



## Wild Wicked Scot

*Julia London*

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**Wild Wicked Scot** Julia London

**Wicked intrigue unfolds as an unlikely marriage leads to a path of risky desire in the lush, green Scottish Highlands.**

Born into riches and groomed in English luxury, Margot Armstrong didn't belong in a Scottish chieftain's devil-may-care world. Three years ago she fled their marriage of convenience and hasn't looked back—except to relive the moments spent in wild, rugged Arran McKenzie's passionate embrace. But as their respective countries' fragile unity threatens to unravel, Margot must return to her husband to uncover his role in the treachery before her family can be accused of it.

Red-haired, green-eyed Margot was Arran's beautiful bride. Her loss has haunted him, but her return threatens everything he has gained. As the Highland mists carry whispers of an English plot to seize McKenzie territory, he must outmaneuver her in games of espionage...and seduction. But even as their secrets tangle together, there's nothing to prevent love from capturing them both and leading them straight into danger.

## Wild Wicked Scot Details

Date : Published December 27th 2016 by HQN Books

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Author : Julia London

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Genre : Romance, Historical Romance, Historical, Historical Fiction, Cultural, Scotland

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# From Reader Review Wild Wicked Scot for online ebook

## Deniz says

4.5 Stars

My first reaction when I finished this: I didn't want it to be over!

So I went to see what's next in the series...

Wild Wicked Scot is truly engaging and captivating. Is got caught up in the story from the get go and couldn't put my kindle down until I was finished.

I have never read a book by London before, but I feel I really need to rectify that error now and read all the previously published books by her. Because this is written by a master of her craft. There are multiple POV and then the story jumps back and forth between the time line as well, seemingly all at random. But it's so brilliantly done! Each jump is precisely what the story needed and not only that it's done completely smooth. The dialogues feel authentic, there is a good dose of humor and some wonderfully sensual smut.

Add to that, the beautiful writing style and you got me attention.

But then London outdid all of this with the character building. I was so caught up with Margot and Arran, with their feelings, with their hopes and regrets and their fears. I totally got both of them, got their pain and rejoiced over their growth. I needed them to find happiness! Which in itself is a total feat to achieve. I mean I like a happy ending, like anyone, but I never (ok:rarely might be more accurate) have such a desperate yearning for the characters to get it.

The story line is a brilliant tale of star-crossed lovers/ arranged marriage gone bad to finding love with each other.

The romance is beautiful, heartbreaking and wonderfully different in many ways.

The plot is captivating, I kept guessing who the culprit was, was kept on my toes and hoping until right to the end.

The epilogue btw, is simply beautiful. And that, is another stroke for London. Because it could have been simply too mushy for me, which many of them are. But again, just like in so many other instances, she gets it just right, is on point with the emotions, the sweet little details and a dash of humor. It's just perfect, really. To be honest, I am not sure how historically correct this novel is. I am not clued up on the particular clan history of it's time. I don't even know if there is a Norwood Park. But it feels authentic. The lifestyles, the manners, the prejudice and the dialogues not feel only authentic bu real enough to make this a great historical romance.

The character building, does like I said before outshine everything. It takes this from a good to an excellent novel for me.

Margot, with all her silly naivety, was dear to my heart quite fast. I got where she was coming from, even if I knew she was being ridiculous and utterly spoilt at times. Arran, sigh. Arran is the perfect Scottish hero. I mean this. Sincerely. He is gruff and tough, yet so gentle and caring. Absolutely clueless at times, but again, I got him.

Their characters feel real and I thoroughly enjoyed watching them grow and breach their differences together. Their flaws and shortcomings make them more realistic.

The support cast is just as well written. Again, London seems to bring just the right characters in when needed to highlight a situation. And more so I want to know more about several of the side cast.. I want to know the details about Nell and Jock. And to be honest I hope there will be a story about Grizella. Oh and one for Knox (who was he with in the village?!)

Basically, I just want more.

Compelling, well crafted novel, that left me wanting MORE!

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### **Lynn Spencer says**

I love “second chance at love” stories and most books revolving around troubled marriages are near cousins to these. In **Wild Wicked Scot**, our protagonists weren’t head over heels in love the first time around, so the dynamic is a little different. However, since the characters are layered and worth getting to know, this character-driven romance ultimately works.

