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Diane Moody

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Fresh from a Jane Austen tour in England, Maddie Cooper returns home to Texas, determined to bring a touch of "Austen to Austin." She dreams of opening an authentic English tea room and, like Austen's Emma, put into practice her self-proclaimed gift as a matchmaker. But an airport mishap with a cranky Englishman gets her off on the wrong foot (quite literally), especially when he moves into the university guest house across the street. Can Maddie find a love for her unapproachable new neighbor, or has she finally met her match?

Tea with Emma Details

Date : Published June 20th 2011 by OBT Bookz

ISBN :

Author : Diane Moody

Format : Kindle Edition 136 pages

Genre : Romance, Christian Fiction, Fiction, Womens Fiction, Chick Lit, Contemporary, Novella

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From Reader Review Tea with Emma for online ebook

iamnotabookworm says

Tea with Emma is a story within a story.

The first story is about Maddie Cooper. Maddie just came from a Jane Austen tour from England and was so inspired to start her own English tea shop in Austin, Texas. And like Jane Austen's Emma, she thinks she is a natural matchmaker. Only to find out that she isn't.

I have not read Emma by Jane Austen but because of this book I wanted to read it. Jane Austen is like every girl's favorite writer. I liked Pride and Prejudice but I just hadn't gotten to reading the rest of her works. I will try find time to do just that. I will try to sneak it in between reading contemporary writers.

I had fun in this book. A light read and makes you feel good. Aside from the fact that I love tea which what this book is about, it gives off a really relaxing vibe. Just like drinking a hot cup of tea. It settles your nerves and it would make you feel like all is well in the world. The book is also funny. I like how Maddie is so clueless as to how other people feel about her because she's too focused on her matchmaking.

I give the book four hot steaming cups of tea served in bone china tea cups. I really enjoyed the book and would love to read the next books in the series. This is what me and my friends would call a classic example of inspirational romance.

Thank you Diane Moody.

Full review on <http://iamnotabookworm.blogspot.com/2...>

Victoria Minks says

3.5 stars.

It was a nice light plotline--I did enjoy that. I didn't care for the rather heavy emphasis on good looks--it seemed to be almost more important than personality or good character to the main characters in the story. I didn't care for the kissing/hugging either--it wasn't even between just the couples and I didn't like that very much. I also found some of the writing to be a bit awkward... very heavy on the dialogue... and the British main male character is very stereotypical. But, that said, it was a cheerful, fun book. I quite liked the idea of the tea room--that would be so much fun. ;) And I really liked the modern spin on Emma, with a Christian twist.

Kathy says

As a lover of reading, I have never read a Jane Austen book. Always planned on it, but never picked up one of her books.

This title tempted me to read it and see what a "Jane" themed book was all about. I loved it! A quick fun read. The main character Maddie just returns from a trip to England with her best friend with plans to open up a tea room. She is a lover of anything Jane and her favorite book is Emma. She is much like Emma, playing the matchmaker.

I am now going to read my first Jane Austen book, Emma of course!

Cyndi says

The story wasn't very good. I mean, come on, if the the main character had ever read Jane Austen's 'Emma' she would have known not to try matchmaking. The happy endings were despite Emma's machinations. But, the recipes at the end of the book look worth trying. So, there's that...

Lorraine says

This is the second book I have read in The Teacup Novella series. I really liked the first one I read: A Christmas Peril which was the last in the series. This one was the first, and I found the characters somewhat immature for their age especially Maddie. Their antics on the plane ride home from England and her attitude towards the unknown Englishman when he is hit by the flying wheel from Lainey's bag were somewhat off putting. I did see some growth in Maddie as she learned her lesson from her matchmaking attempts with Lainey. Easy enjoyable read but not as good as some of Moody's other writing.

Marlene says

Tea with Emma, the first of *The Teacup Novellas* by Diane Moody, is a contemporary romance within another story.

The novella opens with Lucy Alexander, an author with writer's block receiving an inheritance of teacups from her Aunt Lucille, who collected the cups over the years. Lucy is inspired to write a story for each teacup.

In *Tea with Emma*, Lucy writes her first story. Emma is not a character in either the story or the story within a story. Emma refers to Maddie Cooper, who decides to open a tea shop after an inspiring tour of Jane Austen's hometown. Maddie is like Jane Austen's Emma in that she tries to be a matchmaker for her best friend Lanie, regardless of the fact that Lanie is already very fond of someone. Just as in Jane Austen's *Emma*, it doesn't work out very well. The resemblance ends there, however.

Dr. Ian Grant, a professor from England, has come to Texas to be a visiting professor at a university. He lives across the street from Maddie and is grumpy and sometimes rude for most of the story until he undergoes a transformation.

What I liked:

*I liked Maddie's relationship with her grandmother and how she cares about those around her.

