



Scandal in Spring

Lisa Kleypas

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Quirky and fun-loving American heiress Daisy Bowman is the last unmarried Wallflower. Her exasperated father has informed her that if she can't find a husband by the end of her third London season, she will be forced to marry a man she hates—the ruthless entrepreneur Matthew Swift.

Daisy is horrified. A Bowman never admits defeat, so she decides to do whatever it takes to marry someone... anyone... other than Matthew. What she doesn't count on, however, is Matthew's unexpected charm, or the blazing sensuality that soon flares beyond both their control. And Daisy discovers that the man she has always hated just might turn out to be the man of her dreams.

But when a scandalous secret is uncovered, it could destroy both Matthew and a love more passionate and irresistible than Daisy's wildest fantasies.

Scandal in Spring Details

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From Reader Review Scandal in Spring for online ebook

Mo says

I liked Daisy in the previous books. She is the last Wallflower in need of a husband. Mama, of course, wants an aristocrat. Daisy just wants someone to love her for what she is ... she is a little romantic, a bit scatterbrained, somewhat unpredictable, a dreamer, a reader, a true friend ...

“Most lives are not distinguished by great achievements. They are measured by an infinite number of small ones. Each time you do a kindness for someone or bring a smile to his face, it gives your life meaning. Never doubt your value, little friend. The world would be a dismal place without you in it.”

-- WESTCLIFF. Aw, loved him too.

I loved Matthew. The tall American who works for Daisy's father. Daisy has never liked him in the past, when their paths crossed. But she hasn't seen him in years ... and he has changed, quite a lot! He is tall, handsome, rich.

"I'd spend eternity in hell for one hour with you"

"I want to be part of you," he whispered.

"I want forever with you."

Of course, it is not all plain sailing. There are secrets to be uncovered.

Damn it all, he thought, can nothing involving the Bowmans ever be simple?

LOL. No!

Book three was my least favourite but enjoyed the other books in the series very much. I liked catching up with the characters from the previous books too.

Rachel Reads Ravenously says

3.5 stars

I've been going through a massive reading/reviewing slump lately. I think this book was a massive victim of that slump. I hoped a Wallflower book would pull me out of it, but alas it didn't. There's nothing wrong with this book, I just failed to connect to it. My fault and not the author's.

This book is about the youngest wallflower Daisy, whose father declares a match for her when she doesn't procure an English husband. Unfortunately, Daisy hates the American businessman her father chose, despises him in fact. But sometimes the person we least suspect is the perfect person for you!

Anyways, I liked parts of this book but wasn't feeling it. I loved the first 3 books in this series, and I will happily read more by Kleypas in the future.

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UniquelyMoi ~ BlithelyBookish says

Book 4 in the Wallflower series finds Daisy Bowman, the only wallflower yet unwed, being faced with an ultimatum: Find a suitable husband by the end of May, or be forced to wed a man of her father's choosing. Who is that man? Matthew Swift, Thomas Bowman's protégé and the last person on the planet that Daisy would ever consider marrying.

Matthew Swift learns about the marriage ultimatum from Daisy herself. While he has secretly adored her for years, there are skeletons in his closet that would threaten any chance they might have at happiness, so Matthew has decided to spare her the pain and embarrassment of his past that he knows will catch up with him eventually. He does this by trying to push her away, insult her and finally, he attempts to fix her up with someone else, even though it tears his heart out to do so.

Each book has its own memorable moments and things that made me laugh. There were many such instances in this book, but the one that I still find myself *giggling* over was in regards to the lawn bowling game in which Daisy and Matthew found themselves opponents. The game had been relatively civilized for a while, though it was a very short while. Their teammates long forgotten in the heat of competition, Kleypas segues into the frenzied game:

Years later it would still be called the most blood thirsty game of lawn bowling ever witnessed at Stony Cross. The game was extended to 30 points, and then 50, and then Daisy lost count. They fought over every inch of ground and every rule of play. They mulled over each shot as if fates of nations depended on it. And most of all, they devoted themselves to knocking each other's bowls into the ditch.

The game that followed was, for me, laugh out loud funny and will be one of my favorite moments from any book.

