



## The Headmistress of Rosemere

*Sarah E. Ladd*

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## **The Headmistress of Rosemere** Sarah E. Ladd

Patience Creighton will finally find the peace she lost years ago--if she can open her heart and forgive the man who loves her.

Bright, sensible Patience knows what is expected of her. At twenty-five, her opportunity for a family of her own has passed, so she finds contentment teaching at her father's school for girls. When her father dies suddenly and her brother moves away to London, she is determined to keep her father's dream alive.

Confirmed bachelor William Sterling also knows what is expected of him, but mistake after mistake has left him teetering on ruin's edge. As master of Eastmore Hall he owns a great deal of land but possesses little money to manage the upkeep. He is desperate to find a new source of income, including the sacrifice of land connected to Rosemere.

When her brother returns with a new wife to take over management of the school, Patience is heartbroken to no longer be responsible for her beloved school and is forced to reassess God's purpose for her life. After her sister-in-law's matchmaking brings Patience and William together, they both learn new truths about their character and find a common goal in restoring Eastmore's legacy.

## **The Headmistress of Rosemere Details**

Date : Published December 31st 2013 by Thomas Nelson (first published December 1st 2013)

ISBN :

Author : Sarah E. Ladd

Format : Kindle Edition 318 pages

Genre : Historical, Historical Fiction, Romance, Christian Fiction, Regency, Historical Romance, Fiction, Christian

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## From Reader Review The Headmistress of Rosemere for online ebook

### Kristen says

[So, he has a child with Isabella, his old flame, out of marriage. She takes off to marry another man that she had loved before. He kicks her out when he finds out it isn't his child (born 5 months after they were married). So, William is trying to deal with his past which is totally ok, but when Patience finds out that Emma is his daughter she doesn't even blink an eyelash. I'm so

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### Deanne Patterson says

The second book in the Whispers On The Moors series, The Headmistress of Rosemere has totally blown my socks off and made me spill my tea ! I haven't had much reading time in the past few days but when I did I totally consumed this book. Only a book-lover would understand. What is not to understand about the excellence of this book though ? There is a carry over from the first book of things. William Sterling is almost a totally different person in this second book than he was in the first. Maturity will do that for you. I won't go into detail for anybody having not read this yet but shock, betrayal and doing what is right with William's responsibilities are involved here. I can't wait to read the next and last book in the series but I can't yet due to I need to read and review other books first. Ah, what a problem it is to have too many wonderful books to read : )

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### NiteReader says

Surprisingly good!!

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### Rebecca says

Sarah Ladd has successfully penned two books utilizing a beautiful cadence of story, history, love and intrigue. Patience Creighton, so hesitant to resist change, is suddenly enraptured by change with the entrance of William Sterling into her life. His secrets and her determination combine for many chapters of delightful reading.

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### Loraine says

SUMMARY: Patience Creighton has devoted her life to running her father's boarding school. But when the enigmatic master of the estate appears at her door, battered and unconscious, the young headmistress suddenly finds her livelihood—and her heart—in the hands of one dangerously handsome gentleman.

REVIEW: This story continues the saga of the Creighton and Sterling families of Darby England. The first

story featured brother Graham and this one continues the tale with brother William. I really liked the characters of William and Patience. Both of them become stronger and more resilient as they deal with their past choices and learn to make better ones. They also find out that God brings good things to those who wait. The author weaves in some mini sub-plots that also make the story line more complex and interesting. I can see several threads that could be continued in future books: the future of Cassandra, Rawdon and Lydia, and the boys' school.

FAVORITE QUOTES: "But if I act in anger, if I let myself stay in that place, I am only hurting myself."

"God tells us to forgive when we are wronged. Even if it is difficult. If I choose to be angry, if I choose to not forgive him, then I am in disobedience. God allowed this to happen. I do not comprehend why, but He will not leave me here. This is part of His plan for my life. If I stay here, if I stay angry, then I might miss the plan that He has for me."

