



Dangerous Works

Caroline Warfield

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A little Greek is one thing; the art of love is another. Only one man has ever tried to teach Lady Georgiana Hayden both. She learned very young to keep her heart safe. She learned to keep loneliness at bay through work. If it takes a scandalous affair to teach her what she needs to complete her work, she will risk it. If the man in question chooses not to teach her, she will use any means at her disposal to change his mind. She is determined to give voice to the ancient women whose poetry has long been neglected.

Some scars cut deeper than others. Major Andrew Holden returns to Cambridge a battle-scarred hero. He dared to love Georgiana once and suffered swift retribution from her powerful family. The encounter cost him eleven years of his life. Determined to avoid her, he seeks work to heal his soul and make his scholarly father proud. The work she offers risks his career, his peace of mind, and (worst of all) his heart. Can he protect himself from a woman who almost destroyed him? Does he want to?

Even poetry is dangerous when you partner with the love of your life. In Regency, Cambridge, it can lead a lady quickly past improper to positively scandalous.

Dangerous Works Details

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From Reader Review Dangerous Works for online ebook

Richelle ?? says

This was my first time reading this author, and overall I enjoyed this book. The plot was definitely new and interesting, and I liked that this dealt with the main characters, especially Georgiana, being older than what we find in most regency romances. I felt for her and at her age, having so little say or control over anything, which is why I felt she grasped so strongly to what little independence she had. I loved Andrew, and seeing him overcome all that he suffered, before and after his time in the army.

What I didn't like: Some of the story dragged on, especially with regards to her work. I was more interested in what drove her to it, her connections with her family, and why her family disliked Andrew so much. However, the story overall was enjoyable enough that I would like to read more from this author.

CONTENT

Romance - Mature ??

Violence - None

Language - Mild

Michelle says

Andrew and Georgiana. Based on other reviews, apparently I'm in the minority in not liking this book. Georgiana is 35, translating obscure Greek poetry authored by women and needs Andrew's help. He's a wounded war hero, in pain, and not a very likable person, at least as far as I managed to read in the book. She's got a terrible family that doesn't want to have anything to do with her. On top of that she's got "female problems". There was just too much talk and not enough action. Since I didn't like either of the main characters, I finally gave up.

Barbara "Cookie" Serfaty Williams says

Dangerous Works

The love story of Lady Georgiana and Andrew. Lady Georgiana is the daughter of a duke and a scholar. Andrew is a scholar and a veteran. They meet before Andrew when to war and were planning to marry but her brother stop him by tell him her family would not approve because he is only a son of a poor scholar, so off to war Andrew goes. He return bruise, wounded and rich. Georgiana need help translated some poems and ask for his help. Can they find love again. A good story.

Caz says

I've given this a C- at AAR, so 2.5 stars. Not a bad subject with some good ideas, but lacking in execution. In the hands of a really accomplished author, this could have been a 4 star book.

In her youth, Lady Georgiana Hayden, eldest daughter of the Duke of Sudbury, displayed a disturbing – and

unladylike – penchant for scholarship, wishing to learn Latin and Greek in order to be able to further her interest in ancient poetry. The only person ever to have taken her seriously is Andrew Mallet, the son of the local schoolmaster. Four years her junior, and far below her station, Andrew was an intelligent and educated young man who helped Georgiana with her rudimentary translations from ancient Greek, and fostered her interests. Along the way, the young couple formed an attachment for each other, but then Andrew joined the army - completely out of the blue - and departed immediately to join his regiment in India.

Georgina now lives alone (with a companion) in Cambridge, and has spent the last decade or so collecting and collating the poetry of obscure, female poets from Ancient Greece, and researching into their history and backgrounds. Aged thirty-five and a confirmed spinster, she has made this project her life's work, and desperately wants to be able to translate the poetry and fragments she has unearthed, but is frustrated because her background knowledge is not extensive enough, and her grasp of the language is not sufficiently comprehensive.

Knowing that Andrew Mallet also resides in Cambridge, Georgiana's thoughts keep turning in his direction. He could help with her work, but they have not seen each other since his precipitate departure all those years ago. Her attempts to engage him in social situations fail, but when he is incapacitated following an operation on his hip (which was badly injured at Waterloo), she sees her chance to make him indebted to her by providing various little "extras" to help his recovery and make his life easier.

