



Night of Pleasure

Delilah Marvella

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Delilah Marvelle

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An arranged marriage is daunting, but not as daunting as seducing a spouse whose passions you do not understand...

Derek Charles Holbrook, Viscount Banfield, knew his fate since he was seventeen when his father announced his union to the beautiful but mysterious American girl by the name of Miss Grey. To protect the troubled estate, Derek submits to his father's wishes, not realizing he's about to entangle himself in a hell of a lot more than marriage.

Miss Clementine Henrietta Grey may be worth millions, but not a single coin has ever bought her a smidge of happiness. When she marries the charismatic and dashing Viscount Banfield, whose only strife in life appears to be the uneven seams in his coat, she finds that siring the heir he wants requires far more than her heart is prepared to give.

Unable to seduce his overly-serious and reluctant wife, Derek realizes his dreams of creating a loving family has turned into a nightmare. But with the unexpected assistance of a retired courtesan and her outrageous school, Derek and Clementine discover that passion is a language spoken not just from the body, but from the mind, heart and soul.

WARNING: This book is Rated Double S (Sweaty & Sinful) and contains strong language and sexual content which may cause respectable people to swoon.

This quirky, sexy and scandalous Regency/Victorian Historical Romance is part of a series.

THE SCHOOL OF GALLANTRY SERIES:

Book 1, Mistress of Pleasure

Book 2, Lord of Pleasure

Book 3, Lady of Pleasure

Book 3.5, Romancing Lady Stone

Book 4, Night of Pleasure

Book 5, Master of Pleasure

Night of Pleasure Details

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From Reader Review Night of Pleasure for online ebook

Cheryl says

Oh so sweet! Right from the beginning Derek is swoon worthy. Clementine was not what I expected but she won me over in the end. This is a really fun series!

AerinLuvs says

Overall review: 3 stars

Plot: 4 stars

hero rating: 4 stars

Heroine rating: 1 stars

Sensuality rating: 1 star

Sex scenes descriptiveness: 4

Sex scenes frequency: 4

Writing flow / style: 4

Denouement: 3

I read an unedited ARC. More detailed review submitted to publisher. Thank you for the opportunity to review this book by an author I usually really enjoy.

Both the hero and heroine are very young and very sexually inexperienced. The sex scenes were very awkward because of the heroines actions and words, and she was kind of a cold fish the first few times, it was very un romantic and un erotic to me.

On the good side, the love story is original and the hero is sweetly devoted to the heroine. He isn't a rake, which is a change of pace for books of this genre. There is an interesting character named Nasser. The emotional journey that is described is sweet. I think this is a YA novel because the love scenes are not erotic, and both the hero and heroine are so sexually inexperienced. There is good dialogue and touches of humor.

Melanie says

Delilah Marvelle is one of my favorite authors and her books are greatly anticipated by me. When I heard that she was continuing her School of Gallantry series, I literally went and bought all the earlier books so I could be brought up to date with all the characters in it. By the way, you don't have to run out and do the same. Each of these stories is well written as a standalone, but if you want to know the origins behind the school of gallantry, you should get them all.

As usual Ms. Marvelle does an excellent job in creating characters that are fun, witty and passionate about life. I adored Derek, the hero of this tale. How could I not to?! When first we meet him, he's just a young 'randy' man and so charming and personable. I loved the way hethanks for jumping in and finishing this review on b2b

<http://bookworm2bookworm.wordpress.co...>

*Melanie for b2b.

*Book provided by the publisher.

Keri says

As I have said many times in the past, Delilah will never write a typical historical romance. She is always going to shock you about where and how she is going to push the boundaries of a story. That is ok with me, that is what I love most about her as an author. Night of Pleasure is no exception. We have known Derek since the very first School of Gallantry book and became intrigued by his dark good looks and long unfashionable but sexy hair. Derek Holbrook has had his bride in the bag for the last 7 years; after all they have been betrothed since she was 14. Now it is time for him to reap the rewards for all those tender words he has wrote over the years to his Clementine.