When we first meet Margot Armstrong in the prologue, she is the flirtatious and perhaps somewhat spoiled daughter of an English aristocrat. On the eve of the Act of Union between England and Scotland, it is apparent that her primary concerns involve hosting parties and drawing male attention to herself and her best friend. The descriptions of beautiful gowns and powdered hair paint a very pretty picture – one that is very neatly shifted when Margot’s father calls her away from her party to inform her of her impending marriage to a Highland laird.

Unlike in the average Highland historical, Arran Mackenzie doesn’t immediately present himself as the perfect hero. He’s certainly imposing in appearance, but also very out of place in Margot’s polished world. In the first chapter, we learn just how great the gap between Margot and Arran’s worlds is. Three years after their meeting and marriage, we learn that Margot left Arran’s home at Castle Balhaire and returned to her father in England a mere four months after they were wed.

Margot is now back in the Scottish highlands, under orders from her father. She shows up at Balhaire and tells Arran she wants to work on reconciling their marriage. Given that Margot pretty much dumped him in front of his entire clan, Arran is less than thrilled to see her turn up again – and I couldn’t entirely blame him. As the story moves along and tales of Margot’s spoiled behavior from their married couple days come out, I REALLY couldn’t blame him.

This is a partial review. You can find the complete text at All About Romance:  
<http://allaboutromance.com/book-revie...>

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### **Pepa says**

Entretenido para aquellas que os gustan las novelas de highlanders. Protagonistas tópicos, poco profundos y con un argumento de lo más clásico.

Pasará sin pena ni gloria. Me he pasado toda la lectura esperando que se animara.

pero admito que este tipo de historias me tienen ya muy cansada así que otra lectora seguro que lo valorará mucho mejor.

El complot se resuelve en un visto y no visto y, ciertos aspectos de él no me han convencido y lo de ella me lo he creído menos todavía

Estas historias no son malas, simplemente no son para mí

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## **Joana V. says**

**I've received this book directly from the author, in exchange for this review. Thank you!**

Review in portuguese here:<http://pepitamagica.blogspot.pt/2016/...>

Wild Wicked Scot brings us a story of spoiled girl who can't stand for herself and, to be truthful, doesn't know what to do with her life. I mean, until she returns to her husband's house, three years after she had left him.

Margot is that kind of character that is hard to like, at least for some of the book. There's a small evolution, but still, it's too bad that she doesn't trust Arran – I understand why she wouldn't do it at the beginning, but the second he gave a chance to tell him, she should have taken it. Nevertheless, she manages to slowly redeem herself little by little, and at the end of the book is much stronger than she was at the beginning.

Arran is amazing. He's the perfect book boyfriend, from beginning to end. Everything he does is to please Margot and to help her to integrate her new home and he loves her deeply, trying his hard to please her. He feels so completely betrayed when she leaves him (and his male ego – maybe the only small thing against him – prevented him from following her). No wonder that, when she decides to pop up completely unannounced, he becomes suspicious of her.

The whole book is about building trust, not only between the characters, but also the reader: we want what's best for Arran and, for a while, we're not completely sure if Margot really deserves him. But, as she begins to show that she's no longer the childish girl she was when she married, we start to understand her a bit better and we want to give her a chance.

The (small) mystery the book has ends up just being there to unite the lovers and it's a case of being "arrested for having a dog and not having a dog" (translation of a Portuguese expression which means you just couldn't have it right, no matter what you would did).

At the end of the day, all is resolved, with trust being regained, and a love growing harder and stronger. It was a book that only took me four days to read and it kept me hooked on it. A well spent time, with lots of romance, fighting for honour and a true love that is always worth fighting for.

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## **Michelle says**

This story is about rebuilding a marriage alongside a traitorous plot. Margot left her husband in Scotland three years before and has now come back to him to uncover if he is a traitor or not. Arran immediately suspects that Margot has not returned because she wants to give their marriage another try. Both suspicious of each other, can their marriage survive?