When he's well, she asks him to help her with her work, and grudgingly he agrees. What Georgiana doesn't know, however, is that his disinclination to help her doesn't come from dislike or any other ill-feeling; it's because he's still in love with her and knows it will test his fortitude to be constantly in her presence.

Andrew and Georgiana rekindle their romance through their "work" - and honestly, I really did get tired of the frequency with which that word appeared. But this is in fact one of the problems I have with the story; it comes across as being all about the "work", with the romance relegated to second place.

The author has addressed some interesting issues, and has some good points to make, but what I read were the bare bones of a story which needed to be fully fleshed out. While there was enough to keep me interested, it was quite dry overall, and the romance was rather lifeless. The protagonists were separated years previously through the machinations of Georgiana's family, yet this is something she only comes to suspect once Andrew comes back into her life. They are obviously still harbouring feelings for each other, but while the scenes in which they collaborate on exploring the meanings of the poems are well done, with Andrew gently leading Georgiana to broaden her thinking in order to gain a better understanding, the romance feels underdeveloped. The reader doesn't really get to know either character outside of "the work", and by extension, the characters don't really have a "getting to know you" phase, either. It's true they knew each other years ago, but there's no sense of their getting to know the people they are now, outside of their intellectual collaboration.

Andrew is a one-dimensional character at best. The author attempts to make him more interesting by making him a scarred war-hero, but otherwise, he's fairly bland. Georgiana is more rounded out, and the harshness of her upbringing can certainly be said to be responsible for the way she reacts in certain circumstances. Any attempt to (as she sees it) interfere with her life or take away her choices (such as, for example, when Andrew, unable to see her at her family home, decides to go ahead with publication of the book they have been working on), causes her to blow up first and ask questions after, but I couldn't help but think that at thirty-five she should have perhaps developed the maturity to enable her to take a step back and realise that perhaps what Andrew was doing meant he had her best interests at heart – not that he was trying to run her life.

She makes this assumption on several occasions, and each time, it feels like an obvious device, being used to inject tension into a story which was badly in need of some. Unfortunately, it doesn't work. The best part of

the romance comes towards the end when Georgiana sees the error of her ways and realises that a relationship has to be a two-way street, and that she has to allow Andrew to give – of himself as well as materially.

I noticed a few errors in the copy I had – for example, Andrew's last name is Mallet, yet at one point, he's called Holden. Originally, the age gap between him and Georgiana is given as two years, and later, it's become four. I was also confused by the timeline – if Georgiana is thirty-five and Andrew thirty-one, he was away for eleven years, meaning he was twenty when he left. Yet we're told he was fifteen when he first began to help Georgina with her ancient Greek. Given what we know about her family, I find it difficult to believe they'd have been able to keep their relationship secret for five years. There were also some issues with the formatting in the copy I had; ordinary paragraph spacing was used throughout, and there were no indications of scene or POV changes, which was confusing.

I believe this is a début novel and it's not at all bad – but Ms Warfield needs to work on her characterisation and concentrate more on the development of the romance in future stories.

Corinne says

4* for I really liked it.

Not your usual historical romance - no rakes, no debutantes, no scandalous widows. Andrew and Lady Georgiana were torn apart when his schoolfriend and her brother Richard bought Andrew a commission, convincing Andrew he had no chance with his sister. She received no other offers and now in her mid-thirties lives only for her translations of Greek poetry written by women. Andrew has returned to Cambridge and she's determined to get his help with her translations, having been rejected and ridiculed by the Cambridge scholars. The power and reach of her family is intimidating, further hindering their plans.

I found the detail in their collaboration and brain-storming while translating the ancient poems quite interesting.

Overall very well-written. I could feel Lady Georgiana's pain of solitude and frustration.

Attyjoeanuts says

Great substantive romance

I enjoyed the characters and the story very much. The story gives a nice insight into life during the regent period beyond the ballroom and the intrigues of the Ton.