Well...not so fast there slick. When they first met, Derek scared Clementine with his passions and his letters over the last 7 years has only reinforced that fear. Derek for his part, assumed that Clementine felt as he did and once she comes to London, he gets a rude awakening as not only is she not interested, she isn't getting married and in fact is set to run away with another man! One who understands her and wants her to be happy. I really liked Derek, but did feel he needed a good swift kick in the behind and of course the School of Gallantry has the means to do just that, as Derek scrambles to find common ground to keep his new bride in his arms and heart. Clementine, for her part, loves Derek but needs him to hear her concerns and fears and not dismiss them...of course and allow her those little stress relievers now and again.

While this book didn't push the bounds to where I was squirming, it did have some untypical moments with Clementine and her habit. Also where is she going with Andrew, Derek's brother??? Is he one of our candidates for the Whipping Society books??? Can't wait to find out and I can't wait for the next book in this series. My only complaint is that I didn't want it to be over; I really loved Derek and Clementine as a couple and wanted to hang in their world for a while longer, although that ending was pretty sweet. I want to thank DM for giving me an opportunity to review this ARC for my honest review. This is my honest review...honest. ? I also didn't chop down that cherry tree.

Patty McKenna Van Hulle says

Delilah Marvelle

There is no action or evil afoot in this story, but you will need tissues aplenty, and if you are an ugly crier avoid mirrors, because this romance takes you through a gambit of emotions!

Clementine Grey grew up in a war zone with yelling, objects flying, screaming and even thrown punches, all courtesy of her mother. She was cold, unloving and kinda creepy to Clementine. After her mother's 18 pregnancies, with only Clementine surviving, she never wanted marriage or children. When her mother died, her larger than life father, Rubert Grey, crawled into a bottle, she pulled him out and she has been raising him ever since. Her father is Midas rich and a political mover and shaker, so they traveled the world and she would only let her emotions loose to painted. She believes that all emotions are messing, hurtful and explosive and she must use total CONTROL of all her emotions, to always avoid any type of affections and

ALWAYS keep her heart surrounded by her wall of diamonds.

Derek Holbrook and his younger brother, Andrew, grew up in laughter, love and warmth from their parents. His father, Viscount Banfield, was a man who always laughed, sang, danced and even tickled his way through his life. He was a man with a gooey heart and an open wallet to any and all his relatives. The Holbrook clan was the brightest and warmest family and they loved to spread it to all they touched. Then his father became ill.

At 14 and 17, Clementine and Derek meet, he shamelessly flirted with her and almost made her choke on his spicy candy. The next thing they knew they were betrothed, while his father was dying. Now Derek is the new Viscount Banfield, heart broken and alone, so Clementine breaks her rules and hugs him, as he sobbed his heart out. That moment defined and cemented their relationship for better and worse! For 7 years, they exchanged letters, his of feelings and love and hers about their many adventures, but no emotions. Now it's time for their marriage and Derek is pumped with excitement, plans the whole wedding and awaits his bride from NYC. Clementine is only coming to London to not only break their betrothal, but to destroy his heart because she knows that Derek can and will unleash her emotions and that will do no one any good. She wants to board a ship with her best friend, Price Nassar, and flee to Persia.

Only 6 days before their wedding, they are reunited, Derek is busting with love and she is destroying his heart, as she tells him that she NEVER wants intimacy or children, doesn't want to marry him and wants to flee to Persia with her prince. Derek feels her ripped out his heart, but he does love her enough to let her go, but she must give him a night of pleasure and she agrees. When Clementine goes to him at that night, Derek asks her to please paint a picture of their one night together. The night is magically, enlightening, passionate, sometimes hilarious and unforgettable, but also a serious mistake. Derek wakes the next morning alone and devastated, but when he looks at the painting, he KNOWS she has feelings, too. With a lot of help from a Persian Fairy God Prince, 300 plus wedding guests, a scheming Persian spy, the romantic wedding of the century, Clementine losing some of her control and gaining new emotions, Derek losing some emotions and gaining some control and most importantly the super intelligent, elegant, "take no lip" and "tell you like it is" Courtesan Madame de Maitenon and her School of Gallantry to dissolve, rearrange, rebuild and repair this relationship of budding love. Can Clementine let go of her control for Derek? Will Derek keep his zipper up long enough to actually get to know Clementine? Will they ever have children? Do they have too many Fairy God Prince/mothers? How will the School of Gallantry kick Derek's bootie?