This book has more history and politics in it than most historical romances I read but I liked the idea that there was a secret plot bubbling that greatly affected our characters. This book is more than just romance. Then the romance came in and out of the story as we see through the present day and flashbacks of how their marriage is taking this long separation and the struggles it was before, and now really. Margot left a spoiled and lonely child but returned a strong woman on a mission. Arran can automatically see a difference in her. They have both suffered but until they open up to each other more they would never see how much they

care for each other and they would only see how their marriage is dangling from the edge of a cliff. Margot doesn't believe Arran is a traitor but she needs proof one way or another to satisfy her stupid as-her suspicious father and brother. (Honestly, both can just go to hell.) Moving on, when Margot returns she has change and has made it her separate mission to try to find some balance in her marriage and really try to fit into the highland lifestyle which is quite different from her English upbringing with gowns and society parties. She struggles, A LOT, but she is very determined to change.

There were some slow parts in the first half of the book but there were also some incredibly wonderful moments between our main characters. I was even questioning if this marriage was really going to work. You can see they do care about each other but there are secrets, lies, betrayal and deceit. The whole traitorous plot goes right up until the very end. I wasn't even sure for a little while if the book would end in a cliffhanger but it doesn't, thank god for that. The uncertainty of their lives and marriage kept me on my toes until the very end and I absolutely loved the last chunk of the book. When times seem so bleak, they had each other for strength and eventually love and understanding.

I truly love Margot and Arran. They suit each other so well and even with all of their problems they oh so slowly rebuild something that was once lost and broken. The epilogue was perfect and I was ecstatic that they were in each other's arms once again.

*I received this ARC via Netgalley.*

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## **Wendy says**

A marriage of convenience is a favourite trope of mine and in **Wild Wicked Scot** Margot Armstrong certainly hits it lucky in her father's choice of husband, the deliciously rugged Scottish chieftain Arran McKenzie, Baron of Balhaire. However, these are dangerous times between England and Scotland and this marriage of convenience is built upon very shaky ground with Margot a pawn in the games of powerful men and the politics of the two countries.

The story opens with a prologue and a series of flashbacks. In the prologue Margot is an immature seventeen year old with very entrenched ideas as to what makes the perfect man; and unfortunately for her, Arran McKenzie doesn't tick any of those boxes. But she has no choice in the matter, and in the interests of her powerful father and her **Wild Wicked Scot**, she is the sacrificial lamb in their machinations to help broker an uneasy alliance between Scotland and England – not to mention the added bonus of money and lands which such a union will bring. As the story gets underway Margot has already left her husband and is now returning to him after an absence of three years. Their marriage had floundered after only four months when she ran back to England.

Arran McKenzie is a lovely character, well developed and extremely likeable and my sympathy was with him all the way through. To begin with, Margot is quite irritating – although to be fair, she was very young, and she did her limited, childish best to fit into Arran's world. But her attempt to transport her much loved tonnish lifestyle into the depths of the Scottish Highlands was, quite obviously, doomed to failure, especially as she only half-heartedly attempted to become the Laird's lady in truth. Margot considered herself to be neglected outside of the bedchamber, but she failed to understand what a busy man Arran was with his many responsibilities – to his clan, his prosperous, time-consuming continental sea trading business and the personal training of his first rate soldiers. And so Margot runs away and returns to her frivolous lifestyle in England. Then, after three years during which she has no contact whatsoever with her husband, her

autocratic father again pulls her strings and she is sent back to Balhaire, this time with the hidden agenda of spying on her husband. Quite understandably, she is subjected to a host of suspicious Scots; not least of whom is her husband who cannot believe that she has suffered a complete about-turn.

There are a number of inconsistencies about the relationship between Arran and Margot that niggled at me. They obviously enjoyed a very satisfactory love-life after their marriage, which I would have thought would have counted in Arran's favour. But no, this isn't enough for Margot to try to build a life with her gorgeous husband so she just ups and leaves without a word. That said, the problems don't all fall on her side, because Arran just lets her go without even asking her why. Then, he meekly sends her enough money to live comfortably even though her desertion has humiliated him in front of his entire clan. None of this rings true. Nor does the fact that Arran is repeatedly described as being 'wild and wicked', when he's nothing of the sort; he's just a man with lusty appetites for all things, and is a loyal, honourable man with oodles of integrity right from the beginning – and he's certainly no push-over. I also couldn't believe that Margot's father would have accepted her return to his house after only four months, especially given the trouble he went to to arrange the match. Margot is somewhat redeemed once she begins to see Arran as he really is and sets out determinedly to win his love and trust, but her character is definitely the least engaging of the two.