What I didn't like:

*There was really no romance. You see only one significant conversation between Lanie and one of her two love interests. Every other conversation is not shown. Maddie seems interested in Ian, but I don't know why. He is so rude to her! One of my favorite types of romance is when the hero and heroine dislike each other in

the beginning of the story. But in *Tea With Emma*, you just don't see a gradual transformation from antagonism to friendship. This seems like an extreme case of "insta-love."

*I found Maddie, Lanie, and Ian all annoying from the very beginning (without much improvement later). These were not characters that I cared about at all. All three characters, particularly Lanie, seemed immature in the way they spoke and in the way they handled relationships. I understand that character growth is desirable in a story, but you really need to like at least one of the main characters from the start!

*There is a Christian element to the story, but it often seemed too vague. I didn't see anything that was contrary to Biblical principles, but I think that the Christian themes were too open for interpretation. Some reviewers misunderstood the intent, and I think that being more specific or explanatory would have been helpful.

I really didn't enjoy this book. I was glad when it was done at 75% on my Kindle Reader due to recipes, etc. It sounds like the later *Teacup Novellas* are probably better, but my appetite was most assuredly NOT whetted. I will not be picking up more books by Diane Moody. Another of her books might be more to my taste, but I'd rather read books by authors I know I enjoy.

Bridget says

This was a cute story..Sweet characters...And I adore them all! Especially Nana & Jonathan...

There were quite a few times I got kind of bored throughout the story and that's why it got a 3/5 stars. But, thinking over the story, it's a sweet story with a message...Which I won't tell here because for who ever reads it..I want them to see it on their own.

Now, Maddie...The main character in this book? There were many times I wanted to shake her, smack her in the back of the head and tell her to leave Lanie alone and let her live her life...Many times, Lanie tried to find ways to let her know in subtle ways but Maddie wouldn't listen and it put a major strain on their friendship...Did it end it? Well, you will have to read the story for that part.

This book is for those who like clean, God centered books without it being shoved down your throat. It's not long, and a quick easy read for those who like books like this...It wasn't as quick of a read for me as it could have been because well, it had its slow moments and I was also reading another book as well (decided to just focus on this one eventually so I could get it finished, otherwise, I probably wouldn't have because many times, I thought about just deleting it from my Kindle and not finishing it but I wanted to.)

This was a book I got free from amazon.com...But even if it's no longer free, it shouldn't cost too much...I believe there are at least two other books in this 'Series'.

The next book in this series is:

And the 3rd and final book (that I know of) is:

I probably won't get to these other books for a while, just to give myself a break from them. If I try to read them now, I'd probably end up hating the series because they are not typically what I read and totally outside the box for me. I just wanted to read something different and not my normal YA Fantasy/Paranormal genre.

But they are cute none-the-less...:-)

Happy Reading!

María says

This story was nice but not for me. The modern christian version of Emma was a deception. I don't like the multiple references to God, especially in Ian's conversion, which was very quickly to seem realistic... The modern turn with Laney and her cyber boyfriend was intelligent and I like the frame of Maddie's story, that was the story of the author, Lucy, who had inherited the tea cups from an eccentric aunt. But I don't recommend this book.

The end was so quickly, he didn't speak to her but he apologized and declared his love to her in the only civil conversation they had, and he did it when she was feeling miserable because of her fight with her best friend!!! An all the cheers in the opening?! Very cheesy...

Bekah says

This was my first book by this author and I quite enjoyed it. This series was a very clever idea with the different tea cups each having a different story behind them and I thought that this particular story, Tea with Emma was very sweet.

What I Liked: Maddie and Lainie were both very likeable characters. This book opens with them returning from a trip to England exploring the world of Jane Austen and coming back having had a wonderful time. Another character is also introduced in this first scene, the quite grumpy British professor, Ian Grant.

As Maddie works to open her own tea room, she tries her hand at match making, at which she thinks she has talent for, but quickly discovers that she has gotten herself into a heap of trouble.

I really liked the lessons Maddie learned in this story. She realized that she can't control other people's lives, including the people they chose to date, and when she does try, feelings get hurt and it's just a big mess. I really liked the advice Maddie's grandmother gave her about stopping match making; especially with her best friend, Lainie.

This was a very sweet, simple story and was pleasant to read. Over all, I really liked Maddie's personality, how she always tried to look on the bright side of things and bless other people. Her caring heart was very sweet to read of.

This story was also quite humorous; there were several times where I found myself shaking my head and thinking: "She seriously did not just do that, did she?" But alas, she did, and it kept me turning the pages to see how the story would end.

One more thing that I really liked that was unique with this book was the prologue and epilogue shown from the author's point of view. I thought that it was a pretty clever idea and I really liked it.

What I Didn't Like: I'm afraid that there were some things that I didn't really like. There was one scene where the professor appeared in his bathrobe at the front door and allowed his ex-fiancée into his house without putting on regular clothes before letting her in. I didn't like that whole scene.

