



Allerednic: A Regency Cinderella Tale--In Reverse

Chautona Havig

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Lady Charlotte Eversley, heir of the Earl of Everston, has lived a charmed life. Wealthy, beautiful, and one day she will be a Countess in her own right. No mother has ever loved a daughter more. Her sisters admire and adore her, and of course, her father dotes on her. She is one of the most eligible ladies of the Season.

Mr. Jasper Seyton misses the country. Along with his trusted servant, Worley, he endures the delights of Town for one purpose. After three Seasons, he has little confidence in the so-called "Marriage Mart."

They enjoy each other's company, and her father approves. She knows he intends to propose. He knows that she will accept.

So where is she when he returns to Everston Hall, and why does she think there is no hope for happiness again?

Allerednic: A Regency Cinderella Tale--In Reverse Details

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From Reader Review Allerednic: A Regency Cinderella Tale--In Reverse for online ebook

Emily Fauble says

2.5 stars. I think I gave this a lower rating mainly because I was really disappointed in it. I wasn't sure what to expect, but some sort of reverse Cinderella fairy-tale seemed promised. The book started out okay, placed in regency England and with a tone and feel not unlike that of Austen, but there the similarity ends.

While Austen's dialog is witty, the dialog here was rather boring. The characters were fine, but not nearly as full and rich as they could be. The comparison to Cinderella was weak and the conflict or crisis was sudden and unforeseen, but not in a clever twist way. It also presented itself too close to the end and was wrapped up too quickly and neatly to make for an interesting read. Most of the book was tedious thoughts and conversations of two young people trying to decide if the other had a perfect enough character to be a worthy marriage partner. This book could have been so much better, but instead fell flat.

Lorraine says

SUMMARY: Lady Charlotte Eversley, heir of the Earl of Everston, has lived a charmed life. Wealthy, beautiful, and one day she will be a Countess in her own right. No mother has ever loved a daughter more. Her sisters admire and adore her, and of course, her father dotes on her. She is one of the most eligible ladies of the Season. Mr. Jasper Seyton misses the country. Along with his trusted servant, Worley, he endures the delights of Town for one purpose. After three Seasons, he has little confidence in the so-called "Marriage Mart." They enjoy each other's company, and her father approves. She knows he intends to propose. He knows that she will accept. So where is she when he returns to Everston Hall, and why does she think there is no hope for happiness again?

Allerednic: Cinderella--reversed.

REVIEW: This a charming Regency romance with a creative reversal of the Cinderella story. It is a heart warming, adult fairy tale that captured me from start to finish. Havig makes the Regency period come to life with all its intricacies, subtleties, and proper requirements. The characters were all very likeable. I especially enjoyed Charlotte as she learns to lean on God and be more confident in her own wisdom rather than others. The relationship between her and Jasper developed nicely as each explored their feeling for the other. The subplot between Worley and Jane was delightful. Finally, Havig's delightful ending was perfect for a fairy tale!

FAVORITE QUOTES: "I have learned something about myself this morning. You are correct. It is both a good thing--when I truly defer to a wiser opinion--and a bad thing--when I use someone else's opinion to avoid seriously considering a topic."

Caryn says

I enjoy good regency romance. I was impressed with this author's well researched attempt to line her novel up with period pieces. Lady Charlotte enters the "season" in London like many characters in regency novels.

She and the charming man she grows attached to seem to have an easy road paved towards marriage. But, separation physically from London, accented by minimal communication allow minds and hearts to wander and doubt, risking their relationship never seeing it's fruition. Both struggle with thoughts and doubts that could easily be cleared up with straightforward communication, but then it wouldn't be a regency novel. But, I love that this book has the added component of them both recognizing a need to mature in their spiritual grounding and their security in their person. Real conversation does happen which is refreshing. I just enjoyed the characters and wanted to see them through their journey.

Rachel Bennett says

Fun twist on a classic

Chautona does a nice job in a new (for her) genre. Clean, fun, and well-written. Keep up the good work!

Patti Pierce says

Chautona Havig has written another amazing story in this book. Lady Charlotte Eversley is a charming young lady who has been blessed with a wonderful father, loving stepmother and two charming younger stepsisters. She finds a charming man whom she thinks she would like to marry. There is a story within a story that looks at her maid and his servant. The descriptions of places, events and clothing kept my interest. I thoroughly enjoyed this book and would love to read more about the characters in this story.

Margaret Metz says

This had an authentic regency feel to it. The time spent describing fashion, colors, and that sort of thing reminded me of books written during the period.

I think the label "A Regency Cinderella Tale -- In Reverse" was distracting. You find yourself looking for those elements instead of just reading the book.

There wasn't a huge amount of conflict in the book - and her reaction to the one big bump in the road didn't seem to fit with the rest of her actions.

I still really enjoyed the book and the author's writing style.

Rachel says

If you are looking for a book in which basically nothing happens, this is it. Generally a story has a conflict followed by resolution. This book began with the resolution and forgot to ever develop a conflict. There were two very minor misunderstandings that resulted in almost no problems other than a discussion inside the characters' heads. Don't get me wrong I love a story in which the characters misunderstand each other and it leads to all sorts of hijinx, but this is not that. This is just dull. Oh, also, the Cinderella connection is way too contrived for me.

