



The Way of the Heart

Cheryl Holt

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SHE NEEDED A HUSBAND

Clever, independent Jane Fitzsimmons' true passion is to run her father's ship building empire. And yet, to claim this dream, she must first marry. Five suitable candidates are vying for her large dowry, but only one challenges her wits and stirs her blood: Phillip Wessington, a devilishly handsome widower and renowned scoundrel who agrees to a marriage in name only. But soon, awakening desires turn this union of convenience into a passionate battle between hearts too proud to admit their ardor.

HE VOWED TO WIN HER LOVE

Phillip, the eighth earl of Rosewood, had one pressing need: a wife's fortune without the bother of a wife. But Jane was a bother--for she was getting under his skin with her fiery spirit and the sensual fire that glowed in her eyes. Confounded by a tenderness he cannot yet admit, he soon realizes that his own selfishness and intractable will have created a rift between them that may be too deep to heal. Can Phillip reclaim the heart of the woman he has come to cherish...so they both may surrender to a love neither can deny?

The Way of the Heart Details

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Author : Cheryl Holt

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From Reader Review The Way of the Heart for online ebook

Mitzi says

Great

Heather says

Normally love this author but male lead in this bokk was just too much of an ass

Jessica Kayuha says

This book was a very typical historical romance, and did manage to bring out many emotions. However, too many of those emotions were the opposite of what I think the author was hoping for.

I hated the last few chapters. I hate when an intelligent woman makes really stupid judgments that are completely out of character. [spoiler]So, in the beginning, when she dislikes the "hero", she's so upset by him schtupping Margaret that she launches into a huge tirade and tries to shoot him, but, after falling in love with him for reals, and seeing him merely kiss this woman that she has ZERO reasons to be jealous of anymore, she just runs off? No discussion? No arguments even? Right.[/spoiler] I despise this treatment of a heroine in a book.

Shae says

Meh. Seriously, just meh. The beginning was really good and it had a lot of potential, but it just never had any type of climax or anything. The book should have ended around the 300 page mark, but it seems like the editor demanded an extra 75 pages, so they were just kinda tacked on without much thought to the content. I wish there had been some kind of real conflict about Shipworks, but nothing really happened there either.

penelopewanders says

At some point a few years ago I wound up with a few books by Cheryl Holt, and her writing drove me mad. A rash of exclamation points seemed to plague every page, and although I'm not a great history buff, I've read enough historical novels to know when something seems totally anachronistic. I had pretty much sworn off her books, and then a while back was trying to find a second book to mooch and chose this one. I'm actually very glad I did, because this has redeemed Holt to me. What is a bit disturbing is that this seems to be one of her earlier books and it's sad to think her writing got worse.

There were no ill-placed exclamation points in this and it read smoothly. The fact that the heroine asks the servants to call her by her first name - and they do so without flinching - and then the Earl considers his butler to be his one true friend - did not seem in any way credible for the times, but I am generally amenable to setting aside certain things if the story holds up otherwise.

With that anachronism aside, the rest of the story made for a good read.

Preeti ♥? (Romance She Reads) says

This book delivered something I hadn't experienced in a while - a solid angst punch. I even teared up a few times...rare with my inured overindulged-with-alphaholes self.

So it gets most of the stars – solidly. One less for the (big) trigger.

Does it have problems with the story, the characterization? Yes, it does. It also has many, many triggers. Some adding to the angst, the train wreck feel, some that are simply unforgivable and leave you with a nasty aftertaste.

No real review. Just few *Spoilers and Triggers*
(view spoiler)

So with all this what remains to like and enjoy?

The incredibly sweet and sexy chemistry between the h/H.

The super angst, as I said.

Believable redemption.

And what he did on his daughter's behalf? Nothing less would have been acceptable. I liked how the author did it. Direct action, and no out of sight punishment.

Lovable secondary characters. (Even if sweetly and oddly enough for the period, all their friends are maids and valets and such)

I started and dnf-ed another book by this author as it seemed like a fluffy historical smut but this one has depth and growth by characters (especially the H, if you buy it! – I did.) and a well executed plotline - fairly predictable but a good hooking one.

Warning: Not for everyone!

Cheryl Tollestrup says

I really enjoyed the characters, their growth and struggles to find peace, love, and acceptance. There is a little twist in the heartstrings as each overcomes their insecurities to find hope and joy once again. It was so good I read it twice!

Pamela says

Rated 3.5

The Cat Bastet says

How wonderful to read a romance novel in which the profligate hero spent 3/4 of the book planning to sell his eleven year old daughter to a pedophile, said no one ever.

Only Prince can properly communicate my disgust.

Kesha says

Good book. Still kinda hated Phillip, the hero, because it took him way too long to realize the man who wanted to buy his daughter for marriage was a pedophile. He also did a lot of horrendous and stupid things. I hated Jane, the heroine, at the beginning of the book because she was having a non sexual affair with her sister's husband. She saw the error of her ways and redeemed herself in my opinion. Would have like to read more about Emily and baby Mary though.

Kim says

Enjoyed it. Was hard to put down at times. You could kinda tell it was an older book (don't know how to describe it. You just know) Anyway, I liked it because it was a theme I enjoy, horrible-to-loving husbands. And Phillip was way, way horrible. Would like to have seen the hero grovel more though.

Miz says

This started off poorly, but I ended up enthralled with the novel and its characters. The redemption of the disappointing parts was tight and it was well-written.

Susan (the other Susan) says

All three stars are actually bullets, okay? Hero of this novel is such an ass that, decades after reading this, I had to join the Goodreads group "What Was the Name of that Book" so I could find it and publicly hate on it.

I mean, seriously, I have never forgotten the sheer meanness of the wedding night, and the bonus humiliation when the heroine has to ask her cheating fortune-hunter groom to borrow HER coach and use some of HER money so she can leave his asshole-ness. Two questions: Why didn't she keep shooting him until he got the message? Why do we read and reread romance novels about abusive men?

Débora says

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Lynn says

A wonderful story.... a rake, a smart heroine.... a hateful mistress...a loathsome villian, a sad child.... you got it all from this one. The villians in this book were definately VILLIANS, the mistress.....the angst of the story especially one scene where the heroine soon after her wedding comes into a scene that is heartbreaking...however this heroine is not a sobbing victim...she shows her mettle in this scene and you wanna give her a high five... definately a really good read...