There is a reasonably well developed plot which deals with the question of Arran's loyalties, but because of the inconsistencies in the romance, I was taken out of the story and found this fairly important point overshadowed. The author's attempts to use the highland vernacular – in particular her overly frequent use of the word "aye" – were also very distracting.

Overall, **Wild, Wicked Scot** is an uneven read, and is raised to the slightly above average bracket by the character of Arran, who is simply gorgeous. The story is nicely written so I would be interested to see how the rest of the series plays out.

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### **Vivian says**

This was a win. Got the English maid and Scottish laird trope, but it is served up with some realism about the radically different spheres and environments the two come from and the challenges it presents that makes this interesting. Honestly, Arran is one of the most romantic male leads I've read in a long time. By the end, if you're not right there believing it you got lost along the way.

For a more coherent and substantive review see Kyraryker/WhiskeyintheJar who was also the one who alerted me to the splendid pricing deal that I took advantage of. Cheers!

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### **Sonia says**

Compré la edición de bolsillo del libro porque confundí a Julia London con Julia Quinn, autora que conocía de varias lecturas anteriores, y porque me gustan las historias de highlanders (para qué lo voy a negar...). Julia London ha sido todo un descubrimiento, la verdad es que el libro está muy bien escrito; la única pega que le pongo es la parte inicial con los flashbacks al pasado; prefiero las historias contadas en orden, pero eso ya son manías mías...

Ha sido una buena historia, con una pareja protagonista bastante bien lograda, con la dosis justa de intriga; y que es especialmente recomendable para los que disfruten de las segundas oportunidades en el amor.

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## WhiskeyintheJar/Kyraryker says

**\*\*\*Deal Alert\*\*\* This is only \$.99 for Kindle (deal also on B&N and other sites). The hero is a doggy lover, don't miss out!**

**Amazon Link**

As of 3/18/17

4.5 stars

I read this for the Man in a Kilt square for Romance Bingo.

*She was afraid of him, disgusted by him, attracted to him.*

Without the sweeping epic saga war components, this reminded me of *Pride of Lions* by Marsha Canham. As with the heroine in that one, Margot grew up extremely spoiled, sheltered, and is incredibly naïve. I personally am not the biggest fan of reading about perfect people, I love growth and journey. When Margot first meets Arran she is only 16 and after only two more meetings they are married after she turns 18. She is then immediately taken out of her home in England and brought to Arran's home in Scotland. Margot is an extreme fish out of water and her elitist ways and attitude definitely don't jive with the clan structure. She tries to help in her known English ways, but it only works to distance her more from Arran's people. Now, Arran may be completely different from the fops she grew up around and liked but we still she her attracted to him but she doesn't quite know what to do with it because she doesn't know him. I liked the fact that Margot wasn't blinded by insta-lust and just because she found Arran attractive she didn't instantly trust him and it didn't solve all their problems. Margot's just too young, too scared, and too bitter about not being able to marry someone remotely of her choosing and she ends up leaving Arran after only a couple months of marriage.

*"I remember that your list of complaints was quite long."*

*She could feel the skin of her chest heating beneath his study of her. She had to look away or be devoured by that penetrating gaze. "Were they complaints? I always rather thought them pleas to help me reconcile to my new surroundings."*

*"Ah, is that what they were, then?" he mused.*

Arran is more instantly likeable but while he has about 9 years on Margot, he was almost as clueless to marriage. He's the one who is struck by first sight and he knows as soon as he sees Margot he wants to marry her. He doesn't think about anything else except having her as wife, and doesn't think about how truly different they are. He's extremely caring to her in the bedroom, the one place they do connect, but baffled by her in every other measure. When he brings her to his home he doesn't help or explain to her how she can connect with his people and disappears for most the day doing work or traveling; he lives his life exactly the same way he did before marrying. Later on in the story there is a great conversation between the two where we learn that his parent's both died when he was young and Margot's mother died young also. We see that these two weren't modeled or taught how marriages work in a basic sense. In the beginning, Arran does do more little things to try and make it work but Margot's youth, fear, loneliness, and other issues I talked about cloud and create misunderstandings with their communication. These two simply married too soon and too young.



