



Tis the Season to Be Sinful

Adrienne Basso

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The Season For Surprises. . .

Juliet Wentworth knew what she was getting into: a marriage of convenience that will save her estate and protect her family long into the future. But she wasn't expecting to find the passion of a lifetime in her new husband's arms. After just one night, Juliet knows a marriage in name only will never be enough. . .

The Season For Seduction. . .

Richard Harper's beautiful new bride has him reeling with desire--and running for cover. After all, falling in love was never part of the bargain. Yet when Christmastime celebrations bring him back to their country manor and back into Juliet's arms, Richard finds his wife is determined--and all too able--to win over his heart, one kiss at a time. . .

Tis the Season to Be Sinful Details

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Author : Adrienne Basso

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From Reader Review Tis the Season to Be Sinful for online ebook

alvie hoffmann says

Wonderful story.

I always enjoy Ms. Basso's novels. They are delightful & charming & capture a true sense of love between two people.

I wish the epilogues were more complete with definitive endings, such as the birth of the new baby (babies - twins would be a nice touch) & perhaps the expectation of one for Olivia & George.

I like a romantic novels to have epilogues fast-forwarded where all important loose ends are caught up - similar to solving all the questions in a good mystery.

Thanks for an enjoyable read.

Sincerely,

Ms. Alvie Hoffmann

Natalija says

DNF at 55%

I'm so far in and it saddens me to abandon this book, but I'm done forcing myself to read something I don't like. That's not to say that the book is not worth reading. It just wasn't my cup of tea.

Amy says

"The strangest thing about Christmas is how it can suddenly grab at you when you least expect it."

Richard Harper is a successful American entrepreneur who is always up for a challenge. After moving to London three years ago, he still has difficulty being accepted in British society. Determined to succeed in England, Richard embarks in constructing a new steel factory in Cornwell. Reliable sources have confirmed to Richard that any successful businessman in England who wanted to be considered a gentleman of worth owned a country estate. Richard therefore sets his sights on purchasing the finest property available.

Juliet Wentworth, widow and mother of three children, is the owner of Highgrove Manor. After her husband's death, both Juliet and the children moved out of the main house to the smaller dowager house. With two mortgages and the lack of funds to maintain the property, Juliet seeks a tenant to lease the manor in order to have a steady income and to relinquish her brother-in-law's (Earl of Hasting) funding for her boy's education. Richard is only interested in purchasing the manor and proposes a generous offer leaving Juliet the dowager house along with ten acres to which Juliet agrees. Once the Earl learns of Juliet's intent to sell the manor, he threatens legal action to stop the sale. A man who deals in solutions, Richard suggests a proposal that will solve their dilemma-marriage. Knowing marriage is the best way to secure her children's futures and escape her brother-in-law's tyranny, Juliet agrees to a union of convenience and practicality with one condition. She wants a real marriage consisting of an intimate and physical relationship. Richard, already being attracted and captivated by Juliet's forward yet elegant nature, is more than happy to agree to her request.

After their passionate honeymoon night, Richard returns to London for several months due to his business and Juliet spends her days renovating and redecorating the rooms in the manor at Richard's request. During their time apart, Juliet, still seeking to form an intimate relationship with her husband, begins writing letters informing him of the progress on the manor and the daily activities of her and her children. Through the letters, Richard begins to see his wife's personality which piques his interest all the more and in turn causes his replies to be more personal and detailed. As the reader, you feel their bond strengthen through their written correspondence which forms a strong foundation for an inevitable love to come. When Richard returns home for the holidays, Juliet is determined to not only devour him body and soul but to also win his heart. What better way to accomplish that than show him the joys of Christmas with all the sights, sounds and tastes of the season. Believing this is what will bring an undeniable happiness and feel of family, Juliet vows to make this a Christmas Richard will never forget.

