



A Little Bit Wicked

Victoria Alexander

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Who will be the last unmarried man standing?

No man in his right mind would *want* to get married, but every duke, earl, and viscount knows that a fellow must do his duty in the end. So four of London's most desirable gentlemen make a wager—the prize going to the one who remains unwed the longest.

Gideon Pearsall, Viscount Warton, thinks he has a fair shot at winning. After all, he's managed to enjoy the favors of many a lady while resisting the parson's noose. Even when he's stopped dead in his tracks by the most scandalous woman in all of London—Judith, Lady Chester—he vows to have her bedded but never wedded.

Beautiful, and more than a little bit naughty, Judith has always kept herself within the bounds of respectability, even while playing by her own rules. And the experience has taught her to avoid marriage. She has no desire to resist Warton's hot kisses, and his tempting touch is impossible to ignore.

But soon both Judith and Gideon can't help but wonder . . . *is it possible to be a little bit wicked and still follow your heart?*

A Little Bit Wicked Details

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From Reader Review A Little Bit Wicked for online ebook

Gail says

The heroine is a slightly scandalous widow, keeping discreetly inside the edge of propriety with the lovers she takes. The hero is just as discreet, and quite willing to begin the affair she proposes. But things are more intense than both of them want. They come together and it's wonderful—until one or the other of them makes a misstep. They're both definitely products of their society and yet both uniquely individual. This is just a lovely, lovely story about two people who think they're beginning one thing and turn out to have begun something quite else. There's no intrigue—except involving their assignations—just wonderful characters and a grand falling-in-love tale.

Sharyn says

So here is the story. I decided to read all the "A" author's on my bookshelf. This was my summer project. Well I have book 3 and 4 of the "Last man standing" series, so I have to get 1 and 2. This book is number 1 and I got it from the library. I am waiting for #2 from Amazon. Impatiently!! Because I really enjoyed this book. Two hurt souls, guarding themselves from hurt for different reasons, do not recognize love when they feel it. Judith has been psychologically bruised and feels guilty. Gideon was betrayed by the woman he thought he loved. The banter is funny and his thoughts very cute because he doesn't have a clue and that was very adorable. Well his betrayer shows up and tries to get him back through underhanded means, and Judith finally learns the truth about her husband from his sister. I hope we follow what happens to them in the next 3 books. Can't wait to read the next one.

An Odd1 says

Publisher <http://www.harpercollins.com/browsein...>

Excerpt <http://www.victoriaalexander.com/book...>

Author <http://www.victoriaalexander.com/books/>

"A Little Bit Wicked" by Victoria Alexander is both hero and heroine: "this man was very, very good, and more than a little bit wicked. There was a great deal to be said for more than a little bit wicked" p59; she is "somewhat unconventional" p255, more after they meet p97 (his smile p299). Delightful persiflage triggers smiles, giggles. Gideon, Viscount (Lord) Warton 32 eloped, annulled after one-day at age 22 p79. Judith Lady Chester was widowed after 3 years at age 20, when soul-mate turned abusive p130. (I suspect his twin sister pushed him off the roof - no spoiler). Both deny marriage p65. Both thrill from the flash of passion "coup de foudre" lightning bolt p73 whose fire cannot be quenched.

X-rating has a tantalizing slow buildup of clever challenging salacious banter. Even possible negative traits increase compatibility "perhaps a less arrogant man would have been intimidated by Judith's intellect and her position .. Gideon was proud" p159. His aunt Louisa "the goddess of interference descending Mount Meddling" p134 and her best friend Susanna interfere most with good intentions then help others support, but ex-wife vile Violet provokes a conflict climax. Both must accept their troublesome pasts before recognizing love. Is there an age when people stop blushing?

