



## **Beyond Scandal**

*Brenda Joyce*

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## **Beyond Scandal** Brenda Joyce

Brenda Joyce is a dreamweaver who spins spells that entice and enchant, a masterful creator of unforgettable characters and incomparable romance—from the spellbinding medieval passion of promise of the rose to the breathtaking sensual intrigue of the game. Now, with beyond scandall, she takes us one step further... beyond duty.

Adoring and innocent, Anne Stewart was seduced by Dominick Saint Georges, Viscount Lyons, then brazenly abandoned on their wedding night. Now four years have passed, and England's most mysterious lord has returned to Waverly Hall.

Beyond passion. Anne can never forgive Dominick for the shame he caused her. She is determined to resist his advances and ignore the gossip and speculation surrounding them. But shocking revelations and deadly intrigues are drawing her ever closer to her enigmatic husband, to whom she dares not surrender again this secretive stranger who holds the key to her survival... and her heart.

## **Beyond Scandal Details**

Date : Published July 25th 2006 by Avon (first published 1995)

ISBN : 9780061235245

Author : Brenda Joyce

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Genre : Romance, Historical Romance, Historical

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## From Reader Review Beyond Scandal for online ebook

### Holly says

This book was very easy to get through and was a quick read.

I enjoyed the mystery behind the romance and the scenery. Some of the descriptions in love scenes were repetitive.

I agree that the hero was a jerk, but it was different than I expected and I enjoyed it.

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### Maria Stefanou says

Δεν υπάρχουν πολλή για να πω.

Αναρωτιέμαι πως ακριβώς βρήθηκε αυτό το εντελώς ρομαντικό περιεχόμενου - τ'που ρλεκιν βιβλίο στην αστυνομία σειρά της Ωκεανίδας. Ήταν το πρώτο πάντως δεν το γνώριζα, ωστόσο καθόλου δεν με πέραξε και το απλάυσα στο ψάκρο. Άλλωστε είναι γνωστό τι διαβάζω για τα εδη βιβλίων, δεν κ'νω διαχωρισμούς ? διακρίσεις και αδιαφορές για τις ταμπλές.

Ρομαντικό ιστορία εποχής λοιπόν με για τα απαραίτητα στοιχεία ώστε να δώσει το γλυκό και να χαθεί κανείς στην μαγεία μιας άλλης εποχής.

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### Lindy says

Ugh. The hero left his new wife the morning after the wedding, and doesn't come back for 4 years. Strike 1, but I could live with it if the rest of the story goes well. Then he was unfaithful -- repeatedly, and without remorse -- a BIG strike two. Then he threatens her with more infidelity if she doesn't let him have her -- strike three. He didn't show any signs of being a good character after at least 100 pages, so I stopped reading it. Life's too short to read annoying books. Skipping book 2 in the series, too.

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### Nikoleta says

Ωραίο αρλεκιν!!! Πέρασε ευχαρίστα η ώρα... πάντως σε καμία περίπτωση δεν το λες βαριά λογοτεχνία... ένα ευχαριστο βιβλίο ξαπλωστρας!

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### Tilda says

Ο ήρωας αναγκάστηκε να παντρευτεί την ήρωίδα επειδή την είχε εκθέσει. Ήταν τόσο οργισμένος που χάθηκε για 4 χρόνια, στα οποία φτιάξε μια άλλη οικογένεια. Αυτό, πολύ βολικό, ξεχνιέται

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στην πορεία, για να πειστούμε ότι μπορεί να γίνει ένας ρομαντικός ιδεολόγος, αντ' για τον πατρική εγωστάρο που ήταν και μείνει σε όλη τη διάρκεια.

