



M is for Marquess

Grace Callaway

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A Prisoner of His Past

Dubbed The Angel by the ton, Gabriel Ridgley, the Marquess of Tremont, has a pristine reputation. Yet he harbors a dark secret: a spy during the Napoleonic Wars, he bears deep and dangerous scars. When he meets Miss Dorothea Kent, a delicate virgin, he is torn between raging desire—and the need to protect her from the carnal demons that live inside him.

A Captive of Her Passions

Despite a frail constitution, Thea Kent has strength of heart and spirit. A wild attraction blooms between her and Gabriel, a widowed aristocrat with tortured eyes, but he resists the pull between them. When fate places his disabled son in her care, she's determined to safeguard the boy—and unravel the mystery of Gabriel's past.

Freed by Love and Passion

Someone is killing Gabriel's former colleagues, and he may be next on the list. As the desperate hunt for the villain begins, he and Thea get entangled in intrigue, betrayal, and desire too powerful to resist. Will trust help them to survive ... and true love set them free?

M is for Marquess Details

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From Reader Review M is for Marquess for online ebook

Nelly says

meh

Juliana Philippa says

Not my favorite Grace Callaway of all time, but a very good and enjoyable read. Am always surprised by how little well-known this fantastic author is! She really deserves more attention.

Full review to come!

Claudia says

This is the second book in this series and my first I read by Grace Callaway but that did not lessen my enjoyment with it in the least. I only can say:

Wow! I loved this book. It is perfect.

The story about these two characters was very engaging and the mytery is very well done. Gabriel was a complex character with quite some experience in the past. due to his "occupation" during war and his training, he has a dark side and is sure there is no woman who could love all of him.

Thea on the other side grew up in a loving family and is surrounded by people who love her. nevertheless, because of her illness, she feels like she is no full member of the family and yearns for someone who will see all of her.

The way the relationship was done was perfect. there is a lot of chemistry between these two but the feelings don't develop suddenly. there is a lot of development done and I loved every step of the way.

the secondary characters are so well done as well, that I can't wait to read the other books. I want to see how their relationships formed or who they will fall for.

so my next step will be to read the firt book and than to read this one again.

I loved that even after their relationship was secure the book did not end immediately but there was more to read and experience. And with the epilogue Grace Callaway wrote the perfect ending.

this was definitely one of the best HR I read this year and ever. With Grace Callaway I have found a new favorite author and I can't wait to read more of her books

Jen Pezzotti says

Grace Callaway has become my fave author this past year. I have to make sure I have a day to put aside to read her books because once I start I can't put her books down! If you want to read a great series definitely give her books a read.

Edwina " I LoveBooks" "Deb" says

HOT SEXY HISTORICAL ROMANCE!!

WOW M Is for Marquess is one erotic Historical Romance. Some of the sex scenes between Gabriel Ridgley Marquess of Tremont also know as Spymaster Trajan and Dorethea/Thea Kent was pretty hot, sexy and sensuous. I loved both the H/H the storyline centers around Gabriel who has found his mentor and leader of the Quorum spy ring Octavian's throat slit and him holding Shakespeare's book Julius Cesare. Gabriel knows that this has to be the work of one of the 5 members in the Quorum the British Spy Ring. He must uncover the culprit know as Spectre and destroy him once in for all. Miss Dorothea Kent sister to Emma the Duchess of Straithaven has been in love with the Gabriel since book 1 of the series. She is a brave and beautiful intelligent heroine. The story is well developed and true to the Regency era. The author has you on the edge of your seat at times and a bit bored at other times.. The traitor is not obvious, it is a process of deduction. Gabriel is a widower with what seems to him as unusual sexual appetites, which make him think he is not worthy of the young virginal Thea, but is Thea his match in everyway? This question is answer in this sexy romance.

What I didn't like about the story was Gabriel already had an Heir Frederick/Freddy who was a sickly child with a fainting illness. I liked Freddy and he was written well. I personally like the heroine of the story to be the mother of the heir. In this case it should have been Thea. I don't mind that Gabriel had a child but it should have been a girl. This is a personal preference in my reading of HR. The spy plot drags on a little to long. I would have rather seen more time spent on Gabriel and Thea relationship. I still Highly Recommend M is for Marquess for your reading pleasure.

Pooja Ajmera says

Thea and Gabriel's chemistry in this novel is just fabulous and makes you speechless! And when there is spy mystery in the book it adds cherry to cake!

Nice book of family relationships, love, trust and mystery with action! Worth a read! Grace Callaway is sure to keep you on your toes and will stay in head!!!

Linda says

[that Malcolm was alive (hide spoiler)]

Iza says

4.5 rounded up to 5 for Goodreads.