"Whatever was tumbling about in her stomach was much more ..like geese than butterflies.. An entire flock.. flapping and squawking and knocking about inside .. if she dared to open her mouth ..a honk would sound and a feather would shoot from her lips" p20

(view spoiler)

Prologue, Epilogue, Extra:

To ensure the reader continues the series Alexander has three disappointing gimmicks. Prologue in 1854 London has rich handsome friends increase their four shilling tontine (like poker pot) for the last to marry, by a bottle of the club's finest brandy. In the epilogue, they toast the new couple's honeymoon travels Columbian jungle orchid hunting, or wherever. In postscript, author invites "Ladies for Tea", chat about: lack of servants p366; all dead husbands named Charles for joke with real husband p368; Rebecca fades because no title, book unwritten p369; Marianne 21 sits beside daughter Gillian 29 p370.

Tina says

This author has a very good writing style. I would say it wasn't necessarily one that I couldn't put down, but it was an entertaining enough read.

Judy says

A continuation from the Effington series. The Last Man Standing is about the 4 friends of Jonathan Effington. After his marriage to Fiona the four men put down a wager on who would resist marriage the longest.

Gideon Pearsall Viscount Warton

Oliver Leighton Earl of Norcroft

Nigel Cavendish future Viscount

Daniel Sinclair, American. Who was suppose to marry Oliver's cousin Fiona by arranged marriage. Neither wanted it and she married Jonathan.

Four shillings and a bottle of Cognac to the winner.

Gideon had met Judith, Lady Chester, at her Twelfth Night Ball. Something had definitely passed between them. A widow for 10 years with no scandals, and a few "adventures". Jonathan had been one of her "adventures" and only a few others.

Judith had a marriage she said was a love match and she could recite it quite well. Married at 17 and widowed at 20. She had wealth and freedom.

She made sure she never let anyone else have her heart. Any "adventures" were short. And they parted as friends. Gideon was different. She was pulled towards him stronger then any other man.

Gideon had his own marriage ghost. Used by Violet to make her fiance jealous.

Another grand adventure by Victoria Alexander.

*sexual situations

Michelle says

A Little Bit Wicked is a quick and light read that is delightfully funny. The Last Man Standing is a four book series telling of four men who each bet they will be the last man to remain unmarried. Though I really liked Judith and Gideon's characters, I found the plot of the book to be quite predictable. I love tension that leads to a great Happily Ever After but this book was lacking in that area. Still I thought it was a good read.

Gideon Pearsall, once in love, was married but the marriage was annulled the very next day. It turned out his bride was using him to make her current fiancé jealous so he was left heartbroken. Because of this he decides that he is in no rush to ever marry again and definitely not for love. Lady Chester has been a widow for 10 years and has had a few love adventures along the way but secrets from her late husband's death keep her getting serious with anyone. One night Gideon and Judith meet and share a passionate night and from that night forward they decide to enjoy their affair with no strings attached. The rules are that love and marriage will never be involved and both can end the affair at anytime. Somewhere along the way they both develop a love for one another that they've never experienced before but mistakes from their past relationships put a hinge on their relationship. It's not until Judith discovers the truth about her late husband's death that she is able to let herself be with Gideon. They are a match completely wrong for one another but they make each other happy and that's all that matters... =)

Kübra Yaşmur Aslanhan says

3,5

Yeni bir seri ve yeni bir yazar ile geçmi? haftan?n izlerini üzerimden silmek için haftan?n aç?l???n? yapt?m. İlk elli sayfa be?enmeyece?im gene korkusu ya?asam da sonradan oldukça güzel toparlad? yazar. Devam?nda keyifli bir okuma oldu benim için.

O ilk elli sayfa, zaten yar?m puan k?rma nedenimdir. Kitap dört erke?in kulüpte birer ?ilin ve konya??na evlilik üzerine iddiaya girmeleriyle ba?l?yor. Ancak bu k?sm?n daha kuvvetli olmas?n? arzu ettim ben. Okurken olaya bodoslama dalm???m gibi bir etki b?rakt? bende. Devam?nda Judith ve Gideon'un yemek için sözle?meleri, bir araya gelmeleri ve anla?malar? vs vard?. Judith'i be?ensem de bu k?s?mda Gideon'? be?enmedim. Karakteri benim için oturmam??t?.

