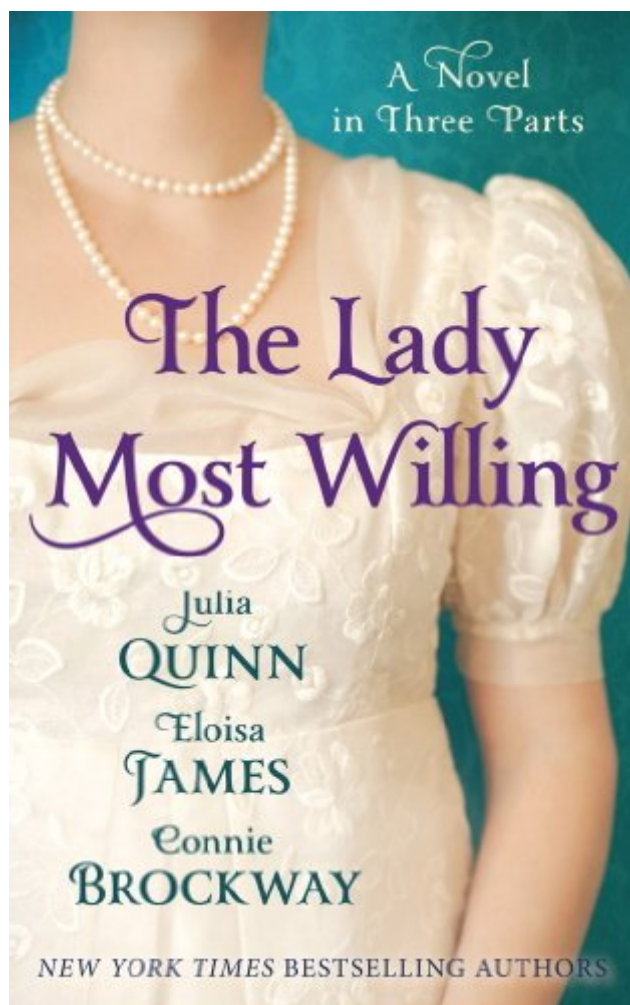


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The Lady Most Willing: A Novel In Three Parts



Synopsis

Step into the glittering world of Regency and prepare to have your hearts warmed by Julia Quinn, Eloisa James and Connie Brockway . . . During their annual Christmas pilgrimage to Scotland to visit their aged uncle in his decrepit castle, the Comte de Rocheforte and his cousin, Earl of Oakley, are presented with unique gifts: their uncle has raided an English lord's Christmas party and kidnapped four lovely would-be brides for his heirs to choose from . . . as well as one very angry duke, Lord Bretton. As snow isolates the castle, and as hours grow into days, the most honourable intentions give away to temptations as surprising as they are irresistible.

Book Information

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Anthologies

Customer Reviews

PLEASE NOTE: It looks like has the reviews for "The Lady Most Likely" and "The Lady Most Willing" mixed up together for whatever reason... just so you know. My review is for THE LADY MOST LIKELY =) Hugh Dunne, the Earl of Briarly needs a wife, so his sister hands him a list of delectable damsels and promises to invite them - and a few other gentlemen - to her country house

for what is sure to be the event of the season. Hugh will have time to woo whichever lady he most desires... Unless someone else snatches her first. I initially bought this book because Julia Quinn's name was on it but Connie Brockway is also a favorite of mine and was an added bonus. I've only read one other story by Eloisa James and was willing to give her another try. Overall I thought it was a good collaboration and while its termed a "novel" its still basically three novellas. All the people and events are connected though which was enjoyable, and each author is given a section dedicated to one of three couples. Ms. Quinn's story is first... The heroine is the "belle" of the season and extremely shy which for me equated to rather boring. The hero is a young earl and was likable enough. However, there wasn't time to develop their relationship and hence they meet and fall in love in less than one day. Just too rushed and not believable to me as a romance. It was was my least favorite of the trio. Rating: 3 STARS***Ms. Brockway's story is next and was the best in my opinion. I loved both the hero and heroine and thought theirs would have been a beautiful full-length novel. Having grown up together they fell in love young and were separated for four long years. This story was the most romantic and had the most depth. As great as can be expected for its short length and very touching too. Rating: 5 STARS*****Ms. James has the final story which was very good. I didn't care for the hero so much in the beginning as he seemed rather dull, his only love being horses. He surprised me though and I ended up really liking him. Not so much the heroine, although she was okay. They both grew up together and are finally seeing each other in a new light. It was well written and the most passionate. Rating: 4 STARS****

I recently listened to the Audible edition of *The Lady Most Willing*, a historical romance novel in three parts. This cooperative effort is made up of the work of Julia Quinn, Eloisa James, and Connie Brockway. I also own the Kindle edition of this book, but sometimes it's easier to listen than to read. The story begins with a kidnapping. Laird Taran Ferguson decides that it is time that his nephews- Robin and Byron- settle down and marry. So, he does what any rational man would do- he kidnaps several eligible young heiresses from a house party at a neighboring house and brings them to his decrepit castle. Robin and Byron are mortified by this, and then the situation becomes even more complicated when a snowstorm cuts off the castle from the main road, forcing everyone to hunker down for a few days. And then added to the mix, we have two unexpected guests- a charming young lady who is most certainly not an heiress and a very angry young duke who was sleeping in his carriage when the vehicle was used to spirit the kidnapped women away. By using simple math, we can determine that we have three eligible bachelors and four eligible young ladies. I will refrain from discussing the particulars of the three couples so as to not spoil potential readers

regarding the identities of the couples. All three of the stories are sweet and relatively light as the characters try to make the best of their situation. One character- Marilla- stands out because she is very aggressive in her efforts to land herself a titled husband, and it is interesting to see the results of this strategy. I would recommend *The Lady Most Willing* to fans of historical romance. Because we are dealing with novellas inside of a novel, there is not as much time to fully explore the characters, but the three authors do a fine job with the constraints of this format. I don't think any of the three stories weakened the core narrative, and I was very pleased with the way things turned out.

If you can get *The Lady Most Willing* at as relatively low a price as I did, it might be worth clicking 's tempting orange 'buy' button...but only if you meet the following criteria! 1) As other reviewers have noted, this is a three-part novel written by three different authors. I found the transition from one author to the next smoother than I'd feared it would be and even thought it was somewhat interesting to compare the slightly different writing styles, but if that kind of thing is jarring for you, I'd give this one a pass. 2) In order to derive much enjoyment from this collection, you should be a romance reader who buys into "instant love" without much (okay, any!) difficulty. Even as someone who can often merrily go along for the ride much when two strangers allegedly fall in love within a VERY, very short period of time, the stories here involve three couples who move with such supersonic speed from "who the hell are you?" to "Please marry me, my one true love!", and with so little transpiring other than a very quick conversation or two, that it was really, REALLY difficult to suspend my disbelief. On a related note, the character depth is minimal to nonexistent. Skillfully written short stories and novellas can create distinct, vibrant characters in impressively few pages; in these stories, only one of the heroes and one of the heroines truly came to life for me. 3) You should be craving a light, frothy, if-it-were-any-less-substantive-it-would-float-away read! I'm an ardent fan of witty, lighthearted romances that are low on angst and high on blissfully escapist fun, but even for me this one felt fairly hollow, shallow and so-what?!-ish. On a brighter note, I really do like all of these authors' writing styles and found it a mildly to moderately engaging read---albeit a forgettable one. I hope this was helpful, and happy reading!

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