I still can't believe this is my first Delilah Marvella read. I will be honest and say that I almost didn't finish this book because there was no action scenes, evil mistress or foul play, but I kept reading about these two characters with a flip flop of roles. Derek is kinda female touchy feely and emotional, while she is like a rogue with her feelings hiding behind her wall of diamonds. I hit Chapter 8 and HELLO massive crying, and I don't cry pretty! Ms. Marvella does not only create this unique and one of a kind of story, she nurtured, carried, went thru labor and gave birth to a screaming story with a multiplex of feelings and emotions, and that folks is TALENT! I loved her story so much I did something I have never done before, I put on my big girl pants and hit that evil and mean Amazon "BUY" button for the first book of the School of Gallantry series. She has converted me to a fan of low action, no evil afoot and a multitude of messy, not pretty and sometime ugly emotions, and that defines Ms. Marvella! I give my top score of 5 fingers up and 10 toes to this rollercoaster ride of the good, the bad and the ugly love story!

NetGalley ARC given for my honest review.

???'s ~~X~~amante de los spoilers~~X~~ says

EPIC FAIL.

Que decepción y eso que empezó tan bien...

Me gusto Clementine pero Derek me saco de quicio, y por ende, no me gusto su relación como pareja. Él la manipula, la controla, la sofoca, la presiona y la trata como un objeto y necesita que al menos tres personas le digan que se esta comportando como un imbécil "para cambiar". Así no son las cosas querido, te la pasaste fácil 180-190 páginas de las 207 que tiene el libro siendo un imbécil machista para "cambiar" en las ultimas 20. De más queda decir que el cambio no me pareció sincero porque FALLÓ en todas las situaciones importantes en las que él tenía que demostrar su valía.

Al final todo queda en lo mismo *"si las mujeres esperan lo suficiente, los hombres van a empezar a tratarlas como personas"*.

Delilah Marvelle says

My dearest Reader,

What happens when a boy who grows up with everything he ever wanted meets a girl who grew up never having what she wanted? A twisted love story neither of them expected. The concept of an arranged marriage has always fascinated me. How do two young and inexperienced people come together and make a marriage genuinely work when their reasons for going into the marriage is solely duty? Can it work? Does it work? I dove into researching many arranged marriages in history and found it ranged from complete disasters to unexpected love matches. Having been married all the years I have and having put in what it takes to make a marriage last, it made me realize how truly blessed I am to be living in an era where it's not about duty but...love. I hope you enjoy reading Clementine and Derek's story that is a nod to my own early years of marriage when I married my husband at the young age of 19.

Happy reading and much love,

Delilah

P.S. Are you ready to meet Lord Brayton? Get ready. You'll be formally introduced to the man in this book.

Ruth says

This one, provided by the publisher through netgalley, was pretty unique in a whole bunch of ways, which made for an enjoyable read.

For a start, it is based on an marriage arranged between what we would call children (she's 13/14 and he's 17). Not many Regency/Victorian romances use an arranged marriage to the extent this one does - the point at which the hero and heroine falling in love always seems to become a bit rote, almost like the genre has to prove our Western contemporary thinking wrong that arranged marriages are doomed to failure. This one is nothing like that. The hero is smitten straight away, the heroine much, much less so, but the book is dominated by the unhealthy emotions of both the protagonists to an extent which is unusual.

