find yourself laughing a lot throughout this story, and maybe even crying a little. And if you are like me, you will find yourself cheering Ian and Issie on, no matter what happens.

A copy of this book was provided by Celebration Lit Tours and the author for me to read and review. I was not required to write a positive review. The opinions in this review are mine only.

#### Anne says

#### 4.5 STARS!!!

He had the sneaking suspicion her question was completely serious, which spoke volumes about her experience, or lack thereof, in the kitchen.

Delightfully engaging, Turano once again takes readers on a fanciful jaunt into the countryside with an heiress seeking anonymity from an unsuitable suitor. But fanciful isn't the only thing going on here. What struck me most about this story is Isadora's journey to becoming better—a better person, that is.

While many assumptions are made about Isadora's abilities (or inabilities as the case may be), one thing she is not in want of is self-examination. And when 'Izzie' finds herself lacking, she owns up to it and changes. Her transformation is miraculous; like a butterfly emerging from its chrysalis. Along the way, there is plenty of entertainment and laughter which is classic Turano style.

Ian MacKenzie is a successful businessman hoping to climb even higher by marrying a society girl. His adoptive parents own the farm where Isadora is masquerading as a housekeeper and he spends a lot of time there helping them out. Shenanigans are happening in the area, some that turn rather dangerous. But amidst it all, Ian also discovers there is more to life than climbing the proverbial social ladder.

Christian fiction is all the better for the added addition of Jen Turano's books. Each one has its eccentricities, making them exceptionally entertaining while faith in the Lord is woven skillfully throughout as well. It's never overdone, like Izzie's attempts in the kitchen. :-)

I highly recommend *Flights of Fancy* to historical fiction fans. It's a sweet treat if there ever was one! I was gifted a copy from the publisher and author with no expectation of a review. No compensation has been received.

## Jessica Baker (A Baker's Perspective) says

It's no secret that Jen Turano is an extraordinary author. Each and every one of her books brings joy and a smile to my face. There's not a lot of authors that bring humor to their historic novels, which is too bad, because I happen to think they go together quite nicely. Turano thinks that as well.

I have been excited about Flights of Fancy since I first heard about it. A high society socialite disguising herself as a housekeeper? Sign me up! And while you know what the final outcome of the book is going to be, it is a romantic story after all, that doesn't stop you from enjoying every single moment of it. Turano writes in such a way that you become involved in the story line. She makes you fall in love with every single character, whether they are primary or secondary.

Isadora is a hoot in this book, but what I liked about her the most was her journey in finding out what God wanted for her life. She blossomed without having her mother around to correct everything she did, and I enjoyed seeing her grow into this beautiful, strong woman. And I must say this, when she first arrived at Glory Manor, well I have never laughed so hard over a book. In fact, I had to read the scene out loud to my daughter because it was so hysterical. This my friends is why I love reading Turano's books.

Along with the humor, she provides little lessons that will stick with you for a long time. Such as this...... "My dear, it has been my experience that God occasionally throws obstacles our way so that we're forced to grow into the people He wants us to be." That is my absolute favorite quote of the entire book, and not because it sets the theme for the entire book. If we're honest, it sets the theme for all of our own, individuals lives. When I look back at everything I've been through, this quote absolutely makes sense and brings peace. In the midst of humor, romance and mystery, Turano has managed to speak straight to my heart about something so deep that I wasn't expecting to find it here.

Friends, Jen Turano is a brilliant author. I adore her books, just like I adore her. If you're looking for a great laugh, pick up this book. If you love reading historical books, read this one. If you're looking for a deep message, you'll find it here. And if you love seeing two people come together in unusual circumstances, you'll see that as well. There truly is something for everyone!

I received a complimentary copy of this book. I was not required to write a favorable review. All thoughts and opinions are my own.

#### Jen. says

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May I have your attention please?

I've just read my first book by Jen Turano.

And, now I must collect everything she's ever published!!

**Flights of Fancy**, the first book in Jen Turano's new American Heiresses series features an heiress in disguise, a quirky elderly uncle, rogue barnyard animals, four adorable ginger-haired children, a slimy villain and one dashing hero!

I instantly loved each character in this book! Isadora Delafield is adorably long-winded and has an explanation for everything. Ian MacKenzie is a gentle giant who's worked his way to the top but is humble enough to remember where he came from. Every single supporting character from the children, to Uncle Amos and Aunt Birdie, to Beatrix and everyone in between were just so perfectly well-written. (And, I'm seriously hoping that one of the forthcoming books in this series will please be about Beatrix? Pretty please?!?!)

