



A Marriage Has Been Arranged (Harlequin Romance)

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Pride and prejudice!

Holly knew she wasn't beautiful, but still hoped that one day she'd find a man who would love her and wed her! Trouble was, the only man she had ever really wanted was Pierce Sutherland!

What chance did she have with a man like him? Women like her glamorous blond stepsister had always been much more his type. Which was why she had been shocked at this errant bachelor's proposal. Pierce Sutherland wanted to marry her?plain old Holly! But could per pride allow her to accept a man who was marrying her not for love but convenience?

Anne Weale's seventieth romance!

A Marriage Has Been Arranged (Harlequin Romance) Details

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From Reader Review A Marriage Has Been Arranged (Harlequin Romance) for online ebook

Caro Charmie says

Leída bajo el título: Esperando al príncipe azul. realmente no se porque la leí ?????????? innecesaria. chica de baja autoestima se reencuentra con un ex novio de su libertina hermanastra. nada más q agregar.

boogenhagen says

h hates H cause she thinks he corrupted her step sister into being a professional mistress and because he has no sense of humor.

The H falls in love at first sight five years after their first meeting and she is attracted but really doesn't like what she perceives as his character. The H works overtime to show her the real him and love ensues but they decide to marry for businesslike reasons.

There are also two cats, Parson the alley cat and Louisa an illegal immigrant Maine Coon, (extra points for cat bonus).

Finally they confess they really do love each other and HEA. I liked this one too and not just cause of the cats.

The H and h had valid reasons for their attitudes and the way they handled themselves. They were a good pair and I enjoyed the courtship and HEA.

Naksed says

_"Who knows? Like the grain of sand the oyster deals with by creating a pearl, our mutual irritation may eventually be transformed into an enjoyable friendship. Are you prepared to give it a try?"

_"Not really", Holly said coolly, "I don't believe you're capable of friendship with a woman any more than a leopard can be friends with a gazelle."

What I enjoyed most in Anne Weale's *A Marriage Has Been Arranged* were the feisty dialogue between reformed rake, do-gooder entrepreneur, adventurous and very Alpha H and the strong, smart, artistic, sensitive garden designer h.

I also liked the cats. He has a female and she has a male, both fiercely jealous over their persons and quite tentative about sharing their space with each other.

What I didn't like so much was that H had a fling with h' stepsister five years prior, which was particularly

eecky because the sisters were and continue to be close even if they are different as night and day. Heroine ruefully sees herself as the bookish, down-to-earth Elizabeth Bennett to her gorgeous stepsister's Jane but stepsis really struck me more as the odious Lydia, acquisitive, shallow and dim.

Hero is a very good stand-in for a modern day Darcy. Chivalrous, intelligent, full of old-world charm, and besotted with h from the very first moment she tells him off quite brutally but not undeservedly during a chance meeting five years after he pumped and dumped her "bore" of a stepsister.

I just didn't quite get why he proposed a marriage of convenience when he was in love with her and realized from Day One (as he told his mom) that he had finally found the only girl he wanted to spend the rest of his life with and he would do everything in his power to induce her to fall in love with him despite her initial resistance and dislike.

It was obvious that h had mellowed out by the time he got around to his very unromantic and roundabout marriage proposal (telling her they should honeymoon in Venice if she felt like it), so why not take a chance to tell her how he felt ? Was he that scared and unsure of himself that he thought this unique, both modern and old-fashioned, smart and funny girl would balk at an honest declaration and instead agree to a cold merger? I didn't think that part of it was either genuine or satisfying. The ending was quite abrupt and lacked some angst.

As usual with AW, a great beginning and middle, concluding abruptly and underwhelmingly. Quel dommage!

I'll remember this one for:

The cats, Louisa of the kohl-rimmed eyes and Parsons the neutered tabby with the white clerical collar round his neck;

The prank heroine played as a teenager by wearing a pair of gag giant hairy feet to a posh soiree hoping to make the hero laugh and deciding he was a pompous ass when he didn't;

The heroine's ...ahem...unique fashion sense in wearing a multicolored jacket stitched with shoelaces (yes you read that right, shoelaces) and pairing it with a violet skirt and sheer violet stay-ups (no word on makeup but it is safe to assume violet eye shadow and plum lipstick completed that look);

And the romantic private concert hero organized for his bride in a deserted Piazza San Marco. How these two were too shy to say the words ILY when every single action showed how in love they were boggles the mind!

PS I can't believe it but I found a pic of that Moschino shoelace jacket. Like, it really was a thing and not a product of author's imagination. Baffles the mind, really, ROFL!