The hero is absolutely, obsessively smitten by the heroine. He calls it love, but I'm not convinced. It seems too extreme, maintained for too long at a distance to be remotely healthy or normal. Likewise, the heroine, a package of outward beauty and poise, is completely screwed up. She has so many problems linked to non-

existent self-esteem that it's amazing the author has been able to write about her and not make her out to be a complete nutcase. In fact, pretty much every character here is messed up in some way. There are no "perfect" characters at all, which, to be honest, is something of a relief. Nobody's perfect, and any romance which suggests it, automatically (and subconsciously) gets knocked down a star by me.

The plot and the writing is unbelievably good. I absolutely loved it.. until about 80% through, when it just seemed to veer a little into the goofy. The notion of a school for seduction is not new, but is quite fun, although how it is written about here is just plain silly to me. Also, the Persian Prince and his group of friends/servants/lovers could have been a wonderful, powerful, exotic addition, but it just fizzled a bit for me.

So, I really enjoyed the uniqueness of this one, but the ending really let it down for me. 3 stars. I liked it.

Heather andrews says

It seems Mr. Derek can't make up his mind about what his thoughts are on Ms. Clementine first he's what appalled by her lack of erm...assets? "In his opinion, she could have easily passed for a debutante of eighteen if there had been more...well....bosom...in her corset. She was almost as flat as paper. Which was sad, really. A sizable pair of high-perched breasts would have made her a triumph." Then the next he wants to pounce on her, "damn. He'd heard Americans speak before, but not with such dazzling sophistication and purpose. It was enchanting. She was enchanting. His mouth quirked. "I completely understand." He shifted toward her. God she was beautiful. He wanted to grab that face and tongue her until neither of them had the ability to breathe for weeks." Let's not get started on how protective he is, "Derek shifted his jaw, feeling a muscle ticking angrily in it, and edged toward his brother until they were boot to boot and almost nose to nose. "Are you insulting my woman? To my face, no less?" The boy just has no manners when it comes to his girl, "he searched her face. "Christ. Watching you eat candy should be illegal." Adjusting his coat with the tug of the lapels, he turned and kept walking. "How was your trip?" he rumbled out." And when the two get to doing the nasty the girl is simply straight forward about it, "Jesus. It was like they had just taken up a painting project and she had things to do. "Clementine, I really don't know how long I'll take." His voice was ragged. "But the longer you make me wait, the longer it will be. Her fingers skimmed his shoulders as she lowered her gaze to his chest." I really enjoyed reading this book it was funny and entertaining.

Bgurl (don't h8 me cuz I'm honestful) says

TOP 5 THINGS I LIKED ABOUT *Night of Pleasure*

#5. THE WISE COURTESAN.

“ *Do the blind ever know when a glass is full without touching it? Put the glass into your husband’s hand. For he is blind to what you feel. He is blind to what you hold. You must therefore make him see what you feel.’* ”

~ *Thérèse Angelique Bouchard, Madame de Maitenon*

Any chick who dishes out that kind of advise, is A-Okay in my book!

#4. THE PROTECTIVE BFF.

“You women-loving men are too focused on being men. Focus on being human, for fravashi sake. Focus on being a friend. That is all she needs. The rest will fall into place if you recognize that.”
~ Prince Nasser, *His Royal Highness of Persia*

Everyone should have a BFF like this dude!

#3. THE HILARIOUS SPARE HEIR.

“Andrew pushed up his sleeve, exposing the skin beneath. The word MENTULA was burned across his inner arm. It appeared fresh and was Latin for... Fear scrambled Derek’s mind and innards. A shaky breath escaped him as his gaze snapped to his brother’s face. ‘What the hell is this?’ Andrew grinned. ‘It’s my promise to her. I let her burn it into me. Hurt like hell but it was worth it.’ ‘You let her burn the word PENIS into your arm?’ His eyes widened. ‘Penis? No, no. Mentula is an endearment. I asked.’ ”
~Andrew Mark Holbrook & Derek Charles Holbrook, *Viscount Banfield*

C'mon! You know at least 1 side of your mouth was grinning.