Sara Collins says

This one I kept hoping for more of a mystery to it but it was just rather dull I had a tough time finishing this one.. I was hoping for an exciting ending but it fell flat at the end as well.. At least it was free..

Arwen Lynch says

Delightful

I won this in a contest. It was a charming story. I found myself falling in love with the push-and-pull between Georgianna and Andrew.

The secondary characters were a boon as well. The writing is reminiscent of Heyer for me. There is more intimate detailing but it never crossed over into too much.

Lady Georgianna is a heroine I want to be friends with. She isn't a pushover except with her family. When she stands up to them, it is glorious. And thank you for NOT wrapping everything up with a neat bow. Some people don't deserve redemption.

I will be seeking out the next in the series.

sharon sobzak says

Interesting

1816 English society rules for women's education and personal rights are explored with Georgiana and Andrew, as well as some health practices. A slight timeline glitch for the time of separation at the end is a bit disconcerting.

Jude Knight says

I bought Dangerous Works a few days ago so that I would be able to read it before the next in the series was published, and I devoured it in two bites (going and coming on my commuter train). It is one of those books where the writing is so good you don't notice it. I was immersed in the story, and time flew by. I dragged myself from the world of Andrew and Georgiana with difficulty, and couldn't wait to plunge back in.

Georgiana is a woman in her mid-30s living alone because the only man she ever wanted (and the only man who ever wanted her) left without explanation years earlier. She lives for her scholarship - translating and giving a voice to the women poets of ancient Greece. When she finds that her suitor - the only person ever to encourage her work - has returned, she seeks his help with her translation.

Andrew joined the army many years earlier because he couldn't marry Georgiana. Scarred and still suffering from his most recent injury, he is unhappy to find that the old feelings are still there, stronger than ever.

I sympathised with Andrew, I understood Georgiana, and suffered with them both as they faced gossip, scandal, her powerful family and their own misconceptions. Thank you, Caroline, for a thoroughly satisfying read. Now for Dangerous Secrets.

Pamela says

NnextDangerous Works

This is the second book I have read in this series I really enjoyed this very much the book has such interesting character and is very well written I'm looking forward to reading the. Next book

Lyuda says

An impressive debut! If you want to read a fast paced adventure packed romance, skip this book. On the other hand, if you are looking for intelligent historically accurate story with unique plot and slow building romance, this is the book for you. The author, to her big credit, avoided a mistake that plague so many historical romance authors of today where the characters are placed in the historical setting without any consideration of customs and behavior of that time. Not this book. Georgiana, 36 years old spinster and a daughter of the duke, lives in Cambridge and has one mission: to find and give voices to women poets of ancient Greece. This is not an easy task in Regency England where women are stifled by convention, not educated in classics, where any academic research is prohibited to them, and, in Georgiana's case, her very powerful family still controls her life and disapproves of her work. The only person who ever encouraged her work was Andrew, a son of scholar, and the only person who she ever loved and be loved by but who 11 years ago left her without any explanation and went to war. And now Andrew is back in Cambridge scarred and still suffering from his latest wounds. When Georgiana asked him for help with translations, he initially refuses as he is afraid that his feelings for her are still strong and he would not be able to squash them again. Eventually they formed a fragile collaboration where understating and translating ancient poetry became an enhancement to their love. The main characters are extremely likable, the secondary characters are three dimensional and the setting, Regency Cambridge and its inhabitants, is very interesting. This is the story to savor and enjoy as a fine bottle of wine.

Dee Deacon Foster says

Lady Georgiana Hayden is quite used to being the social pariah of her family and is fine being left alone and to work on translating Greek. There are only two things bothering her – the total disregard for work from the scholars at nearby Cambridge and her health; well make that three things with the appearance of a certain gentleman – a gentleman she thought she could have had a future with.

Major Andrew Holden runs into the one person, the one family, he hoped to never have anything to do with ever again. Battle scarred, in pain and weary he decides his best action is to ignore her. Only things aren't that simple – if they were he would be completely healed both physically and mentally.

Georgiana is determined to enlist Andrew's aid in translating her work and Andrew is just as determined not to help. A meddling old lady, a surly butler and interfering friends and family pull these two together while at the same time forcing them apart.