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### **Reet Champion says**

Her burdens are heavy, but Patience Creighton is a survivor and will do what she can to preserve her father's dream while supporting her mother. Life was not always so harsh. Before her father died, Patience had her brother Rowan and mother to lean on. But all that has changed now. Rowan has deserted the family and Patience has given him up for gone while her grieving mother continues to dote on him. It wouldn't be SO bad except her mother also refuses to see that Patience has kept their girl's school afloat. Instead Mrs. Creighton talks incessantly about her dear boy and how when Rowan comes home he will set things right. Patience is not amused. While dealing with frustration and stress Patience also sees to the care and schooling of her 20+ charges. Distraction comes in the form of William Sterling, her landlord. When he turns up in their barn suffering from injuries Patience is immediately intrigued. But William is not keen on sharing the details.

William has a reputation and not a good one. He knows that, but rather than face up to responsibility he blames his misfortune on a past heartbreak. Now he's so far in debt it's doubtful he'll ever fight his way out of it. Then one night the Creightons' barn burns down. Suspicions run high, but he can prove nothing. Is someone trying to send him a message at the risk of putting Patience Creighton and her students in danger? After all one of his creditors had been so brash as to sic henchman on him once before. As his long list of woes continue to grow William is tossed together with headmistress Patience Creighton who has her own battles to fight.

Not bad, not bad. I first became acquainted with the work of Sarah E. Ladd a few months ago through *The Heiress of Winterwood* (predecessor of *The Headmistress of Rosemere*). Personally the *THoW* was a more favorable read (it had ships, donchyaknow), but *THoR* wasn't too shabby. Ms. Ladd is in a class of her own when it comes to Regency fiction. Her stories are rather simple but still rich. Details come alive in a new way which makes up for the lack of mystery in the plot. The descriptions of the scenes that surround the characters are truly colorful.

I wouldn't call the book a page-turner, although I did read *THoR* in one sitting, but it isn't boring either. There isn't too much scandal which is something I appreciated. Action is limited but the stories are more character driven as both William and Patience fight their personal battles. Overall it's a recommended read.

*DISCLAIMER: In accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255: "Guides Concerning the Use of Endorsements and Testimonials in Advertising" we would like to note that we received an electronic copy of "The Headmistress of Rosemere" from BookSneeze.com provided by the publishers, Thomas Nelson, in exchange for our honest review.*

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## Nicole says

I loved this book! As much as I enjoyed the first, I adored the second even more! The setting and characters were ideal (I loved the sensible but romantic heroine and the flawed but sincere hero), and I simply couldn't read it fast enough! Looking forward to getting a copy of the series' final installment, *A Lady at Willowgrove Hall*.

Also, this is personal opinion, but I could really envision William & Patience being played by these two actors:

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## Shantelle says

*The Headmistress of Rosemere* was a thoughtful, sweet story that I really enjoyed. A sequel to *The Heiress of Winterwood*, this book told the story of a lovely spinster (she's actually only twenty-five or so) who runs a school for girls and has given up on the idea of romance. Her brother Rawdon hasn't been heard of since their father's untimely death, her mother's health is declining from her grieving state, and her friend Cassandra is anxiously awaiting Rawdon's supposed return... because they're engaged. And then William Sterling steps into the picture. Or, is rather forced into the picture because of the consequences of his gambling lifestyle.

Such a sweetly surprising story. A little mystery was entwined through the book... unusual, but wonderful. I just had a lovely time reading about Patience, William, and Emma. I grieve for Cassandra, and wonder if her story will come next?

One thing about *The Headmistress of Rosemere* was that the romance could have bordered on obsessive. I'm all for sweet, I'd-give-my-life-for-you, romantic love... but I don't really like when characters say things like, "My life is meaningless without you" "I can't live without you", stuff like that. Who gives the meaning to our lives? God of course! He is all we truly need. So I like the deep love, I believe that's important... But if our "my life is meaningless without you" spouse dies or something, we need to remember that God will bring us through and He gives our lives meaning. Our spouse can't fulfill us. Only God can. So yeah, I just kind of felt like the characters weren't complete without each other or something. That might not have been the author's intention though.

Could have had a little more spiritual growth for the characters... They did seem to grow closer to God in the end, but it didn't really explain.

