



The Perfect Wife

Victoria Alexander

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An ideal spouse, the Earl of Wyldewood had decided, should be pleasant to look at and agreeable to display on his arm. She should have little effect on his well-ordered life, and little to do with his private pursuit of pleasure. After meeting Sabrina Winfield, he thought he had found the woman to fit the bill. Graceful and genteel, the exquisite blonde seemed a perfect match.

But appearances, the Earl was soon to discover, could be deceiving. For beneath Sabrina's delicate beauty lay the most infuriatingly stubborn, wildly adventurous woman he'd ever known. And now his plans for a proper marriage were about to go dreadfully awry. For suddenly all the mighty Earl could think about was silencing her biting repartee with his kisses, diverting her schemes with expert seduction, and forever surrendering his heart and soul to her capable hands.

The Perfect Wife Details

Date : Published November 28th 1996 by Leisure

ISBN : 9780843941081

Author : Victoria Alexander

Format : Mass Market Paperback 311 pages

Genre : Romance, Historical Romance, Historical, Historical Fiction

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From Reader Review The Perfect Wife for online ebook

Judy says

Widow turned smuggler turned proper society lady and mother. That was Sabrina's life. Her husband was died in a silly race and she found out she was left penniless with a daughter to raise. After she left smuggling due to a govt. agent getting to close she went to London and the town house Jack left her. She lived quietly and kept to herself. Nothing like the days her and Jack went from party to party.

Belinda had her coming out and was already to be married to Erick. Sabrina knew his father was known as quite a rake but his son seemed to love her daughter.

Nicholas Harrington had never forgotten the smugglers that had gotten away 10 years ago. He was so close to catching them. He was intrigued to find a woman was in charge and when she kissed him while he was blind folded, well he never forgot that either. Now he was meeting the mother of his future daughter in law and found himself intrigued with her. It felt so right dancing with her and being around her. She was a quiet woman and would do well as his Countess. He decided she would make a good wife.

His son asked for him to talk with Sabrina as she was about to leave London and would not tell her daughter where or why. Nicholas ends up following her on the boat to Egypt of all places.

The quiet woman he met soon was found to have a more adventurous side then he thought and the book leads from one adventure to another. Their children soon follow them along with his sister.

Another great read by Victoria.

Valerie says

3.5/4

Sabrina says

This book was actually only the second one Victoria Alexander wrote, but you won't be able to tell by reading it. Aside from a few awkward scenes – the whole let's go on a treasure hunt was a little random even with Sabrina's reasoning – her story flow is top level.

I was surprised at how well she was able to juggle several side stories and multiple characters. Usually I feel like I don't get to know the characters well enough when there is more than one love story happening at the same time, but I was able to get into each story and root for the characters. And I loved how they all related to one another and interacted. There isn't anything I love more than a complicated cast. Although, I will say that part of me wishes I had more time with the secondary characters. I could easily see a trilogy here instead of one book.

Sabrina isn't your typical Victorian-era heroine. Instead of writing about a virginal maiden making her debut into society, Victoria tells the story of a grown woman who, according to society, is past her prime. Don't let her age fool you though; Sabrina acts more like a teenager than a woman closing in on 40.

The mother/daughter relationship portrayed is also unusual for this genre, but greatly refreshing. I love the

banter between Sabrina and Belinda, even if at times they act more like sisters than mother/daughter. Think Gilmore Girls in the early 1800's.

Nicholas is exactly the type of man to balance Sabrina's wild side. He is arrogant, stubborn, and prideful. There is nothing more exciting in a book than two people who get on each other's nerves so much they end up falling in love. I do think Nicholas' fall could have had a little more depth to it. I wanted to really see him start to admire Sabrina, not just lust after her.

If you're seeking adventure and romance, and don't mind overlooking a few minor flaws, look no further. You'll fall in love with these characters and enjoy every twist and turn this treasure-seeking tale has to offer.

Reviewed by Cheeky Girl Lauren on CheekyReads

Kristy Mills says

I really loved this book. I love stories where the female is somewhat strong and can hold her own amongst the men in her world. She is shocking and sometimes scandalous with her behavior and the the male love interest can't resist her despite his better judgement. haha This was one of those stories.