Όταν τελικά επιστρέφει, αντ' να δεχτεί μεταμύληια, μ'πως και βρει συγχόρηση, διεκδικεί συζυγικά δικαιώματα, μ'νο για να μη χάσει την κληρονομιά που φέρντιζε αποκλειστικά η εγκαταλειμμένη σύζυγος, όσο αυτ'ς εκμεταλεύταν μια άλλη γυναίκα και έκανε μαζί της 2 παιδιά χωρίς νομικά δικαιώματα (ως νοθα). Απαιτεί αγάπη, εμπιστοσύνη, σεξουαλική σχέση και νομικά παιδιά (είναι προς για να πάρει την κληρονομία του), τα ίδια ακριβώς που της στέρησε χωρίς καμ'α τ'ψη. Αλλά με φ'ντο τη βικτωριανή Αγγλία, τίποτα δεν είναι πιο σημαντικό απ' τα προσχ'ματα και τις συμβ'σεις και η ηρωίδα αναγκάζεται να υποκύψει.

Κ'τι τ'τοιές ηλιθιότητες είναι ο λόγος που αποφεύγω τις ιστορίες αυτ'ς της χρονικής περιόδου.

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### **Diana says**

When Anne and her cousin's fiance Dominic are caught in a compromising position at the engagement party, the scandal forces them to wed. Dominic subsequently leaves for four years, leaving Anne heartbroken and ostracized. Brought back by his father's death, Dom is startled to realize that he and Anne just might suit after all.

Dom is a very alpha hero, overwhelming poor delicate Anne, who alternates between being aflutter in Dom's presence and being irrationally shrewish. Currents of betrayal and distrust are heavily interlaced through the book. For all this, though, I have fond memories of reading it in the past.

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### **BRNTerri says**

**PUBLISHING INFO:** Avon, 10/1995

**GENRE:** Historical Romance

**SETTING:** England, 1856

**SERIES:** St. Georges, #1

**AUTHOR SITE:** [link](#)

**MY GRADE:** B

What an emotional rollercoaster Anne and Dom are on. The story seemed like it spanned just a few months. Anne is from America and is twenty-one. She went to live with relatives in England when she was eleven. She has blue eyes and black hair. She's loved Dom since she first met him when she was an adolescent and is very hurt that he's abandoned her for four years, the entire length of their marriage. I have no idea why he did that to her. Dom is twenty-eight, has golden hair and golden eyes. I got a little tired of them not getting along and the misunderstandings. That alone was a bit boring. What was very interesting was the mysterious things that were happening to Anne. Several people had a grudge against her and they were leaving cryptic clues for her alone to let her know they were behind the scary incidents.

Anne is too passive. Dom is alright except for the fact that he has two illegitimate children by his mistress of five years. It's unclear if he had that mistress, or any others, while married to Anne. I'm assuming he did. Adding those kids to the story was unappealing to me and didn't really serve a purpose.

The cousins Anne's lived with since she was eleven, Felicity and her brother Patrick, were a disturbed pair and I enjoyed them in the story. I didn't really like Dom's mother, Clarisse, too much. She's a bitter, jealous woman, same as Felicity.

Things got a bit convoluted toward the end when Dom found out about his paternity and who's behind the shenanigans.

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## Barbara says

*2 Stars...It was ok*

Just a taste of how crazy this book was at some points...

*"D-Dom." It was a bark. "You...are...my...s-son." Dom stared.*

*"I beg your pardon?" he finally said, certain he had not heard his grandfather correctly. "You! Son!" the duke quite shouted. "You! My Son!"*

*Dom stared, blanching.*

*Anne stood. "Your Grace?" She gasped. "Are you saying that Dom is your son?"...*

Are you kidding me right now?! LoL! I felt like I was in the middle of a Mike Myers movie or something....

"Beyond Scandal" is written by one of my all time favorite authors, but the amount of filler that graced the pages of this book is borderline embarrassing. Dom and Anne's chemistry remained in the first 2 Chapters never to be seen again, and the murder-mystery was just as dull.

Harsh review? Yes! Am I still a fan of Brenda Joyce? Oh yes...Always!

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## Dinjolina says

OMG.

Just read this...

So let me just say...other than AVOID!!!!...this...I could live with the Disney styled bad guys, the stupid plot, the constant obstacles, etc...really I could, if not for the hero.

