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Lost in a Royal Kiss Details

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From Reader Review Lost in a Royal Kiss for online ebook

Debra Martin says

This introductory novella to Ms. Kelly's RENEGADE ROYALS series is a very enjoyable read. The tension between Sir Anthony and Linnet is well done, but I would have liked to learn more of why Linnet was avoiding him. They obviously have feelings for each other, but neither of them think the other is interested in a relationship so they both dance around the issue. Back and forth, they say things that lead to more misunderstandings and hurt feelings, but will they finally be able to confess their love for each and find their happy ending? I was pleased that Linnet was portrayed as a strong and capable young woman and not a simpering maiden. That was a refreshing change from many other regency stories. With the introduction of young Dominic and Chloe into the story and their most grievous problem, the story was packed with interesting characters. With the Epilogue, it was good to know that we'll be learning more of what happens to Dominic and Chloe.

I received this title from the publisher in exchange for a fair and honest review.

Julie says

Lost in a Royal Kiss by Vanessa Kelly is a 2013 Zebra publication.

This novella kicks off the Renegade Royals series and starts off by telling the story of Linnet and Sir Anthony.

This is an author who is new to me and I was impressed with this short story so I'm queuing up a few of her books now. It's hard to find regency period romance that impresses me these days, but I think this series just might change my mind about that.

Linnet is highly organized and the guardian over her siblings while her mother attends the queen at court. But, when she learns a young woman has been taken advantage of by one of the prince's, she turns to Sir Anthony, a man she has been avoiding due to her intense attraction to him.

Sir Anthony has been quite put out with Linnet and her avoidance of him, but when she turns to him with this delicate situation, he is more than happy to help. Now, if he can just convince her they are a good match and should be married.

This is a great start for a new series which gives us a sexy and sweet romance, but also sets the stage for what is sure to be a lot of action and intrigue in the future. Chloe and Dominic's story is going to be fascinating and exciting and I can't wait to see how it all turns out.

4 stars

Caz says

This was a reasonably entertaining novella which tells part of the backstory of one of the central characters in Ms Kelly's upcoming *Renegade Royals* series.

When he is just fourteen, Dominic Hunter – the son of a butcher who, in a rather misguided act of charity on the part of Queen Charlotte, was brought up alongside some of the royal princes – falls in love with Chloe Steele, the daughter of the boys' tutor.

Chloe, however, has been seduced by Prince Ernest, which has outraged Dominic to the extent that he knocks seven bells out of the prince, something which, needless to say, could land him in very hot water indeed.

Fortunately for the hotheaded young man, he has a worthy protectress in the form of Linnet St. Clair, whose mother is one of the governesses in the royal household. Linnet seeks the help of the powerful Sir Anthony Dain, court liaison to the Home Office, knowing that he will be able to protect Dominic and also put the fear of God into the prince so that he will not go near Chloe again.

As well as setting up the rest of the series, the novella also spins a charming little romance between Linnet and Sir Anthony, who are actually in love with each other, but don't know exactly how the other feels about them.

It's a pleasant, straightforward read and it sets up the series nicely. In that respect, it's better thought-out and written than many similar novellas I've read, as it's pretty much self-contained (although there is a bit of a cliffhanger at the end, it doesn't spoil the whole). But *unlike* some other novellas I've read, it's not especially enthralling and the characterisation, while completely acceptable is not particularly deep.

If you've got an hour to spare and are thinking of reading the upcoming series then sure, give this a spin because it's certainly not horrible, but it's not absolutely necessary to have read it before *Secrets for Seducing a Royal Bodyguard*, which is the first full-length novel in the set.

Carrie says

I was hopping for a little more in this novella, yes I understand it is just a taste a teaser but I still feel it was missing something.

Cora Lee says

I have a personal aversion to alpha-holes, and Sir Anthony ticked all the boxes for me. He was controlling, always trying to keep the heroine from getting away from him ("caging" and "trapping" her, "clamping" his hands on her), making her decisions for her, intimidating her. Not my idea of sexy.

The storyline was good, though, and I'm interested to see how Dominic grows in the following books.

Shauni says

Reviewed Originally For: Bodice Rippers, Femme Fatales and Fantasy

In book her introduction to the Renegade Royals Series, Vanessa Kelly shares with us the trials and tribulations of those attached to the royal court. A woman enforced to raise her siblings because her mother has been called as governess to the royal children and can not be expected or allowed to the time to raise her own children. A man who has created his life around become the King's chief magistrate.. A child who was taken from the world he knew and raised as an experiment, a commoner raised right alongside the King's children.. So much is wrong with this world and yet when two people truly connect, so very much is right.