Nicholas, a well known rake, falls in love with a woman he thought would be a perfect wife. His idea of a perfect wife is a proper lady, who would make a comfortable home and make all the necessary public appearances to help him build his career in the government. Throughout the book his idea of a perfect wife changes as he gets to know Sabrina, the woman he originally thought would be the perfect, boring wife he was seeking.

I loved their journey. I really loved all the characters in it. At first I didn't like Wynne, she annoyed me. But after the women were thrown in the mummy pit my opinion of her changed. I found her personality pretty funny instead of annoying.

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### **Favorite Quotes**

This was after Nicholas and Matt got into a fight and Nicholas was unconscious in his and Sabrina's private cabin. Sabrina was tending his wounds and this was the first thing she said to him after seeing his beat up body.

"Bloody hell, Nicholas, you've gone and done it now." She dipped a rag into a basin of water and dabbed at his battered face. "You've made me love you."

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### **Ana Maria says**

Una disparatada aventura entre Londres y Egipto.

Lo bueno (para mí): protagonistas maduros, 35-40 años, viudos con hijos y un pasado misterioso.

Pero demasiados disparates y situaciones absurdas.

Solo recomendable si quieren reirse un rato de tonterías.

Tres escenas hot.

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### **Anne says**

It's decent.

I wouldn't go out of my way to recommend it to anyone, but I don't think romance readers would be disappointed with it.

It's a fun time killer.

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### **Shannon says**

A refreshing read due to the fact that the two main characters are older than we are used to in romance novels such as these. However, this adds to the intrigue as they are not innocent, but headstrong in their beliefs and opinions.

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### **Mermarie says**

A retired female pirate, broke and in need of a quick buck, dons her former alias for one last lootin' with a treasure map left by her deceased husband.

What an ideally perfect Lady of the Manor the heroine appears to be, with her questionable past -- and the hero doesn't realize he knows her from *somewhere* else....

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### **Daneesha says**

This was a great book! I loved the story between the hero and heroine. She turned out to be just what he was looking for! They had plenty of verbal battles, which I love! They also had a lot of passion when they made love.

I have not read many Victoria Alexander books because the ones that I chose were never really that good. This book was nothing like those. It was fresh and cute and definitely funny. Good read.

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### **Celeste says**

I just love to read the Historical Regency Romance of Victoria Alexander and sure "The Perfect Wife" was not an exception... lots of action, secrets revealed, difficulties to overcome. humour... and a happy end with an unconditional love...

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### **Barbara says**

Goodness me...I read the reviews here...and I read the review from Julia Quinn that was on the cover "Warm, witty, and wise", but I'll be honest I thought it was "Bland, boring, and silly". There must not be any other women in Alexander's view of London because all the "well-doers" (I'm talking like 5 of them) followed this over rated lady all the way to Egypt on a wild goose chase for gold. I mean come on...seriously?! The story never really caught my attention to begin with, but the book was new and the thought of wasting the money without at least trying it didn't make sense...So needless to say as you can tell I didn't find the book in the least bit interesting and I wouldn't recommend it to my fellow goodreads friends.

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### **Anna says**

An okay romance-adventure but sweet chutluhu, those sex scenes are horribly written. I've read better stuff on fanfiction.net that still made wince.

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### **Sue says**

First of all, let me say that you can hardly go wrong with Victoria Alexander. But to get down to the specifics of why I liked this particular book so much: 1) A three-fold story line: Our hero/heroine are not in the first blush of youth -- they meet when their grown children fall in love and the "in-laws" are introduced. Among the in-laws is a spectacle-wearing, overly-educated maiden aunt trotted out to serve as chaperone to the youngsters when they are alone (on a sea voyage, no less) but SHE astonishes everyone (including herself) by catching the roving eye of the dashing American captain of the ship. A great deal of fun ensues as the reader gets to watch all three couples navigate the rigors of both the sea voyage and true love. 2) The love scenes: And by that I mean the ridiculously over-blown, extravagantly exaggerated explosions of passion that at one point caused me to actually laugh right out loud. (Seriously, if anyone out there has ever had sex this good, please write a "how to" guide. You'll make millions.) 3) The fact that the heroine appears to recognize point number 2 above and routinely bursts into laughter after, er, well, engaging in point number 2 above -- and the hero is man enough to take it. To illustrate, here is a bit of dialogue from the end of the tale: Hero (his voice rough with desire, of course), "I suggest we find somewhere a bit more private and, oh, say . . . tell a few jokes." Heroine (heart beating with anticipation, also of course), "I could certainly use a good laugh right now." Couldn't we all, my lady, couldn't we all?