I'm usually a linear person but the switching chapters from past to present so worked for me. I loved how it set the tone and gave a clear understanding of how and why Arran and Margot felt the way they did, while also adding some drama. This was mostly a character driven story and our couple had the major chops to carry it; I devoured the first half of this absorbed into their story. I think it was around the 56% mark that the Reason I Read Romance conversation between the two happened. A couple lines, I refuse to spoil by putting them here, are spoken by Arran and let's just say I made sounds that probably only happen at the Cheesecake Factory when they bring me my red velvet cheesecake. They're crosses between gasps, sobs, happiness, and heart palpitations.

The second half and ending involving family and Jacobite drama didn't fully work for me, it wasn't flushed out enough. Especially, the quick and off screen way it was wrapped up, ended up feeling unneeded to me because of its lack of substance. Some secondary characters could have been fleshed out more like Arran's friend Jock and Margot's brother Knox. I guess I'm saying I wanted this book to be 200 pages of more because I loved the story so much.

I also felt the ending bringing together between Arran and Margot felt a little off. Arran had a quick to anger moment over something Margot did and then was just as quick to forgiveness, making it feel angst for angst sake. Then at the end when they have time to really have it out and come together, there was this kind of awkward lingering distrustfulness from Arran and unsure from Margot that felt overdone. At this point in the story and after certain things had been done, they should have had a united front.

Still, I gobbled this story up. Margot's growth was evident and I enjoyed how she went from a spoiled, scared, and naïve girl to a woman finding and testing her own strength and mind. Arran matured into a man who learned to open his clueless eyes and pay attention to his wife, while not trying to mold her into what he thought she should be instead of who she truly was. I'd read about this couple all day.

Bonus:

Arran loves dogs and my crazy dog lady feelings couldn't handle it.

*She was suddenly reminded of a young dog here at Balhaire who'd been badly injured by a trap that had been set illegally. When the gamekeeper determined the poor dog could not be saved and, furthermore, would suffer in his last hours, she had watched **Arran scoop the dog up in his arms and carry him from this very hall with tears on his face.** He'd taken the dog into the woods and mercifully put it out of its misery. She shivered at the painful recollection of how he'd grieved for the dog.*

Not going to lie, reading this and then how three gray muzzled dogs sleep on the bed, the only thought running through my head was Shut it Down, Shut it all Down. Any Romanices Hero of 2017 talk is over.

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## **Esther says**

ARC from Harlequin and Netgalley.

3.5-3.75

I have mixed feeling on this one.....

Well the synopsis for the story covers the overall gist of the storyline. I'm going to share more of what my

feeling on the book are and overview of the characters.

Margot and Arran's marriage was one of political and monetary value to both. Actually more so Arran than Margot, for her Father pretty much forced the marriage on Margot. Margot was a young, very young, eighteen year old when she married. She had been pampered and spoiled by her Father and brothers all her life. Arran was a Scottish chieftain who took care of his clan, worked hard and was a total Alpha. We have a story of two opposites, forced to marry and both very stubborn. The story begins with a Prologue with their forced marriage and then dives into the present tense. We find Margot returning three years after their marriage. She had left Arran not even a year into their marriage.

This was a very well written, character driven romance. The story had me connected and engrossed throughout the book. I found each character multi dimensional, with new layers being revealed of who (as well as why) they were throughout the story. The writing and description of the time period was excellent and made me feel as if I was right there. The descriptions of life in the castle was excellent! And also something kind of small but yet not was Arran's dogs and how he cared for them and how they behaved was done so well.

But here's what I struggled with, Margot. Gosh I so didn't like her for almost half the book. It took too long for her to be likable and for her to open her eyes and grow up. She was too spoiled and just a brat at times. I think it took too long to come to understand why she was the way she was and also for her to see the light of what she had in Arran. It didn't happen till almost sixty to seventy percent of the story. Which to me is too long, at least start the process of it a quarter into the book so we could be more invested or start to like her more earlier.

Arran, oh I loved him. Some might not at first as he comes across pretty strong but the author gave a little glimpse of what a sweetheart he his early on in the book. His love for Margot, oh my heart melted. He was so good to his clan/people, devoted, loyal and I loved his tender heart for his dogs.

I hope and wish that the author will see this and give some thought to making some adjustment to the heroines character because this could be a richer and more beautiful love story.