But overall, a really sweet, poignant, regency romance. I'm looking forward to reading *A Lady at Willowgrove Hall*!

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## **Nathalie Bakelandt says**

Als grote thrillerlover heb ik toch af en toe eens nood om mijn romantisch kantje ook de kans te geven even te genieten. De directrice van Rosemere heeft mijn verwachtingen naar wat romantiek zeker ingevuld. Ik koester terug de liefde in mijn hart om nu weer een reeksje thrillers te lezen. Ik vond dit boek de moeite waard om te lezen vooral als je net als ik romantiek in je hoofd en hart wilt sluiten.

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## **Melanie says**

Review on Amazon: <http://www.amazon.com/review/R1UIS2Y2...>

Review on my blog: <http://christianbookshelfreviews.blog...>

The Headmistress of Rosemere was a very good follow-up to The Heiress of Winterwood! While the story seemed slower paced and it took me a while to finish (that could have been because I was busy and didn't have consistent reading time), that didn't lessen my enjoyment of the book.

I liked the characters and the little bit of action/mystery in The Headmistress of Rosemere. I was actually surprised by one of the secrets/discoveries, which I really liked. :)

Overall, a really good historical romance! I recommend it if you enjoy historicals, especially regencies. I don't think you need to read book one, since the books are only slightly related.

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## **Laura says**

4.5

This was a very enjoyable read. The characters were easy to love and the setting on the wintry moors made my toes ache just thinking about how cold it would have been. This was slower paced than the first book and read more like a comfort read for me. ( I drank a lot of coffee and tea with this book) Sarah Ladd also wrote wonderful themes about trusting the will of God in your life and letting go of anger before it consumes and ruins your life. I must admit, I even became misty eyed at the end. Well done!

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## **Kellyn Roth says**

Originally posted in the April 2017 Mini Reviews

On many levels, I really enjoyed this book. It was an amazing concept, and I enjoyed the characters and setting. However, the plot was very rushed. I wished the author could have slowed down and taken her time

with some scenes, events, plotlines, etc. The end was especially rushed.

Then there's the whole deal with William's secret past. I'm not going to say what that is, but I will say this: when Patience finds out about it, she hardly bats an eyelash. In fact, she's kind of excited. Wait, what?! Don't you think you might want to, I don't know, confront him on his sins and see if this hasn't happened before or will happen again, etc.? Patience, get your head out of the clouds.

It was pretty clean. There is one thing, but that's a spoiler (and it's well-handled), so I won't mention it. Okay for older teens.

~Kellyn Roth

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## Anne says

Basically, **I expected to be wowed, and I was not wowed.**

I should have known from having read *The Heiress of Winterwood* that Ms. Ladd's style was not exactly up to my standards, but I still had high hopes for this one. Admittedly, it was a big improvement on many aspects compared to Book 1, but all I'm about to say really comes back to: **there was not enough Patience and William and: it was re-pe-ti-ti-ve!!!**

I loved the premise of a good love story between the headmistress of the school and the owner of the property, set in the moors in winter and filled with secrets and dark twists and turns. Very Jane Eyre-esque, and Anne loves that kind of stuff. Unfortunately, it just...wasn't...really...great. It's not a bad book, really it isn't, it's just pretty basic. Simple. Boring. I wanted much more.

The two leads, Patience Creighton and William Sterling, were actually really, *really* loveable and their story could have been deliciously scrumptious if they had, you know, spent time together. Their first few scenes were great and the romantic tension was perfect, but then it started to evaporate little by little as the author focused on other subjects and characters that were less important, and Patience and William aren't even in the same room until the end. The entire middle chunk was devoted to the annoying, one-dimensional secondary characters that added little to nothing to the story. Ms. Ladd spent so much time making sure we understood every character's every emotion that she forgot to actually *develop* her characters. Instead of letting us figure out that so-and-so was sad and such-and-such was happy, it was all spelt out, repeated, repeated, and repeated. I find this author's writing style very repetitive to begin with, but the detailing of so many unnecessary thoughts and actions really got on my nerves. I mean, how many times must it be stated that Patience's mother hasn't recovered since her father's death?! Or that William feels unworthy of love? Or that the housekeeper was more of a friend than a housekeeper? Those are things we were able to see plainly without being told, yet it was repeated many times and took up way too much space that should have been used for character and romantic developments.