I admired Georgiana's strength and determination to go after what she wanted – from her work in translating Greek to Andrew. And Andrew, I alternated between feeling sorry for him to wanting to slap him upside the head (along with a certain member of her family). Caroline Warfield writes in a way that has you feeling all the emotions of the characters. Looking forward to reading her next book to see where she takes the next

hero and heroine.

Monika P. says

This book gives an amazing inside into Greek mythology and it's female poets. I'm not a big fan of poetry but I love Greek mythology. I thoroughly enjoyed the discussions between hero and heroine. Not an easy to follow book but I highly recommend you give it a try.

Luli says

Esta es una historia de amor que se cuece a fuego lento, con personajes maduros con muchos matices y secundarios inteligentes y realistas.

Lady Georgiana es una solterona de verdad, lleva refugiada en su "trabajo" tanto tiempo que ya no sabe lo que es vivir fuera de él, y eso es precisamente lo que ha estado buscando desde que sufrió su primer (y último) desengaño amoroso. Es una mujer obstinada, con un carácter fuerte y sometida a una familia que vive para y por las apariencias, y que la dejaron de lado en cuanto vieron que era un peligro para su posición social.

Major Andrew Holden es uno de esos protagonistas casi perfectos, paciente, honorable, que antepone la felicidad de los demás a la suya propia, con un pasado marcado por las experiencias en el campo de batalla que le dejaron cicatrices tanto interiores como exteriores... y totalmente, muy a su pesar, entregado a Georgiana.

En una época en la que las mujeres no eran más que las dueñas de su casa y madres de sus hijos, Georgiana intenta hacerse un hueco en el difícil y estricto mundo de los eruditos traductores de obras ancestrales, y cuando llega a un callejón sin salida en su obra, no le queda otra que obligar a Andrew, un erudito él mismo, a ayudarla. Y así empieza un juego de tira y afloja en el que ambos protagonistas saben lo que quieren pero no saben si podrán conseguirlo.

He de decir que hay un momento en la novela en el que Georgiana se convierte en una persona obtusa, y me dieron ganas de estrangularla... para ser una mujer tan inteligente no me pareció nada lista, pero todo cambió en cuanto la autora le dio voz y nos dejó conocer sus miedos y limitaciones... Me pareció real e intenso, y pocas veces consigue un autor que cambie de opinión.

Andrew, aunque conoce a Georgiana desde hace años, tampoco tiene claro cómo tratarla y a ratos casi lo vuelve loco, pero es increíblemente dulce ver cómo se esfuerza por hacerla feliz.

Una historia de amor madura y encantadora.

Totalmente recomendable.

This is a slow-building love story, with mature MC's, with many nuances and smart and realistic secondary characters.

Lady Georgiana is a truly spinster, who had taken refuge in her "work" for so long that she no longer knows what it's like to live away from it, and that is precisely what she have been looking for since she suffered her first (and last) broken heart. She is a stubborn and with a strong personality woman subjected to a family that lives for and by appearances, and who put her aside as soon as they saw that she was a danger to their social position.

Major Andrew Holden is one of those almost-perfect characters, patient, honorable, who put the happiness of others ahead of his own, with a past marked by the experiences suffered in the field of battle that had left him

scars both inside and outside... and completely, much to his chagrin, devoted to Georgiana.

In a gloomy and difficult time for women, Georgiana tries to make a place for herself in the tough and strict world of (male) scholars, and when she comes to a dead end in her work, she had no choice but to turn to Andrew, a scholar himself, for help. And so begins a game of tug of war in which both characters know what they want but they don't know if they can get it.

I have to say that there's a moment in the novel in which Georgiana becomes an obtuse person, and I have the *need* to strangle her... to be a clever woman she doesn't seem too smart, but everything changed when the author gave Georgiana a voice and let us know her fears and limitations... I found the moment real and intense, and rarely get an author to change my opinion (yeah...I'm a stubborn one!).

Andrew, although has known Georgiana for years, doesn't know how to treat her and this, sometimes, almost makes him crazy, but it is incredibly sweet to see how he strives to make her happy.

A charming and mature love story.

Totally recommended.