And some of the language that was used I didn't care for. Nothing super horrible that I haven't heard before and isn't common in this world and I know people have different standards when it comes to language, but it bothered me to read a book with some of the word choices that were in it.

All that to say, I give this book 3 stars for a sweet story and a good ending.

Joleen says

Okay....THIS is what a novella is supposed to be! I'm not generally a novella reader because they just frustrate me. But since I've read several Diane Moody's books, I picked up three of her Teacup novellas, and I'm so glad I did.

Normally a novella should really be a book. They seem shortened so everything happens too quickly, or there seems to be way too much left out...like the author is in a rush to get it finished so omits a lot of important background, character development and detail.

Not so with this series.

In this book, two best friends from Texas are given an opportunity to go to England. While there they come up with an idea to go into business creating a Jane Austin-esque tearoom in their southern town. On the airplane ride home, as they chatter like magpies about all their experiences in England, a grumpy British man is so irritated he keeps telling them to pipe down and gets quite adamant about not wanting to hear their prattle.

Ends up he's an English professor going to a new job in the same town as the two friends. Paths cross as they end up to be neighbors, and it's nasty at the start.

Maddie decides to be a witness to him by leaving him baked goods or being kind, even though he's a poophead. Eventually her kindness wins him over. But in the meantime she blows it with her best friend as she tries matchmaking and it really doesn't work out well.

Love the way Ms Moody writes. I doubt I will read very many novellas other than this series, because these spoiled me.

Olivia says

One of those books that are fun to read, but also a little annoying.

Ever since living in England I get a annoyed with the "American girl falls in love with a handsome, British guy" story-line. Oh, not to mention he's as moody as Mr. Darcy and has this perfect posh accent. There did seem more of a focus on looks than true love in this story. They didn't even know much about each other when they kissed!!!

But all that being said, I did like the story and want to read the others :)

Gigi Ann says

Fresh from a Jane Austen tour in England, Maddie Cooper returns home to Texas, determined to bring a touch of "Austen to Austin." She dreams of opening an authentic English tea room and, like Austen's Emma, put into practice her self-proclaimed gift as a matchmaker. But an airport mishap with a cranky Englishman gets her off on the wrong foot (quite literally), especially when he moves into the university guest house across the street. Can Maddie find a love for her unapproachable new neighbor, or has she finally met her match? Will Maddie finally find true love?

My Thoughts....

I am always drawn to books that have a Jane Austen theme. Some I love and some I hate, however, this one had a fun twist on Ms. Austen's Emma, which is my favorite Jane Austen book. I love the cover and the fact that it is about tea, tea parties and tea rooms. I love anything about Austen and Tea things.

This was such a cute story, not only was it cute, but it was a fun quick story to read in an afternoon or evening. The book is "G" rated, a light romance, a few hugs and kisses. I'm not sure this book would be for everyone, but it was my cup of tea.

I got this book free on Bookbub.com today and it is now a part of my Kindle library. I liked it enough to award it 3 star shaped sugar cubes.

Laura says

Somewhere between a 4 and a 5

I really did enjoy this book, and I have every intention of finishing the series. The characters are very appealing, and the subject matter is clean, romantic, and entertaining. Enjoy!

Nora Petralli Charles says

Tea With Emma - The Teacup Novellas - Book One by Diane Moody is a narrative based on Emma by Jane Austen. This sugary-sweet story opens by introducing us to Lucy, a writer who is in the midst of struggling with writers block and a deadline around the corner. She receives an elegantly decorated china teacup in the mail, an inheritance from her late Aunt Lucille. The small teacup gives her inspiration for the novella.

Tea With Emma opens with Maddie, Madeleine Cooper and her friend, Lanie, Elaine Morgan returning on a flight to Austin, Texas from a visit to Jane Austen's England. They animatedly discuss opening a tea room in their home town. An English passenger seated ahead of them repeatedly chastises them for their boisterousness. It is there where our main characters meet.

What ensues is your typical formulaic love story with Christian overtones. The characters, unfortunately, lacked any depth. Even written as a novella, there is still room to develop more characterization. The flighty dialogue did not fit the age of Maddie and Lanie, but of two teenagers in a high-school cafeteria. I was disenchanted by the story. It was certainly not my cup of tea.

Hannah says

The ebook is free, so I read it on a whim to coincide with a group buddy read. It's a lighthearted comedy of a book, with many a nod to the classic "Emma" by Jane herself. As a teacup collector, I loved the teacup collection/tearoom emphasis.

That said, I can't approve of all the characters. One is very heartless when another is injured, yet it's implied that he's at fault for being a Scrooge of a man; well, I'd have been sick of the chatter, too, if I'd been cooped up in a plane from London to Austin with two women who chattered nonstop and made a general nuisance of themselves. I also didn't like the heavy emphasis on attraction, the kiss from a married woman to a former fiancé, and having a character assume another has taken a mistress.

So, only three stars, though I did enjoy the tale.