Yeah, yeah, yeah, the heroine was very...sappy. But this man was a class A jerk. Imagine you significant other saying/thinking this: 'I loved you. But I was scared you would break my heart. So, I spent FIVE YEEEEEEARS with an other woman that gave me 2 children. She could not break my heart you see. But you could. I have no idea how. But you know, I was scared. So after I married you and locked you up in some remote place I went to fuck this other woman and have children. Oh and now I want you. If you don't give me yourself NOW I will go back to fucking others. Will you love me?' So....erm. Yes. I understand why she had soooooo many inner debates about not wanting to love him. If I was her, and I was addle brained

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enough to even look favorably at this man then sure I would have problems with it. And I kind of think I would have beat myself with a brick until I died. But that's just me.

Oh and I added this to my sad ending shelf because....well they had Happy ending! WTF! Poor heroine.

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### **Jessa says**

This was...alot. He abandons her on her wedding night and proceeds to have two children with a mistress, then comes back making demands of the heroine. Like, get out of here dude. I have a life to get back to.

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### **Aria B.Countess22 says**

Titles says it all: Maybe it's referred to Anna, the protagonist that is giving into her passion over Dominic, despite him damping her after the day they got married. A book that I've read many times and it never gets boring ;)

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### **Shirlene says**

Anne had been delivered to her aunt Edna as an orphan from America when she was eleven years old. Her mother was sister to the Duke's wife. Janice had died in childbirth having the child she always wanted. The duke had determined that he would have nothing to do with the child who had taken the life of his late wife's sister until he met her. He decided after meeting her that Anne and his grandson would be a good match. He would see to it that Anne and his grandson married if it was the last thing he did on earth. Anne was already in love with Dom by this time.

When Anne was seventeen, Dominick St George was announcing his engagement to her cousin Felicity. While attending the engagement party, Anne caught Dom's eye. Anne ran out the house because she was heartbroken at having to help with the preparations for a party to give the man she loved to another. She needed air and went into the garden. Dom noticed she had left and followed her outside. Dom kissed her and they were caught in a compromising situation. Dominick and Anne were married and he left Essex, England the morning after they were wed. He never saw Anne after they were married.

Four years later, Dom's father, the Earl of Waverly, died and Dom returned home for the funeral. His mother, Clarissa, disliked Anne and accused her of being a fortune hunter who was after Dom for his money and status. The Duke of Rutherford, Dom's grandfather, had arranged a trust for Anne that left her the earl's house. The duke had never remarried after his wife's death and Phillip, his heir was now dead. It was thought that the duke never remarried because of his love for his late wife but due to comments he had made, Anne believed that maybe he hadn't remarried because of his feelings for his late wife's sister. Phillip and his wife, Clarissa were living in separate quarters in the house and it was widely known.

Anne swore she hated Dom after the way he had left her after their wedding. The duke spoke with Dom and told him that the only way he would regain ownership of the house was if he had a legitimate heir with Anne. Dom spoke with Anne and told her that he wanted to begin his relationship with her over again. He didn't tell her that an heir would regain him ownership of his childhood home.

Patrick had become Anne's closest friend and confidant. Dom saw them talking together and became jealous. He then kissed Anne and knew that his longing for her had not died. He was afraid of her because he lost control when he was around her. Felicity had married someone else and he had died after they were married for two years. Felicity had followed Dom's activities and managed to purposely run into him on occasion so

he would know that she still wanted him, regardless of the fact that he was married to her cousin. During the time that Dom was in London, Anne had discovered the caretaker of the property had been taking funds from the earl and she had fired him. She was running the properties herself and had been for some time. Dom had to make a decision of whether to remain with Anne and reestablish a relationship with her or leave the property to Anne and go back to his former life with his current mistress. He had a son and daughter by a previous mistress. Dom wanted ownership of the property for he felt it was inheritance rather than hers. He was even more upset when he found out that his father's money and London home were going to someone whom none of them knew.