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### **Julie says**

Sabrina Winfield, Marchioness of Stanford, had at one time in her life had it all, or so she had thought.

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Married young to a very debonair, adventurous, carefree rake, or rather reformed rake, Sabrina had led a life of freedom and adventure that most women never even dreamed of. It suited her stubborn, independent nature very well, at least for a time. She was the last person to have thought that there was such a thing as too adventurous or too wild, but this described her deceased husband perfectly. Maybe it was more. Maybe irresponsible would have been a more apt description. She found even the infamous Lady Stanford had her limits. However, as much as Sabrina had yearned to see a change in her husband and the lifestyle that they led, she never would have wished his death. She was utterly in love with him when they married, as only a first love could be. She, however, had grown and matured while her husband, Jack, remained tied to his youth. After his death and the awful realization that he had made no provision for the care of her or their young daughter, in fact had left debts unpaid, Sabrina swore she would do whatever necessary to see that her daughter was not tainted in anyway by her or her husband's escapades and raised in ton society to become a proper young Miss. Sabrina herself stayed true to her obligation to her daughter and became the epitome of the most proper widow. That is, until her financially secure lifestyle quickly crumbled under the guidance of her very inept man of business. However, as often happens, what seems a crisis at the moment can easily turn into the means to bring just the opposite, and Sabrina's crisis effectively shut the door on her so long-lived life of boredom and perfect reserve. Now all she has to do is guarantee her daughter's betrothal follows through to marriage while at the same time keeping her adventurous plans of an immediate treasure-hunting trip to Egypt secret. Oh, AND keeping her future son-in-law's father from any interference in her plans. Although that will probably be easier said than done considering her rare, but passionate reaction to the man whenever he is near. Well, she is an intelligent, strong-willed woman who has more than proved her success at trouncing the enemy. So, let the games begin!

I love Victoria Alexander's heroines! They are always such strong, witty women who are more than capable of fending for themselves in a man's world. The heroine in *The Perfect Wife* is no different. She actually goes a step beyond this by successfully leading men while conquering them at the same time. A heroine of this caliber is always a treat when set in a story of Regency times because she outshines all around her. She really was the center piece of this story and all else pivoted around her. With witty banter and side-splitting competition, I was never bored. A very lively story with very entertaining supporting characters as well. A solid 4-star read!

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### **Jill Dunlop says**

Sabrina Winfield has longed for stability for her daughter and herself since her first husband died young and virtually left her penniless. She has been an example of just what a young woman should be, not calling attention to herself and living an exemplary lifestyle. The Earl of Wyldewood's son is engaged to her daughter, yet he might just have designs on the Mother of the Bride. After all, he is in need of a wife himself and what a lovely woman she is. Sabrina has vowed never to need to depend on a man. Very uncharacteristically of her she decides to head to Egypt in search of treasure that will provide her daughter with a proper dowry.

I had a lot of problems with this book. I will say that I was quickly sucked into the story by a charismatic character in Lady Sabrina and her wild adventure after a treasure. However, Lady Sabrina after a few short chapters turned out to be a very annoying character. She was extremely hard headed with her own perception of things with not much bending room. She came across as immature and flighty, which I did not find endearing in the least. I liked Nicholas more than I did Sabrina. He seemed to have a good head on his shoulders and I was quick to take his side over things rather than Sabrina's, but in the end, I wondered what he saw in her.

There was a secondary love story between Sabrina's daughter Belinda and Nicholas's son Erick. Their

relationship was just touched upon but did not really delve beneath the surface. I cringed at Sabrina's reaction to her daughter at times and vice versa. Belinda was exactly as Sabrina raised her, yet Sabrina would get annoyed with her daughter's behavior when that was how she was taught to behave. Sabrina and Nicholas's love story was moderately believable at best. I can't really recommend this book. It was definitely not my style.

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