



## Born to Scandal

*Diane Gaston*

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### **Born to Scandal** Diane Gaston

Lord Brentmore—half Irish peasant, half English aristocrat—grew up under a cloud of scandal. Even money and a title aren't enough to stay the wagging tongues of the Ton. But he's vowed that his children will never experience the same stigma. After the death of their infamous mother they need a reputable governess. Anna Hill is too passionate, too *alluring*, but she fills Brentmore Hall with light and laughter again—and its master with feelings he'd forgotten....

But a lord marrying a governess would be the biggest scandal of all!

### **Born to Scandal Details**

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## From Reader Review Born to Scandal for online ebook

### Rane says

Governess at times was a truly thankless job with their quasi-invisible role in the household. This role is show with Born to Scandal a homage to one of the greatest governess love story of all time : Jane Eyre.

Gaston's books for me are at times hit and miss. Born to Scandal was differently a hit and my favorite by this author. She shows us the true trial a young woman would have falling in love with a peer of the realm with only love to truly conquer the way.

Anna Hill is suddenly without all she's known. Brought up to be a companion and help a bashful girl. Anna is left out in the cold when the Lord of the house tells her she has only so much time to pack her bags. When a position as a governess opens up, she sees no other opinion then to try.

Rumors abound around the half Irish lord- Lord Brentmore. With the somewhat recent death of his wife, Brent is at a crossroads, unknowing what to do with his now motherless children, whose mother kept them away from him in spite.

I really just adored both of these characters with pretty much all the characters in this book added something to the overall story. Even Brent's children were rounded at not just cardboard cut outs meant to move the story along.

Brent and Anna both have one foot in two worlds. Being half Irish, Brent has seen and been through alot at a young age, and with his faithless wife adding more burden on his heart it takes a big push for him to take a chance on his heart with Anna. I did get a little frustrated at his "good deeds" which made him end up with pie in his face and those he helps with hurt feelings. Still he had his heart in the right place and I couldn't really put the whole blame on him as he finally took a leap of faith.

Anna suffered in silence for her love for Brent and her love for his children who truly needed her. She never came off as some martyr as she made the best of her situation that she was found herself in.

I loved how these two peas in the pod found one another and took the risk on their love and taking into account those who it would effect and finding strength to take that chance with one another.

This was such a beautifully done story that did a great job in it's homage to Jane Eyre as it stood on it's own two feet with a strong story to back it up.

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### Linda says

An easy, light n rather sweet short read that u can finish in a few hrs.

Prose=Jane Eyre story. Heroine is forced to find employment as a governess when she is told that her services as the companion to a Lord's daughter; her childhood friend whom she grew up with, is no longer

required. Hero is a widower w/2 young children.

Both hv scandals is their background.

Plot is believable & both characters were likable as were the children.

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### **Galena Sanz says**

Este libro la verdad es que me sorprendió mucho y fue realmente lo que buscaba, una historia sobre una institutriz que reflejase de forma más completa su trabajo y que tuviese personajes bien caracterizados e interesantes.

Una novela romántica que me gustó mucho y que me parece es de las mejores que tratan el tema de la institutriz.

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### **Antonia Goycoolea says**

Simpático, personajes con personalidad

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### **Susan says**

Good book. I liked both Brent and Anna. Brent has spent most of his life fighting the shame of his birth and then the scandal of his late wife's behavior. He is determined to be the best gentleman he can be so that his children do not have to suffer the way he has. When their elderly governess dies she must hire a new one. Enter Anna Hill. She has been raised as a companion to her friend Charlotte but has been let go. She applies to be the children's governess, but Brent is initially reluctant because she is so young and attractive. He decides to give her a chance and sends her off to Brentwood Hall where she immediately bonds with the children. She is dismayed by the dismal life they are leading there and sends for Brent. He has had no idea what things were like, but doesn't know how to relate to the children. Over the next few weeks Anna helps him and they all grow closer. Brent and Anna know that they are falling for each other but that it is impossible. Anna is very practical and pretty much suffers in silence. Brent is pushed into looking for a "respectable" wife but is miserable because all he wants is Anna. When things come to a head Brent must decide which is more important - love or respectability. All the characters were very well done. I could feel Anna's pain over her loneliness and her love. Brent's desire that his children not suffer like he did was obvious, but his feelings for Anna were heartbreaking. The children felt very real with problems and feelings appropriate for their ages. The rest of the supporting cast also felt realistic.

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### **Soyanut says**

Love. Love. Love the book. The heat and lust work so well. Even though the H and h only have on one occasion, the strong attraction can be felt on the pages and carry the story forth to a wonderful ending. Diane Gaston's stories feature characters with real conflicts and true burdens that they carry not just for themselves but their loved ones. Their lives have context and their woes are easily relatable, not merely trifle antsy.

### **Sabrina (Soter) Sally says**

"Quando Brent incontrò Anna al centro, i loro sguardi rimasero incatenati. Quando danzarono in cerchio, la prese per mano. Non vedeva più gli altri, era come se danzasse solo con lei."