Durup durup bahane üretiyor gibiydi ve ben bunu ?eye benzettim. Hani arkadaşlar?n?za uyar yaramazlık yapmaya niyetlenirsiniz de i?e giri?ece?iniz anda gözünüzün önünde anan?zla baban?z?n k?zg?n surat? belirir... ??te o anda akl?n?za gelen tüm bahanelerinizi öne sürmeye ba?lars?n?z, elinizde bir ?ey kalmad???nda da bismillah dersiniz ve gitti?i yere kadar gider. Okurken akl?ma tam olarak böyle bir sahne belirdi. **Hatunu yata?a atacakken Gideon pembe odadan bahsediyor ya!**

Yemin ediyorum bir güldüm, bir de bu sahneyi okurken d??ar?dayd?m, küçük karde?imi okuldan almaya gelmi?im. Veliler bana bak?yor, rezalet ama onlar bile al??t?lar.

Neyse i?te, Gideon bu bahane üreten delikanl? modundan ç?kt??? anda kitap benim için akt? gitti. ?ddian?n kazan?n? kim olacak gerçekten merak ediyorum ve seriyi bu ay içinde bitirmeyi umuyorum.

Sara ♥ says

A Little Bit Wicked is book 1 in Victoria Alexander's "Last Man Standing" series. These 4 guys make a little bet about who will be the last one to get married, although it isn't REALLY a big deal--they're just 4 friends and whoever wins only gets 4 shillings and a bottle of cognac, or some such.

Anyway, so this book is about Gideon Pearsall, Viscount Warton, who we find out in the prologue has been married before and is QUITE cynical about love and marriage and all that--he has ZERO intention of EVER falling in love again, though he knows he'll have to get married and beget an heir and all that... but he's just cynical.

So, then there's Judith, Lady Chester, who is a widow (of Lucian, Baron Chester, so she's a Baroness)... and basically Judith and Gideon met eyes across the room at a party and felt a spark. So, since Judith is a widow, and widows can do whatever they want, they strike up a little arrangement. They become lovers (without the love)... and each end up falling for the other.

But both of them have CRAP that happened to them in their pasts that they aren't having such an easy time letting go of... I thought I really understood what was going on with each of them--and I think you kinda DO get his side of the story fairly early on, but her side... you only know about half of it until about 50 pages from the end. So I was like, "Ummm... get over it already, Judith!" But then I got to the explanation of what was REALLY going on in her head.... HOLY COW...

I cried. I haven't cried during a book in a while. Not since Eclipse, I think. Holy cow, Eclipse... but this book was just so good. Very cathartic at the end. It was quite surprising for a romance novel!

So, my first Victoria Alexander book was really good! I'd give this book 4 1/2 stars if I could! :)

Lover of Romance says

In A Little Bit Wicked, Judith, Lady Chester has always had a taste for the little pleasures in life, but still lives on the edge of respectability. Judith is beautiful, practical and enjoys life to its fullest. Judith comes across Gideon, Viscount Warton, and a simmering desire between them escalates to burning passion, for these two that are only looking for a lover, and no commitment. However what began has a intimate relationship with no love or affection, gradually turns into a adventure where love is the key to unlocking both of their hearts and learning to trust in each other and themselves...A Little Bit Wicked is the first installment in the Last Man Standing series by Victoria Alexander. This series is about four men that are close friends, and have made a wager on who is the last one to get married, since none of them desire the shackles of matrimony. Which I have read books from this author, however this is my favorite series other than the Effington series. The only complaint that I have is the heroine character, especially throughout the beginning of the story, she is more distanced and closed off from her emotions, and I found I enjoyed the Gideon's character more. Both characters suffer from pain in their past, but he is more open to her than she is to him. However This is a story where both of the main characters, are afraid to love again, but is a journey of self discovery and also a tender love story.Overall a wonderful love story.....and A MOST DELICIOUS READ!!!

Tracy says

It could have been a little more wicked.