As always, Lisa Kleypas gives us characters who are more than just words on the page. They are people we care about, cheer for and sometimes even cry for. Her stories are well thought out, and her writing style is easy and comfortable. While describing the settings in splendid detail – so much so that I was able to imagine myself right there in the midst of it all with very little effort, I never felt like there was a droning on of unimportant words meant simply to fill the page.

Lisa Kleypas has quickly become one of my very favorite authors, and The Wallflower series will be added to my list of books to be read time and time again.

Jessica's Totally Over The Top Book Obsession says

4 Standing by your man Stars

Scandal in Spring was a touching and sweet read. I loved Daisy and Matthew. Matthew had a funny dry sense of humor that was very charming. Daisy was a romantic and a dreamer. They made a cute couple. I thought Matthew was so sweet the way he loved Daisy. I loved the bowls war they had. I laughed so hard. I have to say I really don't like Daisy and Lillian's parents. Just sayin' they are cold-hearted assholes. This book was a little slower for me than some of the others in this series. There was some action towards the end, and a really sad part that made me tear up. Overall I enjoyed this book. Devil in Winter is still my favorite of the series!

Auntee says

I loved this story! Maybe it was because I approached it with lower expectations, since *everyone* has said it's not as good as the first three **Wallflower** books, or maybe it was because LK is such a fabulous storyteller, and *made* me fall in love with the characters...but who cares--I thoroughly enjoyed it!

Thinking back on the other **Wallflowers** stories, maybe *Scandal In Spring* doesn't quite have all the drama, or even the passion (although Daisy and Matthew were passionate enough for me) of the other books, and maybe Daisy and Matthew's relationship wasn't as volatile as the others, but there was plenty to love in this sweet (and sexy) story.

I loved how Daisy and Matthew met (or should I say "re-met", since they'd known each other for quite a while). I'm assuming that Matthew and Daisy hadn't seen each other for three years (she being in England and Matthew in New York), and Daisy (and her sister Lillian) remembering Matthew as being this unattractive, gangly string-bean, know-it-all "suck-up" who works for her father. Daisy's father has given up hope that she'll find a peer to marry, and he wants to marry her off in the worst way, so he tells her that he's picked out Matthew Swift for her. Daisy (and Lillian) are aghast at this idea, and Daisy's determined that this not happen. But when Daisy meets Matthew at the wishing well at Stony Cross...oh wow, she can't believe how he's "filled out" and how attractive he's become. There's a bit of a spark there, but Daisy fights it. When Daisy confronts Matthew with her father's idea for them, Matthew assures Daisy that it will never happen, that he "can't" marry her. Hmmm, what does that mean...?

Throughout the story we're told about Matthew's long hidden desires for Daisy, but how he's determined to not let anything happen between them, no matter how much he longs for her. We're left to wonder just what he's hiding, and if Daisy will ever find out his secrets. I must confess when I did find out what he was hiding, it wasn't as bad as I'd imagined. And I loved how Daisy and Westcliff (and even Lillian and Thomas Bowman) supported him and were determined to see that he and Daisy get their HEA. These scenes brought a few tears to my eyes.

There were many scenes between Matthew and Daisy that I enjoyed, but one of my favorites was an early one--their encounter with the trapped goose. Hilarious! Another was when Matthew rescued Daisy from the wild boar--this was when Daisy and Matthew both knew that the attraction between the two of them was mutual, and the reader knows that things are about to heat up. And probably one of the most emotional for me was when he presented her with the "daisy" ring (*sigh*)

The love scenes? Verrry satisfying. I loved how Daisy was not a shrinking violet and often took the initiative, and delighted in provoking Matthew into losing control. While Matthew was described as being practical and "dependable"...dependable does not mean boring! I *really* felt the love between these two.

One other thing made this book so satisfying to read, and that was the inclusion of all the other wallflowers (Lillian, Annabelle, and Evie) in the story, and to read about their ongoing friendship. Wow, those ladies have some great dialogue in this book! They always make me laugh! I also enjoyed seeing the continuation of Westcliff's and Lillian's relationship (loved Westcliff's devotion to her), and I particularly loved the amount of page time Westcliff got in the story, and how he turned out to be such a friend to Daisy and Matthew. He may be my favorite hero in the whole series.