I loved this novel, however not as much as the first - probably because of Gabriel's personality. I really didn't like him at first, found him too ridden with guilt, too cold, but finally, I warmed up to him some more. His past made him the way he is, but he was intelligent enough to get locked up in it.

However, Thea, that's what I call a heroin, a wonderful one ! The shy lamb who emerged from her shell, who showed personality, persuasion, patience : I absolutely loved her, she made the book for me. I admired how she stood up to him when she needed to, how she understood him and undertook to make his conquest !

And let's not forget the characters from the first instalment, whom we see more than just a glimpse, I loved their interactivity, their wit, their banter.

Excellent series :)

Lily says

This book was so much fun! I loved the passion, the intrigue and the multi-dimensional characters. Thea was everything you hope for in a heroine. Her delicate constitution does not hold her back from being a strong, spirited and intelligent woman. Gabriel, despite being widowed and having his own demons to tame, is her perfect mate and their chemistry is explosive. The sexual attraction between them sizzles and there is a slight dominant/submissive bent to their interaction that I wish could have been further explored. It added another dimension to their relationship and while pretty hot, it could have been so much hotter. The mysterious plot had nice twists and turns and I enjoyed how the whole family got involved in working together to solve it. Great characters and an entertaining storyline makes this a very engaging read. Looking forward to reading more from Grace Callaway.

Michelle says

Although not as good as the first book, this book was still very enjoyable. I love Dorothea and Gabriel's relationship. It does remind a bit of Emma and Alaric in *The Duke Who Knew Too Much*. Gabriel is plagued by his past as a spy and guilt of having pleasures his late wife didn't share. Thea suffers from poor health but wants to be anything but weak or seen as so. Gabriel's past comes back to haunt when his old mentor is murdered and he is on a hunt to find the killer, who just happens to be one of his old comrades. I didn't enjoy the overall plot as much as the first that's why I couldn't give this a 5 star rating but it is still a good plot just a little predictable. The romance though. Swoon worthy. If you like the romance in the first book then you will love Thea and Gabriel. Gabriel has the sweetest and brightest son who suffers from poor health so him and Thea connect which was really sweet. Overall the story was good, not my favorite though but the romance is completely worth the read.

Overall: 4 stars

Gilgamesha says

As usual Callaway manages to entertain the reader to the point where you forget to look for historical accuracies or plot inconsistencies...so I couldn't comment on that front but what I can tell you about is her ability to flawlessly flow the plot.....a novel in her hand is like a AMG GT in the hand of a good driver....no bumps, or swerves, or jerky breaking...just one smooth ride lol. The intimate scenes in the hand of any other author would come off vulgar and cheap...but Callaway immerses it in so much love, and passion, and longing, and angst that you can't help but respond. I still skim read them (with a flushed face lol).

What I liked about this book: The Kent family was back yayyy. Thea was as surprisingly delightful to me as she was to Tremont. I hate when writers continue to claim heroines as strong and resourceful but then her actions are written to be too shrewish or even timid. Thea exudes strength...and her actions are there to testify her strength instead of the author's words. Tremont's personality was interesting....his pigheadedness in any other hero would have been intolerable to me but he comes across as an individual who is terrified of the amount of emotion he is capable of feeling. His behavior is also justified because of his past...so his not just an ass for the sake of being one.

What I disliked about this book: From about 40 to 60% the book became repetitive so it could have benefited from a good editor. Also what is up with her and keeping the heroine a virgin in all ways but one... Tremont and Thea enjoy alot of sensual games but he halts the intimacy....it makes no sense what Callaway is trying to prove here. After everything they do the heroine is no longer considered innocent one way or another....an uncertain future is not the reason either....and any moral or religious argument stands no chance because they are already 'you know'. So why??? I can't find a logical reason and as you can tell it frustrates me lol.

Callaway used every predictable ploy to move along the novel but the finale still managed to maintain elements of surprise.

I loved it.

Patricia says

As I was heading into chapter 17, I couldn't contain myself and just had to share with Grace my views thus far on M is for Marquess and I quote: Lard Tunderin Jaysus is this book ever brilliant, and it most definitely is one of the best books I've read this year so far. It delivers every element you want where you'll become absolutely riveted to the story unfolding, envisioning you becoming one with this book. The writing is superb and it runs so fluidly throughout that makes this story fast paced and thrilling. You'll be feeling the tension unfolding and just luv in it. The main characters, Gabriel and Thea, are both strong characters, but we see their weaknesses which enables us to connect so readily with them. We feel their struggles and in the case of Gabriel, we want to just jump right in and fix him. We want to be Thea. Gads he's so delicious. What I love about Thea's character is that in her mind, she thinks others view her as being meek and mild, having a debilitating weakness that slows her down. She's the middle child in the Kent family, each character possessed with a strong backbone and brains. Thea viewed things on the sidelines. Yet she knows what she wants and takes measures to build on her character to become a different Thea. She is smart enough to know that if she doesn't get what she wants, she'll move on. She won't waste time on anyone who won't give her what she wants, that being love. She's not a wishy washy character. This shows that she has guts, courage and strength. Past characters revisit that make this story become more personal. I would recommend reading