#2. THE SWEET, STEADFAST HERO.

“Something told him he was going to love this girl for the rest of his life. He swallowed and tightened his hold again, settling into a sense of calm knowing what his future would bring: her.”
~Derek Charles Holbrook, *Viscount Banfield*

What can I say? The dude's sweet! And steadfast!

#1. THE SPUNKY, YOUNG HEROINE.

“If Derek thought he was the only one who could chew spiced candy, he’d never met the girl who had shot a pistol, smashed vases over men’s heads, grabbed her reticule, crawled out of a window bleeding and then watched the New York authorities take over while lighting a cheroot on the street.”
~ Miss Clementine Henrietta Grey

Like my mama used to say: "Spunky is as spunky does." (Actually, she never said that, but... whatever.)

1 very large, very mysterious stranger, with an impressive collection of Persian swords (and deadly accurate aim). 1 very small, very curious boy, with an unhealthy interest in razor sharp weapons (and a fondness for inappropriate reading material). And, 1 very attractive, very candid housekeeper, with surprisingly beautiful

teeth (and a mystifying upper-class accent).

***Night of Pleasure (School of Gallantry 04)*, by Delilah Marville: 4 "Likable" Stars!**

For information about my rating system, see my profile page.

Lisa - (Aussie Girl) says

Enjoyable light historical read which ties in nicely with the School of Gallantry theme.

3.5 ★

Karma♥Bites ^.^~ says

HR (steamy)... Pre-order special @ 99¢

I think that the Prologue made me firmly pre-disposed to liking this one. Wasn't perfect but there was unexpected depth re: relationships & being newly-married. And given the overall circumstances, together with an interesting mix of characters, this light-hearted read w/ a dash of angst here & there worked for me. Definitely antsy for Lord Brayton's book!

Full review to come. :)

** ARC review copy provided by the publisher/author via NetGalley.*

Sara says

A marriage of convenience story is usually a favorite of mine, but this one is disappointing. :(

Usually a synopsis will describe maybe the first third or so of a book but this one tells the entire story. I was expecting more time in school, so to speak, like a twist on couples therapy or something. There are hardly any scenes of them in school, and it doesn't even happen until the last 20% of the book. I wish more of the book were scenes like the last 20%. The pacing is just too slow.

Also the hero and heroine don't treat each other very well for much of the story. He's kind of rude to her at times, but at least she calls him on his bullshit.

Thanks to NetGalley for the ARC!

Carol *Young at Heart Oldie* says

NIGHT OF PLEASURE is the fourth book in the School of Gallantry series and, once again, Delilah Marville delivers another enthralling and emotionally charged story.

How I imagine Derek...

“Spice makes a soul breathe in deep. Live a little.”

I simply adore Derek...so intense, passionate and with an overwhelming enthusiasm for life. His fondness for those strongly spiced candies seems to mirror his nature perfectly. I love his charm, his wit and his unfashionably long hair.

I admire how, even at such a young age, he takes on his responsibilities as Viscount Banfield with a determination to be ‘strong, responsible and reliable’. Not only does he care for his brother Andrew and his mother, but also for numerous cousins.

So often, it is the heroine who falls hopelessly in love with the reluctant hero. It was refreshing to see Derek fall head over heels in love with Clementine, remaining constant in his love throughout their seven years apart and sending her such passionate letters. I do so love a besotted hero!

How I imagine Clementine...

Unlike other females, she didn’t laugh. She didn’t flirt. She didn’t sashay into a room with a whirl, looking for things to play with next . Her sense of humor was nonexistent and pathetic

Clementine is the complete opposite of Derek...cool, calm and overly serious and It is easy to understand what shaped her into the person she has become. Her life has been so very different to Derek’s. Her childhood was marred by the violent clashes between her father and her volatile, irrational mother, leaving her fearful of what unrestrained emotions could do. After her mother’s death, she had to deal with her father’s excessive drinking and the sometimes dangerous backlash from his political career.