This book had action, tenderness, rich historical details, adventure and humor. This book had a ton of humor – honest to goodness laugh out loud humor!! The balance of the humorous scenes with a heartfelt or adventurous moment was so well done! The plot had several twists and turns to keep my Kindle's electronic pages flipping! Each scene was so vividly described I felt like I was right there with them!

I can't say much more, because...well...spoilers. But! One thing's for sure. After reading **Flights of Fancy**, I will never look at someone named Nigel or Percival the same way ever again!

**Five Well-Deserved Stars!** I highly recommend this book...and I would read it again!! **Flights of Fancy** will be available January 1, 2019. You don't want to miss this book!

I received an advanced copy of this book from Bethany House Publishers through NetGalley. A positive review was not required. All opinions expressed are completely my own.

## Susan Snodgrass says

'And you thought it wise to provide a woman who'd gotten herself stuck in the wringer of a washing machine with a rifle and bullets?'

Jen Turano is a particular favorite of mine and she will have you laughing out loud all the way through her books, while learning a wonderful spiritual lesson.

Miss Isadora Delafield is a New York high society American heiress who has everything she could ever want. When her mother begins to pressure her greatly to marry a British duke, she begins to think something has to give. The duke is elderly and decidedly lecherous and rumor has it his previous 3 wives met with very suspicious deaths. So, together with a friend and two butlers, Isadora flees New York to search out a job as a housekeeper. Never mind the fact that she has absolutely no idea what a housekeeper actually does. When she lands at Glory Manor, 'Izzy' finds a quite chaotic farm and a very handsome man who owns it. Ian MacKenzie is a very savvy businessman who wants to marry up in society but his adoptive parents, who live at Glory Manor, hire Izzy to be housekeeper. Ian soon learns that Izzy is quite inept, but she is a wonderfully delightful young woman. Soon, however, mysterious accidents begin to plague Glory Manor and all things point to some threats against the area.

This book was absolutely delightful to read and kept me entertained greatly. The antics of these characters will keep you rolling with laughter, especially Buttercup, the tracking cow, who likes to stay indoors, and Elmer, the hen who likes to be carried around. There are also secondary characters that were quite interesting which I hope find their way into a forthcoming novel and probably will since this is the beginning of a series. Bravo!

\*My thanks to Bethany House for a complimentary preview copy of this novel. All opinions stated here are entirely my own.

### **Suzie Waltner says**

This right here is the reason I anticipate every new Jen Turano book. There is a lot of laughing on my part when I'm reading them, but these stories also have depth to them. And Flights of Fancy adds even more elements to that winning combination.

When Isadora Delafield goes into hiding, posing as a housekeeper seeking a position, she lands at Glory Manor. And hijinks ensue. Isadora, now known as Izzie, hasn't the first clue how to keep house. Her endeavors with a washing machine, cooking, and boiling water make for some hilarious scenes.

Add to this, the fact that Glory Manor is, in fact, a farm—one with a hen named Elmer who likes to be held and a cow who prefers to be in the house—there are just more layers to create a most delightful read. If that's not enough for you, there are four children residing at the farm that are just a perfect fit for this book and they captured me from the start.

But most of all, it's the journey that Izzie and Ian take to discover who they are meant to be and the lesson that wealth is so much more than money that shoots Flights of Fancy to the top of my favorite reads list.

#### Disclosure statement:

I receive complimentary books from publishers, publicists, and/or authors, including NetGalley. I am not required to write positive reviews. The opinions I have expressed are my own. I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255.

### Paula Shreckhise says

Flights of Fancy is another wonderful, witty tale by Jen Turano.

It is 1885. Join American Heiress, Isadora Delafield, as she takes her Flight of Fancy to escape the clutches of a most unsuitable suitor. She flees from New York Society to a remote farm in Pennsylvania. There she encounters a successful man of business, Ian MacKenzie, his Aunt Birdie and eccentric Uncle Amos and four endearing orphans. She tries to pass herself off as a housekeeper with hilarious results. While learning a completely different way of life, she finds satisfaction in serving others.

Ms. Turano takes her characters through circumstances that help them realize that sometimes wealth isn't everything. I can always count on her for some fun along the way with antics by the characters- be they human or animal. This story has Buttercup, the cow, who likes to visit in the kitchen or the parlor and the pet attack hen named Elmer! Along with the signature comedy there is a mystery to solve and villains to dissuade.

I recommend this book for those who want a lighthearted yet inspirational, historical read.

\*I received a complimentary copy of this book from the publisher on behalf of the author. I was not required to give a favorable review. All opinions are my own.\*