Brenda says

I feel the author has a lovely writing style. At the start, I thought I was going to love the book. But, as others have mentioned, there truly was no action. It felt like an outline for a potentially entertaining read. There were characters that appeared to be set up as challenge to the main characters, but then nothing happened. Also, the first half of the book talked so often about the colors pink vs Prussian blue, that it actually grew quite annoying and made me wonder ...why?? After re-reading a few reviews I decided to change my expectations and expect that it was going to be a calm, uneventful journey. With that in mind, I continued on to finish the book as the main characters were very likeable so I enjoyed spending a little time with them. I do wish she had taken the opportunities with the other characters and the potential situations that could have developed with them.

Amanda says

This was very creative with a sweet romance. Very enjoyable.

Emma says

I got this book free on Amazon. It's so amazing! It's clean, and it is so fun! I would absolutely recommend this book!

Miriam says

I really enjoyed this backwards Cinderella story. Probably my favorite book by Ms. Havig to date. And to think this was written on a dare!

Shirley says

Allerednic

By Chautona Havig

Jasper Seyton is engaged in his third Season in London. He is bored with the lack of conversational skills of the young ladies he meets. So much so that he refuses to have his two sisters debut until he feels they can present themselves well in the art of conversation. Two and a half months into his third Season he meets Lady Charlotte Eversley at a ball. He is immediately attracted to her because she is so adept at conversation and logical thought.

Returning from the ball Charlotte and her step-mother Judith Eversley give Lord Everston a favorable report on the ball, ending with comments about the meeting of Mr. Jasper Seyton. Lord Everston remarks that he will investigate the young man, and if he meets the Earl's approval he will be invited to dinner.

As the Season progresses, Jasper takes every opportunity to see Charlotte. She, in turn, makes every effort to make the best impression she can every time they meet. Both seek to maintain a proper equilibrium in their

feelings and behavior. Each hoping the other returns their regard.

After the Season ends Jasper is asked to visit Everston Hall for a few weeks to hunt with Lord Everston, but also as a way for he and Lady Charlotte to get to know each other better.

As time progresses they get to know each other and find they have a true affection for each other. However, things happen that make it appear that their union is not to be.

This is a delightfully written tale of Regency England. It is a warm romance with enough trouble thrown in to keep it interesting. A well-plot and quite a cast of characters make it a joy to read.

Emma Filbrun says

It took me a long time to get into this story. I decided I'm really not interested in Regency romances! By the time I got about 75% of the way through, I was finally enjoying it, though, and I loved the ending. I liked the things Lady Charlotte learned about herself and God during the course of the story.

Kristen says

Most of this book I really, really liked. There were a few parts though, I thought were a little disjointed and did not flow smoothly. I loved the regency aspect to it. I felt like I was right there with the characters.

I think I would have enjoyed it better if it was not labeled a Cinderella tale in reverse. Being done with it now I see what the author was doing, but I think the title had me too focused on that aspect of it so I kept looking for the story within the story. I would have taken the side story of his valet out and put it in another book. I enjoyed it but it took too much time out of Charlotte & Jasper's story. While I agree with Ms. Havig's views of having Christianity be more than just a Sunday activity, I thought she just threw it in the story here and there, and it didn't flow with the book.

Overall though, I really did enjoy it. Take out some of the preaching, and a portion of the side story and it would have been a 5 star for me.

Moral Note: Squeaky clean

Jessica says

This is only the second of Havig's books that I've read. I thought it was a wonderfully sweet romance and I liked the few tie-ins that she paralleled with the original tale of Cinderella.

Allerednic, had sweet, clean romance, wonderful Jane Austen themes, and an interesting and backwards Cinderella story that had me intrigued - all things I was highly anticipating and love to read about.

The one and only complaint I have about it is just that there didn't seem to be much conflict. There was no evil step-mother (although there was a step-mother. But she wasn't evil and mean). And although there was one other contender for her heart, it seemed like he was pretty much written off right from the start. The only thing I could see that was awful about this second would be suitor was that he was a rich snob and treated the main female character like she was a child.

The story follows the main male and female characters. It's the typical falling in love regency romance. But they never really faced any road blocks until the last few chapters. Which was ridiculous. For so long, nothing major had happened. The romantic relationship progresses nicely with very few hiccups. Then, in a rush at the end, the main female character has this huge, pathetic moment of second guessing a man who is absolutely amazing, (another problem. Where were his supposed faults? He said he had some but never really shared any of them.) and then finding out this big secret about her past which wasn't even foreshadowed at all during the rest of the book. Reading this moment in the book was like being on a calm sea and then all of a sudden being in the middle of a Gail. Hello, where did that come from? I still have whiplash weeks later. Basically, there was no conflict, and then so much all at once it was unnatural to the plotline and characters. And because there wasn't really any conflict during the rest of the book, it felt a bit dry.

I liked this book, it just didn't seem realistic. What kind of a courtship reaches almost engagement stage without any roadblocks? Unrealistic. And then, even more so, a book with very little conflict doesn't exactly keep you turning the page for more.

It was a nice book, but I wanted more. And the characters and their lives had potential to give me more. Which was why it was so disappointing. It all turns out the way you wanted in the end, but you had to travel through a desert of regency dances and etiquette and slow plotline/pacing before you reach the happily ever after.