Linnet St. Clare has all but raised her siblings.. having given up all chances of a family of her own. She knows her place is with them and yet in the deepest parts of her heart lies a secret yearning.. But she remains ever practical and alone. When a ward of the King, risks all to save the honor of one of his friends.. Linnet steps in to save him and takes him to the most honest and decent man she knows. Hoping above hope that he can save young Domic from his own rage.

Sir Anthony Tait has made a good life for himself and yet he still wants more. He knows if given time he can convince the lovely Linnet to become his bride. He is determined that she would be his, so when she appears at his home with a young man at her side he is more than willing to step in to aid her. When he discovers just why she needs him he is even more determined to assist. Righting a wrong and saving the girl.. win/win

Anthony and Linnet while attracted to each other must live in the royal world where their lives are not truly their own. They owe their very existence to the royal family and both know that maneuvering amongst them can be dangerous. But still but know that some things must be done and some stands must be made. This was a fun fast read and rather pleasant. While it teases us with dark and dastardly doings for the most part we see life through the lives of Linnet, Anthony and sometimes Dominic.

A PreRegency novel worth the time to enjoy.

Shauni

This review is based on the ARC of *Lost in a Royal Kiss*, provided by netgalley and is scheduled to be released on November 26, 2013

Lisa says

This was an excellent little novella with heat, family and love and a wonderful way to set up an exciting new series! Anthony and Linnet have cared for each other for years but never acted upon those feelings but a late night trip to the library changes everything. Just when Anthony feels like it is all finally falling into place, his mouth doesn't utter quite the right words and a new barrier arises. Throw in a complicated young love, Anthony and Linnet need to find the right way to finally talk to each other and find their happiness. How that comes about was a delight to read and I can't wait to read the rest of this series! Well done, I thoroughly enjoyed this gem! (I also loved Vanessa Kelly's note about the series at the end and clearly spelling out what is to come).

review copy

UniquelyMoi ~ BlithelyBookish says

Lost in a Royal Kiss is the introduction to Vanessa Kelly's new *Renegade Royals* series, and it's currently FREE for Kindle!

Amazon: <http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B00D...>

Cover:

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Anna's Herding Cats says

I'll give it to Kelly. She creates some really stand out amazing characters and doesn't waste any time making you fall for them. *Lost in a Royal Kiss* was a great little read that had me hooked on Linnet and Anthony from pretty much the first paragraph as they drive each other crazy...and fall in love.

Anthony and Linnet. These two...I absolutely adored them both. Anthony was just so freaking cute. The man is smitten with Linnet and wants to be her husband...passionately. And she has absolutely no clue. LOL He's a good guy, sexy, responsible and lordy he pretty much loses all his smooth when it comes to Linnet. I just love a flustered man on the chase.

And Linnet, she's really an amazing heroine who truly cared for others and was an absolute force to be reckoned with. She's no delicate flower and has no problem setting men straight or pinning them with 'the look' to get them in line. I loved the fire in her and that she was also rather proper in some regards even if she was a bit unconventional in other ways.

Deceptively petite, sweetly plump, and with the face of an angel, she'd fooled many an unwary man into thinking she had the personality of a celestial being, as well.

How wrong they were.

But where some saw a managing female, Anthony saw a woman determined to make the world a better place, especially for those she loved.

These two, well, they're kind of adorable together. They've known each other for a while now, have great chemistry--even if they're butting heads and just fit nicely together. What really did me in was Anthony and that he loved Linnet for exactly who she was--stubborn, feisty and bold--and treasured her. If he could only get her to stay put long enough to woo her and make her his--something she's making oh so very difficult for him until circumstances have them joining forces to help two young teenagers in a heartbreaking situation.

I really enjoyed how things played out for Linnet and Anthony--they didn't have the smoothest of courtships but it was definitely worth the bumps in the road. And while the secondary storyline really made my blood boil it was nicely done as well and touched my heart. All in all, *Lost in a Royal Kiss* was a quick read but a satisfying one-- it that had me laughing, made me tear up a little and really peaked my interest in the series to come.

Amanda says

The romance between Linnet and *Sir* Anthony was hilarious in their inability to fucking talk to each other. And though this trait in a couple usually drives me insane, with them it was just weirdly cute. I enjoyed their story.

P.S. CHLOE AND DOMINIC'S LETTERS BROKE ME. That is all.

Becca says

This short novella that introduced Vanessa Kelly's *Renegade Royals* series has been languishing on my kindle forever so I decided to check it out.

