



A Regency Christmas VII

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A Regency Christmas VII Mary Balogh , Jo Beverley , Sandra Heath , Edith Layton , Laura Matthews Set in Regency England and America, here are five Christmas love stories that are at once humorous, deeply romantic, and full of holiday lore. Authors include Mary Balogh, Jo Beverley, Sandra Heath, Edith Layton, and Laura Matthews.

A Regency Christmas VII Details

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Author : Mary Balogh , Jo Beverley , Sandra Heath , Edith Layton , Laura Matthews

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From Reader Review A Regency Christmas VII for online ebook

Suzanne says

This regency Christmas anthology contains 'The Rake's Christmas', one of the best regency novellas I've read. Beautifully written, with honest psychological insights into the mind of a 'rake'. Lord Shelton, the aging rake, poignantly aware of competition for the choicest females from younger, better looking rakes, is a delicious character. His love for women (all women) was palpable, and bittersweet. The romance between the rakish hero and spinster heroine was passionate and tender, but also full of tension because it is unclear to both whether their chemistry and friendship will lead to anything more than a holiday romance.

The Mary Balogh novella, 'The Surprise Party' was a touching story of separated lovers reunited by their orphaned nieces and nephew.

Camy says

Overall, a really great collection of entertaining stories set at Christmas.

"The Christmas Ghost" Sandra Heath: 3 stars. An okay read. I enjoyed the ghost aspect and I also love the reunited lovers plot theme.

"The Rake's Christmas" Edith Layton: 5-stars. Really great writing, I got to care a lot about these characters even though there was a lot of narrative. I also very clearly saw how they fell in love. Not a lot of external conflict in this story, but a really great read nonetheless. Loved this.

"Lady Bountiful" Laura Matthews: 4-stars. Good story. The romance arc was a little sudden at the end, but entertaining.

"A Mummies' Play" Jo Beverley: 3-stars. Very unusual story in that the heroine is a spy. I really love those types of story premises. However, I had a hard time liking her, and the romance arc didn't appeal to me as much because she spent much of the story hating the hero and wanting revenge because she missed her dead lover.

"The Surprise Party" Mary Balogh: 3-stars. Good story, with hero and heroine slowly falling in love with each other and with their orphaned nieces and nephew. I had a hard time liking the heroine in the beginning of this story, but she grew on me by the end.

Robin says

I read "The Surprise Party" by Mary Balogh.

Timothy and Ursula were very happily engaged to be married until their siblings suddenly eloped. The ensuing scandal broke up their engagement and they became adversaries. Now years later, their siblings have been killed, leaving three small children with no parents. Still holding a grudge, both Timothy and Ursula

race to the children, hoping the other will volunteer to take over their care. After being stranded by a sudden snowstorm, the children help them see that they still care for each other and would make a perfect family for their orphaned nieces and nephew.

This was a very enjoyable Christmas novella. My rating: 4 Stars.

Megumi says

Las historias son muy diferentes, para mi gusto las mejores son "A Rake's Christmas" y "A Mummies' Play". Las demás no me llamaron excesivamente la atención, incluso alguna se me hizo algo tediosa... De las dos que he señalado, la primera me gusta por ser algo fuera de lo corriente, hay mucho estudio de personajes, algo que me encanta, saber sus motivaciones, cómo sienten y piensan. El romance va a un ritmo pausado, poco usual en este tipo de historias cortas. En cuanto a la segunda, es un tema poco corriente, y el final, para mí es el más satisfactorio. Hubiera sido muy irreal cualquier otro.

Linda says

The Christmas Ghost by Sandra Heath

2 1/2 stars

Often remembered for melding a paranormal or psychic element with the content of her Regency romances, this story was no different. A widow was guided by the spirit of her deceased husband to meet a long-ago love at Christmas time. Meh! *It should be mentioned that I am not a big fan of this author's style of writing.*

The Rake's Christmas by Edith Layton

4 stars

Let me just call ~~the course~~ the story *Rake 101*.

Lady Bountiful by Laura Matthew

3 1/2 stars

I was surprised at this gentle meeting of two childhood friends. It touched base with the rare subject of dementia concerning the heroine's father.