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## **tess75 says**

Je tiens à remercier les éditions Harlequin et NetGalley pour m'avoir permis de découvrir ce roman. Julia London est une auteure qui ne m'est pas inconnue puisque j'ai eu l'occasion de lire le deuxième tome de sa série Les demoiselles de Beckington (en anglais The Cabot Sisters) – que je recommande vivement ! - et je l'ai même rencontrée lors du Festival du roman féminin en 2016. En voyant qu'elle avait écrit une romance historique qui se passe en Écosse, j'ai été curieuse de voir ce que cela pouvait donner. Le résumé a achevé de me convaincre et je ne regrette absolument pas ma lecture, bien au contraire !

Premier point fort de cette romance, ce sont les personnages principaux. En effet, on a d'un côté l'héroïne, Margot, qui a toujours été soumise aux décisions des hommes qui l'entourent, mais qui se révèle être une femme forte et prête à tout pour trouver le bonheur. De l'autre côté, il y Arran, un homme blessé par le comportement passé de son épouse et qui, au fond, ne sait pas très bien comment réagir face à elle. Et, entre ces deux personnages, il y a de nombreux secrets et non-dits qui ne cessent de s'accumuler jusqu'à ce que les héros se retrouvent dans une impasse et soient obligés d'agir. Tout cela, ajouté à leur passé commun (ils sont mariés depuis plusieurs années) donne de la profondeur à leur relation et à son évolution. Et, en tant que

lectrice, j'ai été curieuse de suivre cette évolution et de voir comment les héros allaient surmonter ces difficultés.

Deuxième point fort, c'est sans aucun doute le contexte historique et politique de cette histoire. On sent que l'auteure y a prêté un soin particulier et elle a eu tout à fait raison puisque cela permet d'étoffer l'intrigue ainsi que les motivations des personnages ce qui les rend plus compréhensibles et vraisemblables (plus humains en somme).

Cette série laisse présager beaucoup de bonnes choses et j'attends avec impatience d'avoir la suite !

Ma chronique sur mon blog Nothing but Romance : <http://wp.me/p5tfMz-1d2>

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## **A Klue says**

With its back and forth past to present flashbacks, the writing at first in this one was a little difficult to keep track of, folks. I found it annoying to have to keep mentally make note of whether it was the couple's current bickering or their past. That's right, there was "lots" of that aspect in both parts. This main couple seemed doomed from the start. Not standing by/fighting for his girl in the first place certainly did not endear me to the hero's character.

For me, what really ticked me off upfront was a verra bonny lass sitting on the hero's lap upon her return. Then there was his OTT too hurtful, degrading responses. He threatened to backhand her, folks. During their intimate encounter that same night, she was good enough to hit the sheets with, but he made her not look at him.

With a constant "I'll never trust you again" theme, a majority of this storyline is the hero acting hateful and the heroine finding herself caught in the middle of the mission she was sent on and confusion over who the real traitor might be.

It you like lots of relationship angst, a groveling heroine being used as a pawn, who not only wants the hero to like/trust her again but convince the whole clan she's not the devil at the same time she's sent to spy on him/lie to him, and can put up with a hurtful at times hero, you might want to check this one out. There is, of course, a major subplot playing out that is steering the course of this second chance romance with some pretty obvious villains.

Romance Safety Gang: (view spoiler)

The author set us up to think he wasn't celibate, because, nothing says I fool around with the lasses more than to find him with a verra bonny one sitting on his lap. Yet he claims to never have strayed. For someone who claims not to like his wife, he still had no qualms about hitting the sheets with her at the drop of her chemise.

Title: Wild, Wicked Scot, Series: The Highland Grooms (Book 1), Pages: 378, Author: Julia London, very hurtful at times hero, groveling heroine being used as a pawn, VERY steamy scenes, HEA, no OW/OM drama, didn't stand by/fight for his girl, second chance, arranged marriage three years prior.

Book 1 - Wild, Wicked Scot

Book 2 - Sinful Scottish Laird  
Book 3 - Hard Hearted Highlander  
Book 4 - Devil in Tartan

(These comments are based on a library edition. This is not an ARC review.)

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### **Mou says**

It was a good read!  
Feeling very lazy! I will write a detailed review later! ???