Needless to say, I finished it in one sitting this morning. While the plot was simple and most of the feelings between the characters had developed before the book opened, I thought for a novella that this was a solid choice. It was fun to be dropped into the middle of a story where the characters already share feelings for each other but are at an impasse regarding how to move forward. The story opens with the hero finally making a move. Linnet and Sir Anthony are both strong people and want to care for those around them. However, they also care for each other and are unsure how to mesh their lives together. It was fun watching Anthony slowly woo Linnet and I enjoyed seeing his appeal through her eyes. That said, the two do have a sex scene, during a house party, in the host's study. What? They didn't even lock the door! This seemed risky to me, but hey, they were getting married anyway I guess. Just be warned :)

The backdrop for this story is one I don't read often and involves some of the influences of court life and how the players within that fabric need to tread carefully. I found it an interesting premise. While most of the books in the series do not grab me, I plan to check out one of them (Book 4 looks good) and also to read the other novella about the two young/childhood lovers in this story (Book 2.5).

Tin says

This is the second free e-novella I've read that introduces a new series (*see Kate Pearce*). As such, I expected it to accomplish one thing: explain the origins of the Renegade Royals.

It surprises me that this e-novella is only one page more than Pearce's but the pace is slower and more leisurely. I don't know if this is a good thing or a bad thing because it did still manage to tell a complete story while adhering to the short format. And this was my reflection for yesterday: the format is the same, the purpose is the same -- but the approach and style are different. The earlier e-novella was a page-turner: fast-paced and action-oriented, whereas Kelly's storytelling is more relaxed, more languorous -- dwelling on the details of court, of life, of the tenuous situation Anthony and Linnet find themselves in: they serve at court but their positions are not entirely secure and they are beholden to the good graces of their patrons, the king and queen.

The story of Anthony and Linnet poses two questions:

1. Why is Linnet avoiding Anthony? Why can't she tell him her reasons?
2. How will Anthony and Linnet solve Dominic and Chloe's problem?

The story shifts between the unspoken tension between Linnet and Anthony and Dominic and Chloe's problem with Prince Ernest and how Anthony and Linnet are supposed to figure it out -- it made me wonder about the series in general: whether the Renegade Royals referred to Anthony or to Dominic. (If the previous, then the latter's story would have been extraneous and the author should have just focused on developing Linnet and Anthony. If the latter, then his story should have been developed further. In the middle part, Dominic and Chloe disappear from the story and are only mentioned from time to time -- they reappear at the end.)

The bulk of the novella focuses on the conflict between our hero and heroine: Anthony raises this question early in the story -- why is Linnet avoiding him? I thought the answer was very obvious to both of them but Linnet was too much of a lady to speak so frankly and Anthony was too much of a gentleman to presume. In this, Kelly portrays court life so clearly and reveals the very frustrating situation lovers find themselves in during that time.

She'd lost count of the times he'd made her feel like a blushing maiden. Strictly speaking, she was still a maiden, but she'd given up blushing years ago -- along with simpering, flirting, and so many other talents deemed useful to unmarried women.

- loc 212

* * *

Anthony let out a sigh as he watched her go. He had the ear of the king and controlled more of England's business than he cared to think about, but apparently he lacked the wit to manage one small and very stubborn woman.

- loc 577

But I did wish they had the conversation revealing their feelings *before* they did the deed -- it does not sit well with me when such important revelations happen during such an intimate moment. It makes me wonder at the sincerity of the parties involved -- and this became Linnet's problem too: she doubted and I don't blame her for doubting. If only~

In the heat of the moment, they'd certainly declared their desire for each other, but neither had truly professed any degree of emotion.

- loc 806

I honestly thought Dominic and Chloe had the more interesting story: only 14 and having to grow up faster because of what happened to Chloe. I was relieved to know (through the Epilogue) that I will be reading more about them in the series. In her author's notes, Vanessa Kelly also briefly outlines the stories of the first 3 books and, I have to say, I am intrigued by the idea of spies with a side mission (thus, the Renegade Royal title).

Aoi says

DNFing in frustration.. Nearly 3 chapters in, and NOTHING of import has happened.

Misfit says

That was forgettable. Lots of scowls and growls from the hero as he lusted after the heroine. Sex in the library (and in someone else's home at that!). Hero came thisclose to making the *peen reaches the womb* shelf at GR. I believe I'll pass on the rest of the series.

Moving on...

Alexia Chantel says

Lost in a Royal Kiss is a sweet little novella that introduces Kelly's new Renegade Royals series.

Vanessa starts off the series with two slightly out of the ordinary characters as far as romances go. The heroine, Linnet, is a woman with plenty of curves in the right places. And the hero, Anthony, is the one who is doing the pursuing. It is a nice change to have the man plotting and laying traps to obtain the object of his affection. The interactions between these two will make you smile.

A nice historical romance and introduction to the series.