Dom came to Anne's room to talk to her about beginning again and she refused him. He left and she went to sleep. She woke up to the smell of smoke and discovered that her room was on fire. Dom was in the library just below her room and came up because he heard the commotion. Anne had put the fire out but Dom was there to comfort her. Anne was suspicious of the fire because it appeared that some candles had overturned in her room but there was no open windows or a breeze. Dom discovered that Anne was still a virgin and made love to her then. He fell asleep and Anne remained awake trying to figure out what she had done. She had not intended to give in to Dom's wishes so easily. Anne came down to breakfast and overheard the duke and Dom discussing the fact that he had slept with her and it was the duke's intention that Dom get her pregnant. She did not overhear the part about him regaining ownership of the property should she have an heir. The solicitor arrived in the morning and read the earl's will. Dom was left his father's journal and his mother was left nothing. His money and properties were given to friend of Phillip's in London who they found out later was his lesbian boyfriend. Dom took the journal to his room and left the house. Clarissa went into Dom's room and took the journal. She was afraid of secrets that her husband had written in it. She later returned the journal to Dom and he burned it. He did figure out that Phillip wasn't his father.

Dom was out riding and Felicity came to visit. She made it clear that she was still angry at Anne for ruining her engagement and was out for revenge. Dom came home while Anne was working in the land agent's office that she had made her own. She watched Felicity flirting with her husband. Felicity didn't seem to understand that Dom had no interest in her. Dom was upset to find out that Felicity knew some of the terms of his father's will. He knew that Patrick had found out from Anne and repeated some of the details to Felicity. Dom went into Anne's office and told her that he was going to London to move his stables to Waverly and that he would be returning in a few days. Before Dom left, he asked Anne to agree to let him have a week where she would do anything he asked and if she still wished to be left alone at the end of that time, he would leave her alone. He returned three days later and asked for an answer to his proposal. Anne went into her room that evening and found a charred rose on her pillow.

She had made arrangements to go riding with Patrick the next morning but when Dom found out he forbid her to go. When Patrick arrived with Felicity, she told Patrick that she was going riding with her husband. She got on the horse and her horse, Blaze, went crazy. Dom ran after her and arrived after she had been thrown. He picked her up and took her home. Anne thought that she was crazy when it appeared that Felicity appeared pleased that Anne was almost killed. The horse was found and Dom discovered that the horse had been poisoned. He went to check on Anne and asked her again if they could go away for a week and this time Anne agreed.

Felicity was angry when she found out that Dominick and Anne had left home. She tore up the pillows and bed coverings in her room.

Dom took Anne to Scotland and made love to her there. She woke late the next morning and he was already out riding. Anne decided to follow him and took off riding herself. She never found him but felt she was lost and a little frightened. She felt like she was being followed and saw a rider who appeared to be following her in the distance. She found her way back to Tavalon Castle. She wondered why she found a leather strap in her luggage with a stirrup attached to remind her of her fall from her horse back in England.

Patrick was angry when he returned to his rented room at the inn in Scotland. Dom had bested him for years in everything. Dom was titled and Patrick was the fourth and youngest son of an impoverished lord. Dom did better in school and received more attention from women. It was Patrick's suggestion that Dom marry his sister when he needed a bride. Dom had agreed then chosen to seduce Anne, marry her and promptly abandon her. Patrick had fallen in love with Anne sometime during the first year after her marriage. Patrick had been waiting for years and expected Anne to refuse Dominick when she returned home. Instead she had

taken him back. He knew that he would never kill Dominick for as bad as he hated him, he loved him as a brother. Patrick must just find the means to make Anne see Dom as a ruthless, terrifying bastard. At the moment, he was so mad that he could even kill Anne.

Dom met Anne on her ride back to the castle and rode home with her. She told him that she thought that she had been followed and Dom feared that she was correct. They went back to their room and when Anne woke up she thought Dom was in the room. A window was open and she closed it. She went looking for Dom and found him in the library. She went back upstairs and waited for him. When he came into the room, he closed the window and asked Anne why she had left it open because it was freezing cold out.