Juliet is both a devoted mother and determined wife. Her clever wit, tenacious spirit and somewhat "tart" nature provided an enjoyable heroine you could not help but love and long for her happiness. As the story progresses, you begin to see the "businessman" side of Richard take a backseat to a more caring, devoted husband. What starts as a desire for success in London society becomes insignificant once Richard is surrounded with family, friends and the traditions of the season. He proves his loyalty, devotion and dare I say, love, to both Juliet and her children when a potential business deal is ruined due to a prank that backfires with her boys. This was a turning point in the story and Richard's character had me grinning with pride in the outcome. The chemistry of Juliet and Richard was immediate, passionate and sensual whether in the bedchamber or in a welcoming embrace. Their uninhibited sexual nature as a couple is heated and consuming which left me sated and longing for Richard to take a risk with his heart knowing it would be in safe keeping with Juliet. With enduring characters and a magical setting filled with gingerbread, mistletoe and snow, Ms. Basso's lovely Christmas setting will leave you with warmth and cheer long into the New Year.

Favorite Quote:

"He took the seat beside her and her eyes widened at the contents of his plate He began eating with gusto and she found herself gazing at his mouth as he chewed, then swallowed. Such a normal domestic moment, yet her mind was summoning an erotic image of his kisses last night – hot, raw and sweet. There were moments when they were together in bed that she felt as though he wanted to devour her with his lips and teeth and tongue, just as he was devouring his breakfast right now. A wave of desire swelled through her as she remembered the feel of his mouth on her heated flesh and the wild pleasure he had evoked. It had been all-consuming, with an intensity she was looking forward to repeating. Soon."

Original review posted at <http://www.fictionvixen.com/2011/10/r...>

Tiffany Day says

Story started with potential but author fails to deliver -- characters never fully develop - no real romance - weak story; there are a LOT of Christmas celebrations, though, so in terms of being a seasonal read, it delivers there -- very fast, skim-able read 2 1/2 stars

TJ says

Oh for heaven's sake, where do they get these titles?!?! This one has absolutely nothing to do with the delightful story.

For a complete review, visit *Affaire de Coeur* magazine, hard copy or online at: <http://affairedecoeur.com>
October 2011 issue.

Robin says

The plot was promising, but then this one fizzled.

Carrie Olguin says

Boring. DNF.

Vashti says

This book started out with potential, but half way thru I was just plain Bored!!!!

A marriage of convenience. The Heroine wants a real marriage(meaning she wants sex she tells the hero) The hero has a secret fear so he will take the house and the sex but other than that its strictly a business arrangement marriage. Extremely predictable, a rushed ending, and no chemistry what-so-ever between the hero and the heroine. All of a sudden Juliette(the heroine) is in love with Harry(the hero) and wants him to be a father to her kids and have a new baby with her. The dialogue was silly and if I had to read one more time how they wanted to jump each others bones(ok not in those exact words) I was going to rip my eyes out!!! One page Harry does not like her kids and then the next page he loves all 3 of them and hey lets have another one too. The secondary romance between Olivia and George was just as ridiculous. She completley ignores him but he loves her so madly all of a suuden he wants to marry her despite the class distinction, and oh once he kisses her senseless then she is willing to forget about his rake-hell reputation and let him court her. This book was so SAPPY that if I had the equiptment I could have made maple syrup!!!

I have never been so glad to finish a book in my life. I actually gave a victory cheer at the last page!!!

Aly is so frigging bored says

I loved this book and discovering this new author! I can't wait to try more books from her.

Hilcia says

Tis The Season To Be Sinful by Adrienne Basso is a sweet, heartwarming, family Christmas historical romance that also happens to be quite sexy! Now, I have to admit that the sexy part of it was a bit unexpected and maybe it shouldn't have been, especially with that title, but I think what really threw me about this book for a while is that all those factors are combined and work quite well.

Ms. Basso uses the marriage of convenience trope to develop the romance between the beautiful widowed Juliet and Richard, a lonely American industrialist working in London. Richard wants to purchase an English estate and needs a society wife to serve as a hostess, but hopes she will also assuage his lonely nights. Juliet as a widow with three children and a controlling brother-in-law who holds the purse strings finds herself in dire circumstances. She needs income from her son's inherited estate and decides to sell it to Richard, however her brother-in-law will not allow it. He needs a wife for business purposes, she needs a husband to ensure a better future for her children. However, although it is clear that these two people make the decision to marry each other for convenience's sake, they are adults and passion also becomes a strong factor in their decision.