I understood her reaction to Derek and her determination not to marry him. He completely overwhelms her with his passionate nature and she is afraid of succumbing and losing control. Her fear is that she will be just like her mother. She feels totally unworthy of him...

This laughing, playful Adonis deserved a world she would never be able to offer him. Her eyes burned. Everything about her was pathetic. And a man like Derek, her beautiful Derek, deserved so much more.

I love how Ms Marvelle developed the romance between Clementine and Derek, emphasising the importance of respect, trust and friendship within a relationship. It was a emotional roller coaster of a journey as these two young and inexperienced lovers had to work past their fears, insecurities, frustrations and anger to find a strong and lasting love. Of course, this is Delilah Marvelle, so expect some simmering sexual tension and steamy love scenes.

How I imagine Madame de Maintenon...

Madame de Maintenon was a favourite character of mine in the previous books. She’s such a colourful and larger than life figure who delights in flaunting the stuffy rules of society. Here she dispenses her unique and wise brand of marriage counselling, including the scandalous contents of a large, red velvet satchel!

Ms Marvelle’s secondary characters always add richness to the story. I like Prince Nasser who understands Clementine so well and is a genuinely good friend. I also enjoyed that he rattled Derek’s cage. I wonder if

Derek's brother, Andrew will be a connecting link to the forthcoming new series, The Whipping Society. I'm really intrigued by the mysterious and scarred Lord Brayton whose story will be told in Master of Pleasure, due for release on August 1st.

I do love the scene at the School of Gallantry involving the dildos. I think I was actually blushing!

This book had the sort of Epilogue that warms the heart and when Derek reveals his special gift for Clementine, it is definitely an 'Aww' moment!

Once again, Delilah Marvelle spins an unforgettable and beautifully written story full of vibrant characters, emotional depth, witty banter, sensual love scenes, and a heart-warming ending.

REVIEW RATING: 5/5 Stars

The School of Gallantry Series (click on the cover for more details):

- 1 August 2014

I received a copy of this book from the author via Netgalley in return for an honest review.

This review is also posted on my blog:

<http://rakesandrascals.wordpress.com/...>

a & says

It's another thrilling installment to Delilah Marvelle's marvelous (pun intended) **School of Gallantry** series. This one is about Viscount Banfield and Clementine. Like I've already mentioned on another review of the series, the books go further and further back with each new addition. What I mean is that the events in book four took place first chronologically while the events in book one are the most current. I find that kind of cool, Marvelle's going back while other authors, usually, move forward. It's unique and interesting just like her stories.

I was really looking forward to Banfield's story ever since I'd read *Mistress of Pleasure*. Delilah had really developed his character through the series. In *Night of Pleasure* we get a closer look at Banfield; his life and responsibilities. Funnily enough though; even though I knew that Banfield enrolled in the school in order to win his wife I didn't know how devoted he would be. It's kind of scary. That much attention. Of course there's your usual dose of male pigheadedness. Honestly what would a historical romance be without autocratic pigheaded men who believed that women had definite duties/purposes in life? I kind of like John Stuart Mill now.

Clementine was an interesting character to say the least, I'm still not sure exactly what I feel about her. I really liked her friend, the Persian prince whose name I have forgotten, and Andrew, Banfield's brother. And I feel like there was some foreshadowing in the story. Will there be a **School of Gallantry** story about Andrew and was it one of Hawksford's sisters? (I forget it might have been Caldwell's unless of course he has no sisters!). So I'm really looking forward to that story.

Oh what else to say..... I really liked this story. However I gave it a four star rating because I have read

Marvelle's other works and I felt like this wasn't really up to their standards. I mean its still really good compared to other historical romance writers' novels but I didn't like this book as much as I did *Mistress of Pleasure*, *Lord of Pleasure*, and *Lady of Pleasure*.

This was a good read. I'm really thankful for the the lovely Miss Marvelle and her publisher for letting me review an advanced reader's copy of *Night of Pleasure*.

Yeah. Okay bye! We're done here.