They returned home to Waverly two days later. Anne was met by one of the groomsmen and told that her horse had been deliberately poisoned. She was then told by Clarissa that the ownership of Waverly would revert to Dom if she were to produce an heir. Anne ran away to London a few hours later. Anne had thought that things were beginning to work out with Dom and that he truly loved her. She now felt betrayed by him a second time. Dom followed a few days later. His grandfather had sent a note telling Dom that Anne was with him and to give her a few days to cool off.

Dom also spoke with the groomsman and found out that Patrick had been at the stables the morning that Anne had her accident. He became concerned about Anne's friendship with him.

Dom went to London to talk to Anne. She continued to reject him. He went home one evening and found Anne talking with Patrick. Patrick had suggested to Anne that Dom was the person behind the events subjecting her to harm. She didn't want to believe him but she was now nervous around Dom. Dom kicked Patrick out of the house and told Anne that she was never to see him again. Dom knew that something had changed within Anne and that she appeared to be frightened of him but he didn't know why. He told Anne that they would be living together from now on to keep up appearances. He would not be leaving her alone. She had never been to London and they had never been to any event together as man and wife. Dom went out and as Anne was getting ready for bed that night she noticed that a quilt that had been on their bed in Scotland was now on her bed in London, torn in two. Anne called for her maid, Belle, and now she was also suspicious of Dom.

Fairhaven, Phillip's boyfriend, came to call on Dom and told him that what he knew would ruin their family. Dom kicked him out of the house and he went to speak to his grandfather. He wanted his grandfather to tell him who his father was but his grandfather couldn't speak and Dom stormed out. The Duke couldn't speak because he was having a heart attack and Dom didn't realize it and left him there. The duke wanted Dom to know the truth and fought to live. Anne found the duke later that afternoon on the floor of the library, unconscious. Dom arrived home soon after and he sent for his mother. Clarissa went to see Fairhaven that night. Fairhaven told Clarissa that he had already told the world the truth about her and her son. Dom went to Anne for comfort and in the morning she found the gown and robe she had been wearing ripped into shreds. Anne met with Patrick that morning and told him of the ripped gown. Patrick kissed Anne and she was repulsed. She was now beginning to feel afraid of Patrick's anger toward her husband. She told Patrick that she would never leave him. She then went home and was given a necklace and matching earrings to wear to the Harding's ball that night. She told Dom that she didn't want to go but he insisted that they must go because of the rumors regarding him not being the earl's son. His pride forced him to attend and she must go and be by his side.

Anne went with him and it was obvious that they were being talked about. They were only approached by half a dozen people that night. They readied themselves to leave as midnight struck when the constable showed up and arrested Dom for the murder of Matthew Fairhaven. Anne returned home alone. She was looking for her maid, Belle, and couldn't find her. She woke to someone pounding on her door in the morning. It was the duke's butler and he came to tell her that the duke had woke up from his coma. Anne heard some noise behind one of the doors of the house as she was going to see the duke and opened the door to find Belle with Patrick. She asked Patrick to leave but he refused. Anne went to see the duke and with him blinking his eyes, he dictated a note to Anne about some papers. Anne, Patrick, her maid and the butler all looked through his room looking for the papers he was directing them to. Anne asked someone to come in and tear apart the duke's desk. There they found the papers the duke was telling them about. It was papers stating that Phillip had adopted Dominick when he was a year old and that he was the legal heir to Phillip's estate. Dom was released from custody after having been beaten to try and obtain a confession. He went to

Anne and told her that he loved her and but Anne still didn't trust him. She left to return to Waverly Hall, the home that had been left to her in Phillip's will.