A Mummer's Play by Jo Beverley

Easily forgotten: No Stars

The Surprise Party by Mary Balogh

4 stars

A viscount had a younger sister. He was betrothed -it is a love match- to a woman with a scheming brother. His sister and her brother meet, marry and cause enough problems that the original couple break their engagement. *Years go by*. Unwanted children were produced from the union of the secondary couple. The parents die. The viscount and now-widowed lady meet again at Christmastime to decide the fate of the

children. They hadn't planned on seeing each other and have deep-seated anger issues. When I first began to read *The Surprise Party* I thought I would not like this story. The original couple came across as petty and unlikable. The H came around sooner than the h. It was written by Mrs. Balogh and if anyone can mix trust issues, angst and anger and mold it into a heartwarming story, it is her.

Fedora says

Five stories from Mary Balogh, Jo Beverley, Edith Layton, Laura Matthews, and Sandra Heath. Definitely a good mix of plots and characters.

I enjoyed Ms. Matthews' and Ms. Balogh's the most; the others were competent, but either had characters or motivations or plot points that I found either unbelievable or annoying.

Still, a solid collection for when you're in the mood for a little historical Christmas :)

Teresa says

I read this book every Christmas!

Hilcia says

Lovely historical romance novellas set during the Regency times. Perfect reads for the holidays.

Ilze says

4 stars for Mary Balogh's and Edith Layton's stories - both of them lovely and a bit different from the usual "Regency Christmas" romance novella. Jo Beverley's story is *very* different, but it didn't work for me - the heroine is some sort of an amateur spy/investigator and she is almost TSTL. 2 stars for that one.

Megan says

The Christmas Ghost by Sandra Heath- 4 stars. Widower Rebecca knows that during Christmas time she is even more likely to run into her late husband's cousin, Piers. Relations were never good between Edward's family and Rebecca. Rebecca and Piers have both been keeping their true feelings for each other secret. With the help of her father's ghost they might just find out what they really think of each other. If you like stories where the H/h seem to dislike each other at first (in true *Pride & Prejudice* fashion) than you'll love this story. Very sweet. Loved Piers.

The Rake's Christmas by Edith Layton- 3.5 stars. This one started off very slow, but got better as time

went on. A nice little, sweet twist at the end. Ian Hunt, Viscount Hunt, has just returned from the war and has apparently become a rake, as informed by another rake, Lord Shelton, who invites Ian to Moon Manor for the Christmas festivities. Against his better judgement he goes, but is soon smitten with a very pretty (but poor) face, Eve.

Lady Bountiful by Laura Matthews- 3 stars. Just okay. It was a good plot, but it didn't feel like a romance. This probably could have been better if it was in a full length novel. There is no hint of any attraction until the very last pages where he (view spoiler). Drucilla Carruthers has run her father's estate, Tarnlea, since he started suffering from dementia. However, Tarnlea is owned by Julian Winslow, Lord Meacham, since Mr. Carruthers never fathered any other children. Lord Meacham has been altered to vast amounts of expenditures at Tarnlea, and needs to pay a visit before Christmas.

A Mummers' Play by Jo Beverley- 4.5 stars. Probably my favorite story of the group. This book is a little deceptive as you are lulled into a false sense of security by the very humorous beginning of Justina with the mummers. But, it quickly turns serious and melancholy when Justina Travers confronts "Lucky" Jack Beaufort the new Duke of Cranmoore in order to avenge her fiance who died in the war, under Jack's command. I really, really, really loved Jack in this book. Easily would have been 5 stars if it were a full-length novel. Jack has been half in love with Justina for a long time. However, she can only think of revenge, so it's a pretty far stretch for their HEA in such a short amount of time (view spoiler)

The Surprise Party by Mary Balogh- 3 stars. Okay story. It was supposed to be very heartfelt... and to me just fell rather flat. Another story where the H/h hate each other in the beginning. Ursula and Timothy were engaged a long time ago, but broke off their engagement. Now they have to come face to face to claim their nieces and nephews, as their parents both died (Ursula's brother and Timothy's sister), leaving the three children orphans. Can those three orphans bring two people who used to love each other back together again? Let me tell you, it will take a Christmas miracle!

Frances says

Once again, I have already read the Mary Balogh story and the other four are lame. Even Jo Beverly wrote a really stupid Christmas story. Sigh

I must have been in a really bad place when I read this book the first time because this is really good every story is really good so it had to be me the first time I read it , not the book mia culpa