Devo dire che inizialmente la storia mi aveva coinvolto, i bambini sono ben caratterizzati, con le loro paure e insicurezze e anche Lord Brent, con il suo passato pieno di scandali e la sua indole cupa. Anche Anna mi è piaciuta, è dolce e gentile ma ha anche il coraggio di discutere con il suo datore di lavoro e di proteggere i bambini da chiunque cerchi di fargli del male....finché, ad un certo punto, anche lei scopre di avere uno scandalo nel suo passato e da lì la storia diventa sempre più noiosa XD Penso che gli scandali di lui bastassero e avanzassero XD Anna diventa sempre più depressa e lagnosa e i tentativi di Brent di aiutarla a venire a patti con il passato non fanno che peggiorare la situazione, Il finale è abbastanza prevedibile, con tanto di fuga lampo XD

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### **Louisa Cornell says**

What a wonderful read! Diane Gaston's homage to Jane Eyre does not disappoint! The characters step onto the stage full-blown and intriguing. I must admit an incredible fondness for Egan, Lord Brentmore. He tries so hard to hold onto his dignity, to overcome the shame of his birth - none of his fault at all and the shame of his late wife's infidelity - also not his fault. He feels he must out-gentleman all gentlemen of his acquaintance. He yearns to be close to his children, but doesn't know how.

Enter Anna Hill, with shame in her past as well, she is determined to live a useful life and to make her way in the world. Her zest for life, her passion for laughter and her desire to give these children a normal life where they have had none before draws Egan like a moth to a flame.

It is wonderful to watch him succumb to desire not just for her body, but for her company, for what she gives him and everyone around her. And it is fascinating to see her become the sensible one, while he is the one to throw all sensibility to the wind to obtain the one thing he and his children need most - love.

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### **Carrie says**

Diane Gaston never disappoints me and this was another fantastic read! I loved the homage to Jane Eyre and thoroughly enjoyed each of the characters. The children were delightful and instead of being a side-line to the story, they were a significant part of the plot and coupling. It's nice to see little ones incorporated in this fashion; sometimes they are a distraction from the plot or even overwhelm it in some cases. This was the perfect balance! I was immediately interest both hero and heroine and Brent won my heart very early on. The unfolding of their relationship was a joy to read. Great book!

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### **Amanda says**

This is the type of book I consider "junk food" for my brain. It's not good for you, it doesn't take long to

finish and doesn't leave you very full... of anything... yet we still read them.

This is an easy short read, one that I finished in just a few hours. The plot was not intense or hard to follow. The characters were too easily developed, I doubted a lot of their actions and dialogue. I was not immediately taken into their world, which I had a problem with. The whole book takes you through a lot of sexual tension between the two main characters and the end of the book they finally get their release. There were A LOT of obvious set ups in the book... you knew exactly what was going to happen and to me, it is not enjoyable to know WAY ahead of time, what is going to happen. I enjoyed the read, mainly because it didn't take too long to get through. I have found with Romance books, if it takes me longer than a few hours to finish, I get bored.

My opinion: Pick up the book if you're at the dentist/doctor, traveling or just needing to kill a few hours of time... otherwise, don't waste it on this one.

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### **Kristi says**

I don't like rating books I don't like because I'm embarrassed to admit to reading them. The characters in this book just bothered me. The lady was so self despising..."if I wasn't so much like my mother who was a mistress to a married lord I wouldn't like this single man so much." She gave herself little credit and acted as if she had no self control. Also the guy was not my favorite either. I think I would have enjoyed it more if there was less obsession with jumping in bed together and more about finding love.

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### **Zee says**

It was good and took me to that time which I adore. But after the ball, the story went downhill. I wished that something significant happened like the earl get exposed and everyone knew who Anna's father was. Or something like that! Or at least Norton would try to pressure her that causes Egan to react and defend his love in front of all the guests. Anything that shook them to the core.

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### **Karyn Gerrard says**

4.25 stars of of 5

A wonderful Harlequin Historical entry from Diane Gaston. I will admit I am partial to governess-type stories. All have "Jane Eyre" at the core, how can you not compare them?

Lord Brentmore—half Irish peasant, half English aristocrat—grew up under a cloud of scandal. Brent had a terrible first marriage, and now a widower, he needs a new governess. He made for a very good hero, just the right amount of brooding, handsome, standoffish-ness with passion and desire bubbling under the surface.

Anna Hill breezes into Brentmore Hall like a breath of fresh air, not only is Brent emotionally closed off but the children as well. She was a strong heroine.

Not much sex in this book, but the lingering looks, sensual touches and passionate kisses in dark corridors are very well done. Only thing that I found jarring, the ending was a bit abrupt. A very good read, Definitely

recommended.

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### **Mnms says**

Very sweet and chaste - and also a very good and romantic story

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### **Regina says**

A compelling romance between a governess and her widower employer. I was quickly sucked into the building passion between Anna and Lord Brentmore and their tender relationships with his children; Anna as she grew to know them and Lord Brentmore as he learned his role as a father. I found it hard to put the book down and when I did, I could hardly wait to get back to it. I was only disappointed with some loose ends with a couple of subplots and its abrupt ending hence my 3.5 star rating. Still, this is an enjoyable read and a very decent tribute to Jane Eyre.

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