Anne went riding and felt like she was being watched again. Dom soon appeared and she thought that he was the one following her. He left after she agreed to have tea with him that afternoon. She was then approached by Patrick and figured out that he was the one who had been in the castle in Scotland and done the things to scare her after that time. She had fallen off her horse and the horse returned to Waverly Hall and Dom went looking for her. Dom recognized that he had a gun and was out of his mind. He and Patrick fought and Patrick shot Dom. Patrick left and went to get help. He didn't mean to shoot Dom. He also confessed to killing Fairhaven and ran off. Dom and Anne decided that they would tell the police but give him time to get away first.

Felicity was still in London and had not yet given up on trying to get Dom. Dom's friend Blake told Felicity to give it up. Dom was in love with his wife. Felicity left to return to her home neighboring Waverly Hall. Felicity came into the house with a gun and tried to shoot Anne. Anne yelled for Patrick and acted like he was behind Felicity, which of course he wasn't. Anne knocked the gun out of Felicity's hands and sat on her until the staff arrived as well as Dominick.

The constable had come from London to see Dom and tell he and Anne that someone had seen Fairhaven arguing with a woman and he fell to his death. Dom was no longer a suspect in his murder. The constable saw to it that Felicity was taken to the local jail. Dom and Anne decided not to press charges against her but she was tried for the murder of Fairhaven. She was found not guilty and moved to Paris.

Clarissa had gone to see the Duke after she heard that he was recovering and told him that she would never tell a soul that Dom was their son.

A few days after Dom had been shot, they returned to Rutherford house in London. The duke told Dom that he had an affair with Clarissa. Clarissa had told him that she was pregnant and he didn't believe her. She chose instead to marry his son to get back at him. The earl and the duke talked over what had happened and Phillip legally adopted Dom. Clarissa was not told of their arrangement.

Clarissa and Dom talked after he found out that the duke was his father. Dom was not unhappy because he knew the duke loved him. Dom told Clarissa that the talk would all blow over in time and that she needed to go to one of their country residences and remain there until all the gossip died down.

They were living at Waverly Hall when Anne received a note to meet in the gardens. Anne and Dom discussed the fact that they each had received a note to meet in the garden like when they had ended up married. They discussed the fact that neither had sent the note. They figured out that the duke had sent each of them a note intending that they be caught together and be forced to marry. Anne told Dom that it was confirmed that she was expecting and it appeared that it might be twins. The duke overheard the conversation and was happy that everything had turned out as he intended.

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## Iliada says

This was one of the first romances I read. I don't know if my rating would be the same if I read this now as I remember that the hero was a real jerk, but I have very fond memories of all my first romances. It's one of the books that got me hooked in the genre, after all.

Για τους ?λληνες αναγν?στες, υπ?ρχουν πολ? καλ?τερα αισθηματικ? μυθιστορ?ματα αλλ? δυστυχ?ς δεν ?χουν μεταφραστε?. Για ?σους λοιπ?ν δεν διαβ?ζουν στα αγγλικ?, το συστ?νω ανεπιφ?λακτα, καθ?ς δεν θα βρε?τε και πολλ? καλ?τερα στο συγκεκριμ?νο ε?δος. Δυστυχ?ς οι εκδοτικο? ο?κοι στη χ?ρα μας δεν προσφ?ρουν μεγ?λη ποικιλ?α στο αναγνωστικ? κοιν?.

## Alexis-Morgan Roark says

Ugh! May I have those hours of my life back?

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## Πάνος Τουρλής says

Λυπώμαι πολύ αλλά αρνούμαι να το διαβήσω. Πραγματικό ήρλεκιν και μάλιστα επιπώδου κατωτώτου. Ήμεινα ήφωνος. Μα καλή η Ωκεανώδα βγώζει τώτοια βιβλώα; Ειλικρινή σοκαρωώστηκα. Διώβασα τα πρώτα 2 κεφώλαιο και το τελευταώο κι αυτο με το ζώρι. ήρωτες, σεξ, νερωβραστο κεώμενο, δωώκες και προώγκιπες, ήλεος. Λυπώμαι πολύ αυτο δεν θα το διαβήσω.

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