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### **Caz says**

**I've given this an A- for narration and a B for content at AudioGals.**

I confess straight out that I'm not the world's biggest fan of books with the word "Scot" or "Highlander" in the title as the majority of those I've read have seemed to have identical plots and characters. So reviewing **Wild Wicked Scot**, the first in Julia London's new *Highland Grooms* series wasn't an automatic choice for me – until I saw Derek Perkins listed as the narrator. I've listened to him several times before and he always delivers a solid, entertaining performance, so with him at the helm, I settled in to enjoy at least the narration – and discovered that, taken as a whole, the listen exceeded my expectations.

Lady Margot Armstrong, the daughter of the Earl of Norwood, is nearly eighteen, beautiful, flighty – and rather spoiled. She enjoys the attentions of the well-mannered, courtly young gentlemen around her and fully expects she will eventually marry one of them and continue living in the style to which she is accustomed. Until one night when, completely out of the blue, her father introduces her to Laird Arran Mackenzie and announces that they are to be married.

You can read the rest of this review at AudioGals.

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### **Lover of Romance says**

This review was originally posted on Addicted To Romance *Summary*  
Margot Armstrong, was shocked when her father forced her to marry a wild highlander, Arran McKenzie. She didn't feel like she fit in, in a world she knew nothing about and a life she felt fear right around the corner. So against her better judgement, she abandoned her husband and returned to England. Its been three long years, and she has returned in a not so honorable way. Her father has coerced her that she must discover if her husband is a traitor to the crown. She she has been sent to win back his affection and learn the truth. But with each day that passes, Margot regrets everything she has done that has deceived Arran, a man that she admires and is starting to fall in love with. Arran doesn't trust Margot or her "return" after being gone for three years. He had finally managed to get over losing his wife and now she has returned and he knows he can't trust anything she says. But as desire flares between them and the lines of lust and love become blurred, there is a plot again Arran, and soon they will have to take a leap of faith in order to survive the treachery

among those Margot's loves the most.

### ***Plot and Story Line***

**Wild Wicked Scot** is the most latest novel from our esteemed Julia London and a great beginning to a new historical series. In Wild Wicked Scot I fell in love in a way that I never expected. Now I will say this, the heroine is the only aspect of the story I didn't like. She was really difficult at times, and selfish and spoiled especially in the beginning. So I had a hard time liking her at least until the later part of the story. In Wild Wicked Scot, I feel like one of the major aspects of the story that makes you fall in love is how her character changes. She starts out as one you can't stand but turns out to be quite wonderful in the end.

***Uncle Ivor once told Arran that there was nothing more dangerous to man than a woman. "No beast, no plague, no pestilence," he'd said jovially from his perch on a rock as they'd stalked red deer. "Men live and die for them, lad. You'll see what I mean when you've come of age, aye? The trick is to find a steady one and keep her close."***

She changes through the story, and she does see the error of her ways and does what is right when it really matters. Now our hero....he is simple fantastic and sees right through Margot from the beginning. I liked that he didn't just 'believe' she wanted a reconciliation since it had been three years and hadn't heard a word from her. But we see through the story that he has always cared for it, but didn't know how to show it. We see the various ways the characters are tested to their limits in this one. I loved the espionage theme we have going on here. It really added some intensity to the plot and the writing was superb in this one. I honestly read this in one sitting, it was so dang good. Even though I had some issues with our heroine, the writing just pulled me in and I didn't want the story to end. I am very curious to see how the second book connects to this one.

***"But in this, you must trust me. Arran, for heaven's sake, you must, at last, trust me. I love you, and not because our fortunes are aligned. Because in this little lodge, you taught me what is important. You taught me what it meant to care for someone. I don't care about balls and society. I care about how many potatoes the earth will yield, and how I might mend the hole I put in your shirt, and if you will love your child as much as you love those wretched dogs at Balhaire."***

***He bowed his head, sighing in relief. "Margot...Diah--"***

***She took his face in her hands and made him look up at her. "You became the beginning and the end of my world here, and I choose you. I will always choose you."***

### ***The Cover***

Such a beautiful and tenderly romantic cover!! I really love the blue colors and the pose is sexy yet sweet too.

### ***Overall View***

Wild Wicked Scot is a vividly pictured romance that is a winning story that shows the tests of trust, desire and fighting for what is right. COMPELLING ON EACH PAGE!!

***Click To Buy On Amazon***

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