So fans of this series, if you've been holding out on reading this one because you've heard it wasn't that great, just remember a "not so great" book by Lisa Kleypas is better than a lot of books out there. I loved this one, and I'm so sorry that I only have one more to read in this memorable series. Now on to A Wallflower Christmas! 4 1/2 stars

Phrynne says

I am really enjoying this series even though I am managing to read them all completely out of order. I have always been a fan of all things Regency, starting with my love for Georgette Heyer, and this author's books just fit the bill.

Lisa Kleypas has a talent for writing charming characters and witty dialogue. It is nice too the way she brings back the characters from previous books so we can see how their lives have progressed.

Altogether light, entertaining and very enjoyable!

Lover of Romance says

Daisy Bowman, the last of the wallflowers left to marry, has had three seasons and has yet to find a man to marry. So her father insists that she has two months to find a husband, or she will be marrying Matthew Swift. From what she remembers of Matthew Swift is a cold man so much like her father, who is driven and intelligent, but when she meets him again she is stung by how much he has changed over the years. No longer a "bag of cabbage" he is handsome, strong features and mesmerizing. So with the help of her brother

n' law and Evie's husband, they have selected some gentlemen eligible for her, to come to Westcliff's home in the country. Matthew Swift exudes charm and sensual beauty that has every woman tittering in his favor. However Daisy is insistent on trying to ignore Matthew, but as much as she tries, she finds herself feeling more alive around Matthew than any other man. His kisses waken up her senses, and she aches not only for his sensual touch but she also aches to know the man as well. But Matthew is hiding something, something that haunts him and could destroy everything....Scandal In The Spring is the fourth in the Wallflower Series. This is Daisy's story. I find that whenever I read any books from this author, I just fall in love with the story and the characters, and the same is true for Scandal In Spring. It was such a delight to read this one, and it has been some time since I have. I loved both of these characters, as far as hero's go Matthew Swift is one of my favorites. He is handsome, driven, passionate, and throughout the story we see Matthew come to life. The interaction between Matthew and Daisy is witty, fun, and at times sensual; and entertaining to the reader. As far as love stories go this is a golden treasure, and one that will charm any reading with a romantic heart. Scandal In Spring is definitely at the top of best romances!!

Susanne says

I'll just say I agree on everything the third time around. I cried and laughed just as much as the first two reads.

Updated review after second reread 3/27/13

Oh my freaking god - this book is so amazing! This was the second time around, and if anything I loved it more! I truly love the Wallflower series and this book is my favorite. If I could only read one romance novel ever again, then I would pick this one.

I loved the writing, the humor, the plot, well everything! If I could, I would have highlighted the whole book!

I love Daisy. I see so much of myself in Daisy, and I would like to have her as my new BFF.

She was the most provoking, beguiling woman he had ever met. Thunderstorms and rainbows wrapped together in a convenient pocket-sized parcel.

Her father decides that she must marry before May, or he'll give her to Matthew Swift. Daisy is enraged but when she actually meet Matthew sparks fly. They are absolutely made for each other.

After all, every swift-sailing ship needed an anchor.

And I totally adored Matthew and maybe that has something to do with the fact that he did remind me of someone very close to my own heart. He is not as domineering as Hunt or Westcliff but he definitely hold his own and earn everyone's respect, except maybe Lillian's.

"But as much as I hate to admit it, that puts us in a minority. Swift is liked by everyone in the northern hemisphere, including Westcliff and his friends, my friends, the servants, the neighbors, children, animals and higher order of plants," Lillian finished sardonically. "If root vegetables could talk, I've no doubt they would say they like him, too."

And if not the love story is enough, the book is set almost exclusively on Westcliff's estate. We get to follow the other Wallflowers, and especially Lillian and Westcliff and the birth of their child! They play a huge role in this one, but we also get to spend time with Annabelle, Evie and Simon Hunt. It is a wonderful conclusion to a wonderful series! But do yourself a favor and start from the beginning - it is well worth it.