This is true for both Richard and Juliet and they are both upfront and quite open about their strong attraction for each other from the beginning making this a refreshingly adult situation. There is no coyness in Juliet's part, on the contrary she's a highly sensual woman and Richard wants her more every day. It takes a while for their actual relationship to take off though and the romance develops slowly. If or when misunderstandings do crop up this couple deals with them by talking and working out the issues one at a time, even as they disagree. Richard's past is explored this way as intimacy takes the place of sex between them. Julia is the first to recognize the change in their relationship, and Richard is the one who fights it. Fortunately she's relentless in her understanding and in the loving way she handles the situations.

The Christmas holidays are grandly represented in this story. As I was reading all the beautiful scenes describing a traditional English Christmas in the countryside, I was reminded of Mary Balogh's holiday stories and well... I love those! These scenes convey the heartwarming traditional holiday season atmosphere and tell the story of a loving family in the making. The secondary characters blend in with this story to help it along with the children, especially the two boys, making a real impact.

So, surprise, surprise, so far Tis The Season To Be Sinful is my favorite holiday read this year. It has everything from a really sexy couple that steam up the sheets, to three wonderful children who add to the story with pranks that provide some really fun moments as well as some emotional ones, and a wonderful representation of the holiday season.

Solange Lawrence says

Feelings developed too quickly which ruined the feel for me

Sara Reads (mostly) LOTS of Romance says

This was BEAUTIFUL. Totally will read this author again, because wow oh WOW. DELICIOUS. UNIQUE. JUICY. ZESTY. Whew full review to come but to sum this book up. Ugh, plot romance steam angst humor PERFECTION BITCH.

Richard.

Juliet.

That is. ALL

Rebecca (everyday reader) says

A marriage of convenience is not supposed to turn into one of love and passion. Juliet is hooked after her first night with Richard and even though he tries not to, he falls in love with her too. A great Christmas read!!

Lover of Romance says

Tis The Season To Be Sinful, is a holiday novel by Adrienne Basso. Now I am really coming to adore this author, and I still can't believe that I haven't read more of her until now. Every time I read her, it reminds me of a time when I first fell in love with romance, and her writing is so riveting and provocative that it instantly draws you into the story.

In Tis The Season To Be Sinful, we find a story of two people who are destined to love each other, but find stumbling blocks along the way. Richard Harper, is a American, who hasn't had it easy, but now he is rich and successful and wanting to make a life in England. Searching for a home, he comes across a estate, with a home that he knows needs to be his own, and he is willing to pay whatever it takes to own it. Then he meets the owner, Juliet Wentworth. Juliet is a widow, and mother of three children, and is looking for a way out of her brother in laws thumb and his control over her children. They are barely making ends meet, and when Richard makes her a financial offer she can't refuse, she knows that she doesn't have a choice but to accept, and that offer is: Marriage. When she dares him to kiss her, passions are inflamed and Juliet is more than willing to start a life with a man that stirs desire in her. But Juliet soon learns that Richard isn't so easily swayed, and it will take a tough and Strong woman to keep him by her side.

This story was such a delight to read and there was so much that I found myself enjoying about this story....that I had to give it my highest rating, because I flew through this story like no other, and could barely contain my excitement when it was over. This story was rich was the Christmas theme from the yule log, picking and kissing under the mistletoe, hunting down holly to hang, picking out a tree, and yummy goodies, and the warm Christmas spirit. There is a little bit in here for everyone, and one of my favorite aspects of the story was seeing it all come together. It definitely a story I would recommend, especially if you are looking for a sensual and fun Christmas themed romance....a story to remember. This pair was quite a hoot, and I enjoyed seeing them work through things, and it wasn't easy, but I loved the setting, and the way the plot developed...the characters were charming and all of them go straight to the heart, they are pure deliciousness, and the heat in this book is not too heavy but not too light either...I felt like it was just perfect. There is quite a bit of conflict before they reach their HEA, but it really gave the story volume and some unique elements that made this romance fully satisfying! Overall a winning romance to win over your heart, and give you that warm fuzzy feeling you look for in every romance....purely sensual to the core!!!

Melissa says

An entertaining Christmas story.