I was pleased to see that it was much less preachy than *The Heiress of Winterwood*, but overall it was still too elementary and underdeveloped to really captivate me. And there were too many cheesy phrases along the lines of "*Oh, foolish romantic notions! He'd never look twice at her!*" or "*Everything he'd ever thought he was unworthy of, Patience was now giving him.*" I might just not be in the mood for that, but seriously. No.

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## **Jalynn Patterson says**

### About the Book:

Patience Creighton will finally find the peace she lost years ago--if she can open her heart and forgive the man who loves her.

Bright, sensible Patience knows what is expected of her. At twenty-five, her opportunity for a family of her own has passed, so she finds contentment teaching at her father's school for girls. When her father dies suddenly and her brother moves away to London, she is determined to keep her father's dream alive.

Confirmed bachelor William Sterling also knows what is expected of him, but mistake after mistake has left him teetering on ruin's edge. As master of Eastmore Hall he owns a great deal of land but possesses little money to manage the upkeep. He is desperate to find a new source of income, including the sacrifice of land connected to Rosemere.

When her brother returns with a new wife to take over management of the school, Patience is heartbroken to no longer be responsible for her beloved school and is forced to reassess God's purpose for her life. After her sister-in-law's matchmaking brings Patience and William together, they both learn new truths about their character and find a common goal in restoring Eastmore's legacy.

### About the Author:

Sarah E. Ladd received the 2011 Genesis Award in historical romance for *The Heiress of Winterwood*. She is a graduate of Ball State University and has more than ten years of marketing experience. Sarah lives in Indiana with her amazing husband, sweet daughter, and spunky Golden Retriever.

### My Review:

Patience has had a bad taste in her mouth since her brother went to London and after her father's death, leaving her in charge of Rosemere School for Young Ladies. She has always dreamed of that knight in shining armor to come and whisk her away from the mundane life of being the headmistress of Rosemere, but it's looking like a dream that was never meant to be. Because of all she has to do there and all of her obligations she seems stuck there. But like the old adage, stop looking for true love and then it will find you. And find her it does in the form of William.

William owes some important people big and if he doesn't pay up soon his life will be given in return for the amount owed. Soon William gets the idea to look to an old friend for help but once he gets there he hears terrible news about his friend and in turn now doesn't know what he is going to do. William instantly thinks Patience is very attractive but her beauty isn't going to help him and the fix he is in, or will it?

**\*\*Disclosure\*\*** This book was sent to me free of charge for my honest review from Litfuse Publicity.

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## **Rachelle Cobb says**

I finished this book last night, pleasantly surprised that I had not been able to predict the ending after all.

When I read the first page, I thought I knew how things would play out, but Sarah Ladd stumped almost from the beginning with the twists and secrets played out on the pages of The Headmistress of Rosemere.

Patience I liked from the first line. Still mourning her father, desperately worried about her mother's health and broken spirit, Patience picks up the pieces left by her absent brother and commences running the family business--a girl's school. Her interactions with the children were some of my favorite scenes.

Her interactions with William Sterling were my top favorite scenes. He was an interesting character to start with, but the changes he undergoes in the course of this story were compelling. A recovering gambler, he tugs on heartstrings with his commitment to make things right--and his growing attraction to Patience, whom he sees himself unworthy of.

Enter the absent brother (Patience's conversation with him and the discovery that he did some wrong things for right reasons was eye-opening) and a beau from Patience's past, and things got really interesting really quickly!

Then William suffers a betrayal and learns of a long-kept secret that changes everything. Sarah Ladd earned a place on my favorite authors list.

#### Why I Recommend This Book

A heartfelt Regency romance played out by multi-dimensional characters with hopes and dreams and faith, The Headmistress of Rosemere is sure to please my history-loving friends.

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