I cried and in the end I was super giddy. The best epilogue yet! Nerd alert! I also adored that this book deals with industrialism and the decline of aristocracy in England, and I really enjoyed all the conversations on public policy and social reformation. And, there were so many amazing moments. (view spoiler).

Jill says

'Father, wouldn't it be wonderful if hummingbirds had tea parties and we were small enough to be invited?'

Daisy

A lovely romance between a whimsical dreamer and an ambitious, pragmatic businessman. A wonderful story, a hint of mystery, touches of humour and love scenes (mostly) devoid of purple prose. The best in the series.

Steam: 2.5-3

Christina ~ Brunette Reader says

This fourth and last instalment is, on par with the first Secrets of a Summer Night, the one that I found less engaging in the series.

A hero hiding his identity, pining after the heroine since she was fifteen, she who has never spared him a glance until they meet again in England years later where she suddenly "notices" him? Not the best scenario to lure me in as far as my favourite tropes go, and I knew this from the start, but I really wanted to read the complete series so, armed with the best intentions, I gave it a chance anyway.

While Daisy and Matthew share some very cute moments, and Kleypas is always extremely good at conveying sensual chemistry, I couldn't help but being uninterested in their romance as a whole. Daisy is presented as a dreamer, perennially with her nose tucked in a book, but she often appeared immature rather than merely sheltered to me. And Matthew was a brooding hero wallowing too much in his woe-is-me secret lot, when instead his big revelation toward the end felt quite overplayed and farfetched to be convincingly moving, besides once again compressing all the drama in the very last chapters, thus following a pattern I've already recognised in several other Kleypas's plots.

As usual the book was technically well written, with lively dialogues and a fine sense of time and place, and it was nice to see the previous heroes and ex-wallflowers rooting (or meddling in the case of Lillian, the heroine's sister) for the couple.

All in all a worthy last instalment to the series, but having enjoyed a strong book 2 It Happened One Autumn, and loved a fabulous book 3 Devil in Winter, it was quite hard for it to keep up.

Lady Heather says

First read March 15-16 , 2010

Second read March 24, 2013.. yup read it in a day... that good!!

This is the fourth book, and perhaps my favorite in the Wallflower series. In the previous three books we are introduced to Daisy Bowman. The daughter of an American industrialist and entrepreneur. Thomas Bowman has brought his two daughters to England with the sole purpose of them marrying a Peer. His motives for this is so that his business connections will be better when he expands his Soap Empire to England, and he's willing to bargain his daughters in order to close the deal. In his mind, Lillian succeeded greatly in landing the best business connection in all of England by marrying Lord Westcliff because of his long 'pure' family title, and his business connections and investments. Thomas doesn't consider it amazing that it's a true love match.

After two seasons in England, Thomas if fed up with Daisy not catching a Peer, and in his frustration he's given Daisy an ultimatum. Find a husband by the end of the Season (two months) or you'll be forced to marry who he decides she must marry... and that person is none other than his protégé Matthew Swift. Daisy is repulsed by the proposition her father has offered. There's NO WAY she would ever marry Matthew Swift, because to her Matt is exactly like her father. Work and business first and foremost, and to hell with family and friends.

Daisy and all her siblings know how they were brought up...their Mother was satisfied with the wealth her husband provided, oblivious to his countless affairs, and her not showing one ounce of love or compassion to her children. Their father was the extreme opposite. He set such high standards for his children, thinking that they were ungrateful and lazy, and that they "expected" a life of luxury because they never had to work for anything. He made it was impossible for them to please him no matter how they tried. He never showed them love, but if anything He constantly criticized their behavior for not being good enough for him.

Out of all the Bowman children, Daisy is the youngest and the one with the softest of characters, and the least one of his children that Thomas Bowman understands, which is why he feels he has to take matters into his own hands.

Daisy's a reader, she's compassionate, and caring. She cheers for the underdog, and children and animals love her (which is probably why Evie is the most comfortable with Daisy out of all the other Wallflowers).