Ambrose and Emma's story first for continuity but this book can be read as a standalone but why not read their stories? They were exceptional reads and it will only enhance M is for Marquess much better for your reading experience. The suspense, the intrigue, the whodunit to the most sensual decadent intimacy between Gabriel and Thea (absolutely smoking hot) as I said will keep you riveted to this book. Well done Grace and now I am left with one massive book hangover. I'm preordering the next book once I get wind when it'll be released.

Virginia says

I didn't like this as much as the first book in the series, mostly because this one was a lot less drama filled lol. The main couple in this, Thea and Gabriel, kind of were already a thing at the start of the book, and it kind of felt like the early stages of their relationship were kind of glossed over. Like from the first chapter we already know they've kissed and courted each other, so it kind of took some of the excitement out of it. I do think that they were an entertaining couple but nothing that really stands out. It just felt like their relationship was rushed in some places, but I did enjoy it at the end of the day. I didn't love his whole view on his ex wife, and I know it's kind of explained at the end for not being what it seems, but it still took away from my enjoyment whenever he brought up the fact that his ex wife was this paragon of virtue.

Overall, I'm beginning to see that Grace Callaway's books are fast, quick fun to turn your mind off too. The characters are never particularly irritating or frustrating, her books are a very smooth, easy to follow reading experience. However, with that quality of writing it does make it difficult to be really invested in her books, this one in particular. Again, I enjoyed this but I certainly didn't have any connection to the characters or the plot, it was just quick fun to lose my mind in for a few hours. I don't think having that quality to her books is a bad thing necessarily because I very much plan on continuing this series but it won't have an emotional resonance with me.

Lubnaa says

[When I was first introduced to Thea, she reminded me of Win from *Seduce Me At Sunrise* and Helen from *Marrying Winterborne*. What differentiates this story from these two novels is the hero and heroine. Not only is Tremont a spy, he has almost animal-like urges, more so than Merripen and Rhys, who showcased that side of their nature way after they were intimate

Sheila Melo says

Hot, Sexy Romance. Loved the Heroine

"She would give anything to have a full life, one unhindered by her body's limitations."

THE STORY: Gabriel Ridgley, Marquess of Tremont is called the Angel by society because of his above reproach behavior. He is a widower raising his son. Little does society know that Gabriel spent years as a spy during the war with Napoleon. Gabriel's calm exterior hides a man with deep passions who is haunted by his actions. Now the past has returned with danger against Gabriel and those who worked with him during the war. Gabriel is also fighting against his attraction to Miss Dorothea Kent. Dorothea is a frail virgin who Gabriel knows won't be able to handle his dark passions. Thea spent years as a sickly child but doesn't want

to be viewed that way anymore. She is determined to be strong and get what she wants -- a husband and a family.

OPINION: I really liked Thea as a heroine. She may have medical challenges that have limited her life before, but that has made her will very strong. She is truly the heart and center of her family and she wants a family of her own. Although everyone wants to keep her protected, she is determined to forge her own way. She wants Gabriel but won't be satisfied with being a pretty ornament. She wants to be a partner. Gabriel is a man who is tormented by his past. He is a good man who has been hurt by many people. He blames himself for the problems in his first marriage because he thinks himself as defective. These two characters are an interesting match in that way. Everyone believes Thea defective but she doesn't see herself that way; everyone sees Gabriel as perfect, but he sees himself as defective.

The plot of this book involving the mystery of who is out to kill Gabriel's comrades is interesting and keeps the romance moving forward. It always felt like it supported the romance and did not feel like an afterthought.

The romance between Gabriel and Thea is really hot. The two of them have a great chemistry and the scenes between them burn up the pages.

WORTH MENTIONING: For fans of Callaway's books, there are some nice cameos by other characters in the Heart of Enquiry series.

FINAL DECISION: I really liked Thea. She made the book for me. This story is also seriously hot like many of Callaway's books.

CONNECTED BOOKS: M IS FOR MARQUESS is the second book in the Heart of Enquiry series. This book can be read as a standalone although there are recurring characters. The story, however, is self-contained.

STAR RATING: I give this book 4.25 stars.
