



Saint and Scholar

Holley Trent

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He teaches about the Irish past. She worries about their Irish future.

Grant Fennell seems to lack the luck of the Irish. He's had his nose broken three times, his dissertation advisor was a useless lump, he's thirty-one and finishing his PhD, and he can't find a teaching position in the US. Then he accepts a job in his native Ireland on the same day the stunning former student he's been intrigued by for nearly eight years shows a shred of interest. Finally, he catches a break: Carla Gill needs his expertise.

Carla is at a dead end on her late Irish-American father's family tree project. Who better to assist than an expert on Irish history? Especially one with the face of an Adonis and a brogue that makes her want to shed her clothes. She'll be his girlfriend, all right, in spite of her overprotective brothers and nay-saying friend.

But when Carla accompanies Grant to Ireland to conduct her research, he makes it clear he wants to put her on the fast track to matrimony. The professor wants to teach her something about 'happily ever after.' Does she really want her happy ending to start right now?

CONTENT WARNING: Contains swearing in two languages and scenes of explicit sensuality.

Saint and Scholar Details

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From Reader Review Saint and Scholar for online ebook

Karen says

Ireland

Holley Trent is one of my favorite romance authors, in both PNR and contemporary, because of her characters and their relationships. She doesn't flinch from working through hard choices, temper tantrums or crazy family dynamics. She never disappoints.

Carla Gill's life changed her freshman year of college when her Irish father suddenly died. With an older brother in med school, there wasn't enough money to fund her, too, so she took a year off to earn money to pay her own way. But when she returned, she changed her major from art to biology and after graduation she ended up as a forensic artist for the police department. She is on campus to interview a witness to a burglary when someone calls to her.

Grant Fennell has finished his doctoral dissertation in Irish history and culture and is looking for a teaching position in the States, but the only offer he's received is from a university near his home town in Ireland. He was a TA during Carla's freshman year eight years earlier and taught one of her classes. He never forgot her, even though they never really spoke. Then he sees her on campus and calls out to her. He knows he's leaving in a few days, but he never worked up the courage to approach her before, and what if....?

Jeannie Zelos says

Saint and Scholar by Holley Trent

ARC supplied by Lyrical Press.

I'm an eclectic reader and like to enjoy whatever material I'm in the mood for, yesterday it was romance so I picked up Saint and Scholar. Grant and Carla met at university 8 years ago. Grant was her tutor then for a short while, and she's been on his mind ever since, much to the amusement of his friends. Carla has had some family trauma that affects how she is in life, and makes her very closed in except to her two good friends. She's finally taken up tracing her Irish roots in memory of her much loved father, but has hit a dead end. Then Grant sees her one day, plucks up courage, and calls out to her on campus where she's been doing a job for the local police. They chat and he offers to help her with the family tree, Irish history being a speciality of his. The romance takes off from there.

Carla was very reserved. I found it difficult to warm to her at first, she's so protective of her emotions, and this makes her appear cold and indifferent. Once I got to know her though I realised it was a shield she's built up. Grant – lovely man, he felt as if he knew her as he'd thought about her almost daily since that time he was tutoring her class. Something in her called to him on a deep level, but having finally taken the plunge with her he needed to fast forward their romance, as he was moving to Ireland within days. Carla took a big leap of faith and agreed to go with him for a week. From a quick sensual start their romance seemed to go backward...slowed right down and even came to a stop...by then I'd empathised greatly with Carla and wanted to shake her and say “ what are you doing????” I didn't always understand Grants motivations either but all became clear by the end. Still, all good romances need that hiccup to make us appreciate the good parts.

This isn't an erotic, in-your-face sex novel, but a more slow, thoughtful, gentle romance. There's overt sensuality between them, rather than open sexuality most of the time, and it works really well in this story. It shows how sex doesn't need to be graphic to be very erotic. There are deep thoughts at times and insights into why Grant and Carla act as they do, and how it affects their relationship. They've both got history that affects the people they are today – the puzzle is can they get beyond that and move forward together? I

wondered at times if everything would work out, if it could work out.... Holley definitely kept me guessing. I loved both of them, worried for them, got angry at them and laughed with Grant and his mates, Carla and hers. The characters Holley creates feel very real and there was depth in this book, not just a few lurid sex scenes thrown together and called a book, but a real slow burn romance with plenty of back story to engross the reader. If you want a contrast to the current fifty shades type books currently proliferating this book is perfect. I love those, but sometimes there's a need to slow down, take things at a different pace and this book does that so well. Its a romance but with so much more to offer than just sex. Its romance for the thinking reader I guess :) Those who want a real story with the love affair, to know their characters and what makes them tick, to enjoy their friends and family and see how the all round of relationships affect people. Priced at £3.38 for 160 pages its on the upper end of my VFM scale but its got deep content that can stand re reading so that makes it better value.

Stars: well, I found it slow starting but once in I really enjoyed this book so a well deserved four stars.

Tori says

This was going to be a solid three star book for me until the last 30-40% when the Grant got weirdly possessive and started talking about babies when they were literally a week into their relationship. Then she ended up pregnant.

It wasn't even the speed of the relationship that bothered me so much because I bought that they were both into each other, idk. It got pretty creepy at the end.

Kazia Gemmill says

I would actually give this a 3.5 if I could. Well written and chock full of interesting genealogical tidbits, the characters just didn't do much for me. Heroine was way irrational.

Onnica (I Love Romantic Fiction blog) says

Started off well, but no. Just no.

Dar says

I really didn't know what to expect when I started this book. The premise caught my eye, and, while I had only tried one other book by this authour, and it was a DNF, this was on sale, so I decided to give it a try and I am glad that I did

It was cute, it was funny, and it was a build up to a relationship. There was one sex scene in the book, but the story kept me engaged, so I didn't realize that until I was done. I started this book and intended to only read for a bit, and before I realized, the book was done

The side characters were a hoot, I loved them, and am pleased to see there is more to the series with them front and centre. They added to H/h in ways that only enhanced their relationship, and didn't take away from it in any way

Overall, it was an entertaining read and I am going back for more!