When I was reading this book, this song "Dreamer" by Supertramp was constantly in my head, because I think it best describes Daisy.

*"Dreamer, you know you are a dreamer
Well can you put your hands in your head, oh no!
I said dreamer, you're nothing but a dreamer
Well can you put your hands in your head, oh no!
I said "Far out, - What a day, a year, a life it is!"
You know, - Well you know you had it comin' to you,
Now there's not a lot I can do
...If I could see something
You can see anything you want boy
If I could be someone-
You can be anyone, celebrate boy.
If I could do something-
Well you can do something,*

*If I could do anything-
Well can you do something out of this world?*

*Take a dream on a Sunday
Take a life, take a holiday
Take a lie, take a dreamer
dream, dream, dream, dream, dream along..."*

When Daisy tells her fellow Wallflowers her predicament, Lillian is livid by the audacity of their father's proposal, and she also agrees with Daisy's assessment of Matthew Swift.. that he's exactly like their father, therefore, an awful match for Daisy! The Wallflower's then take it upon themselves to find Daisy a suitable husband, and fast. Evie gets Sebastian to make a list of eligible respectable bachelors based on the files he has on the members at their gaming club. And, Lillian proceeds to invite the contenders to her country estate, Stony Creek in order to find the most compatible bachelor.

The Wallflower's soon realize that Thomas Bowman has also sent for Matthew Swift from America to join them at the estate.

Frustrated and upset, Daisy takes a walk to the wishing well that she and her fellow Wallflowers all made their first wishes upon the first time they were ever invited to Stony Creek. She figures this she can use all the luck she can get so she makes a very simple wish, "I wish for the right man for me. I'm prepared to be open-minded". She then tossed all the pins she had wrapped in a paper and threw them all in asking the well spirit, "I would like all of these pins to be credited toward the same wish."

.. and at that moment he arrived. "He was as tall and brawny as Annabelle's husband". He seemed awfully familiar to Daisy, but she couldn't place him. He knew her name, and with increasing confusion she couldn't figure out how she would ever forget a man this attractive. "His features were strong and decisively formed, too masculine to be called beautiful, and too striking to be called ordinary". When it finally dawned on her who he was, her knees nearly gave way beneath her. "You, she whispered, her eyes wide with astonishment as she beheld the face of Matthew Swift".

Daisy couldn't stop staring at him. She'd never seen such a transformation in a person before. He was no longer a 'bag of bones', but had filled out quite nicely. He was dressed in elegant clothes. But, the differences in him were more than physical. Maturity had also given Matthew an air of self-confidence that gave the impression that he knew who he was, and how to get what he needed.

... and this is where Daisy & Matthew's adventure begins.

You see, Matthew isn't who he claims to be. He has a secret, one which would destroy the life he's worked so hard to create, and also one that would destroy all relationships he now held dear...including the love he's had for Daisy since the first time he laid eyes on her many years ago, when she was only a teenager and him a young man of 18. Matthew knew he could never have Daisy because of who he is, and where he came from, so he hid his feelings so well that Daisy thought he was just as shallow as her father.

I LOVED this story so much more this time.

Their romance is beautiful and inspiring, and the reader is cheering the whole time, waiting for them to finally connect. We (the reader) are eagerly anticipating for Matthew to finally give into his heart and take what Daisy is offering him... all of her.

And when he does, he is shocked & surprised, but with no regret.

and I've since read the last 2 chapters twice, and every time... I end up balling my eyes out.

I absolutely ADORE Daisy's character!!

Because of her personality and who she is, her love is so strong, and once she loves, she is loyal to the end..which is exactly what Matthew needs.

AND SUCH AN AMAZING EPILOGUE!!!

5 sparkling, beautiful stars!!

Read it... Now!!

María Ángeles says

A pesar de que Daisy es en teoría la más romántica, le ha tocado la historia mas "sosita".

El principio me ha encantado, entre otras cosas, por la lucha interior que sostenía consigo mismo Swift por mantenerse alejado de Daisy. El final en cambio, me ha parecido lentísimo, y ha hecho que mi valoración baje.