Joann says

It was ok

Lauren says

The witty and beautiful widowed Judith, Lady Chester, values the freedom she has. She now has the ability to play by her own rules, while skirting the fringes of society. That is until she meets the delectable Gideon Pearsall, Viscount Warton. While she enjoys their encounters, their casual fling turns into something more for her. Gideon has made a packed with some of his closest friends, a wager of sorts on who would be the last man standing before breaking down and getting married. He thought it was an easy win until Judith stole his heart.

The story was fun and witty, just as I would expect of Victoria Alexander. It did not have the same enthralling pull as some of her other stories but it was a good, fast read nonetheless.

Jane Stewart says

For me, one of the weakest romance novels.

A couple meets and for nearly 100 pages they carry on with casual, superficial bantering, for example: "Do you feel wicked frequently?" "Why do you ask?" "Curiosity. Nothing more than that." The author claims they are drawn to each other as they have never been drawn to anyone else before. I found that hard to believe based on superficial chit chat. Page 145 states "Anything they disagreed on, they disagreed on with fervor. Which was every bit as much fun as agreement." However, there is no dialogue showing one of these fun disagreements. I would have preferred to hear an interesting debate on a specific subject to show their intelligence, wit, humor, etc. I heard nothing to make the characters interesting or impressive. Most dialogue throughout the book seemed to be about how do I feel, what will I say about how I feel, what does he feel. I wanted to stop reading in the middle, but I forced myself to finish it. I was glad to be done.

Patty says

"Gideon had known Lady Chester for years, although he did not, in truth, know her at all. She was a passing acquaintance, someone to nod a greeting to on the street or exchange idle pleasantries with at a social gathering, nothing more than that. It was not until the Twelfth Night Ball she had hosted more than a month ago that what should have been little more than a few casual words between the two of them had without warning been fraught with something more significant and completely indefinable." p. 7-8

I have been reviewing books here for many years. When I joined, I decided I would review everything I read, no matter what type of book it was. There have been periods when it took me awhile to do my review, but I have found writing reviews useful and fun. So imagine my surprise that I had not written a review for a

romance that I had read seven months ago.

Once I realized my omission, I had to figure out more about this novel. I read romances for escape, not to keep them all in my memory forever. At first, I couldn't even figure out how I had managed to find this romance. Fortunately, my source was OverDrive from a local library. I decided to download it again - the library would be grateful for the circulation and I could refresh my mind.

After reading a bit of the beginning and more importantly, the happy ending, I was glad to become reacquainted with Judith and Gideon. Alexander tells a good story about their lives, their friends and their romance. Now that I have figured out this story, I may look for the second volume when I need more escape.

Maura says

This continues with the Effington Series. After Johnathan Effington gets married, a bunch of his friends make a wager on who will be the last one to end up married. The first one out of the race is Gideon, Lord Warton. He's a casual rake, no reputation really, but not concerned with marrying, even though he's the last of his line and has no prospects just yet. He's fascinated by an independent widow and her direct approach, Judith, Lady Chester. Both of them have had some hard knocks with love and are reluctant to marry or have any type of long term commitment so they approach their attraction with eyes wide open. But the "no feelings" approach rarely works out and love does rear its head. And as is the case with all of Alexander's books, the secondary characters know it well before the main characters and do in fact warn them of it repeatedly, not that H/h really believe it.

I liked the characters on the whole. I liked Gideon a lot, even though he had a tendency to stick his foot in his mouth and was prone to some chauvinistic thoughts, he honestly meant well. In fact, I think I liked him more because he kept blurting things out that he shouldn't have. Judith was easy to like at first. She's direct, she's honest and she's had some sexual experience - not so much as to be promiscuous, but not so little (or so bad) as to be meaningless. Turns out all of that is masking some serious insecurity about her own ability to love. This is what truly causes the conflict in the story. Though there is some outside conflict with Gideon's past (his ex-wife). Judith is so afraid that she is going to fail Gideon and end up hurting him that she decides to leave him and break his heart...thus failing him and hurting him. So that never makes sense to me and I'm surprised how often it pops up in romance stories.

I liked the story and it was an easy read. It's much better than a lot of the Effington books I've read and I'm seeing improvement in this particular author. So I'm actually looking forward to the next story.