Y ya terminada la serie de las Wallflowers (me gusta mucho más que floreros), resumo mis impresiones:

- La mejor pareja: Anabelle y Simon
- El hilo conductor en todos los libros: Marcus Westcliff.
- El más tierno: Sebastian Vincent.
- El descubrimiento: Gretna Green.

Y finalmente... ¡seguiré leyendo a la autora!!!

Duchess Nicole says

I can safely say that I loved all of the Wallflowers, and I loved all of their men. But I do think I loved Matthew Swift most of all. He is such a down to earth person, not really caring about others opinions of him. He just does what he wants, and what he wants is usually wonderfully endearing. His interaction with Annabelle's baby made me melt. He and Daisy's "bloodthirsty lawn bowling" game made me laugh out loud. And his enduring love for Daisy was beautiful. There are so many lines in this book that come from Matthew that I want to put them on a poster and hang them in my room like a teenager.

I adored this addition to the series. They were really all quality reads, but this is my favorite. There's just something about Daisy that I love. Her bookish nature, her romanticism, and her awe of Matthew when she finally gives in to what is building between them. As I said in the update, big fat sigh!!!

Robin (Bridge Four) says

Daisy is the most fanciful of all the Wallflowers. She is forever with her head stuck in a book and thinking random thoughts.

*“When he had explained why investors who wanted low risk and moderate returns should put their capital into national debt shares, Daisy had interrupted him by asking, “**Father, wouldn’t it be wonderful if hummingbirds had tea parties and we were small enough to be invited?**”*

Matthew on the other hand is dependable with two feet firmly on the ground and pockets full of solutions to various problems. He has been in love with Daisy for years, but a secret in his past has made him keep his distance and now when they are thrust together again he is trying very hard to remember how to not let her get under his skin.

She was the most provoking, beguiling woman he had ever met. Thunderstorms and rainbows wrapped together in a convenient pocket-sized parcel

Daisy’s father has finally set down the law, Daisy will need to either find a husband in the next few months or...she will have to marry Matthew. While Daisy’s father is trying to push them together her sister is completely against the idea of Daisy marrying an American and leaving to live in America. She has enlisted her dutiful husband to help dissuade Matthew from pursuing Daisy.

“I informed Mr. Swift quite sternly that I will not allow anyone to make Daisy unhappy. And I demanded that he give me his word not to marry her.”

“Oh, thank God,” Lillian said with a sigh of relief.

“He refused.”

“He what?” Her mouth fell open in astonishment. “But no one refuses you.”

“Apparently Mr. Swift wasn’t told about that,” he said.

I think this was actually my favorite in the series. In all the other Wallflower books the men were rakes and/or very alpha. But Matthew Swift is a different hero altogether. He is a bit timid most of the time and in complete control of himself for the most part. He wants the best possible life for Daisy even if he doesn’t believe that he himself can give it to her so he is determined to help others see how very special she is. Matthew is easily likable and anyone who can stand up to Westcliff wins some respect in my book.

“You don’t like Mr. Swift any more than I do,” she retorted.

“No,” Lillian said frankly. “But much as I hate to admit it, that puts us in a minority. Swift is liked by everyone in the northern hemisphere, including Westcliff and his friends, my friends, the servants, the neighbors—”

“You are exaggerating—” “—children, animals and the higher order of plants,” Lillian finished sardonically. “If root vegetables could talk, I’ve no doubt they would say they like him, too.”

Also I enjoyed that fact that Daisy has to be more of the pursuer once she realizes that she maybe has some feelings for Matthew. He is bound and determined not to bring her into the potential mess his life could become and she practically has to seduce him. I really liked the change in romantic tactics in this book. **I loved the way Daisy handled him into her ruinatiuon..**

There are some very tender moments also that I enjoyed and I really loved that when Matthew's past came to light the loyalty that was shown by all his friends.

There is still the humor and side banter of all the Wallflowers and their husbands and as all the circles have grown to include a few more characters I really like where everything ended up. All and All I have had a really good time with this series and will probably try a few more books by LK.

Marisa Sauco says

Adorables Daisy y Mathew. ♥? Una historia preciosa. ¡Me encantó!
