



Lord of Fire

Gaelen Foley

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After years of preparation, he has baited his trap well, luring the depraved members of Society into his devil's playground so he can earn their trust and uncover their secrets. Yet no one in London suspects that Lord Lucien Knight is England's most cunning spy, an officer who has sacrificed his soul for his country. Now an unexpected intruder has invaded his fortress of sin, jeopardizing his carefully laid plans—and igniting his deepest desires.

Beautiful, innocent, Alice Montague finds herself at the mercy of scandalous Lord Lucien. But as he begins his slow seduction to corrupt her virtue, Alice glimpses a man tormented by his own choices, a man who promises her nothing except his undeniable passion. . . .

Lord of Fire Details

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From Reader Review Lord of Fire for online ebook

Lady Jayne *~*The Beach Bandida*~* says

3-3.5 Stars

I've been avoiding writing a review for this, so I've decided that I'm not going to write a whole long one.

I just want to say that I absolutely love, **LOVED** The Duke and still haven't found the words to express my feelings for that amazing book. But this second instalment of the Knight Miscellany series took me what felt like *forever* to finish (though it was only 11 days).

I don't know what happened since quite a lot of you seem to have loved it. For some reason, which I still haven't been able to identify, I just really struggled to connect with Lucien the way I did with Robert in The Duke. I just fell in love with Robert!!

Anyway, I've decided to let my status updates speak to how I felt reading *Lord of Fire*:

08/23 - page 124 - *"So far I'm not loving Lucien the way I did Robert, or as drawn into this as I was with The Duke."*

08/26 - page 168 - *"Man, I feel like I'm reading so sloooooowww...."*

08/29 - page 246 - *"Ugh! Can't believe it's taking me so long to read this! Am having such a mental and emotional block with this one. :-("*

08/30 - page 356 - *"I was struggling to really connect with this book and Lucien (I don't know why)...but oh Lucien!...now I see you and my heart aches for you... *sniff, sniff*"*

09/01 - page 407 - *"I FINALLY finished this!"*

I will read the rest of the books in the series. I'm just not excited to continue, at this point. There are so many other books vying for my attention. I hope I connect better with the next one!

Crista says

First read Oct. 2007, Re-read August 2012

I finished reading this book in 1 day.

This is Lucian's story. The "fallen" twin who just never quite measures up to his brother. A spy who hosts "orgies" in his underground grotto to gain useful information for national security. A man who is the verge of personal collapse. He has seen, experienced, and performed dispicable acts of humanity and is completely disenfranchised with everyone and everything. He is alone.

Enter Alice Montague.

She is his opposite. A naive, innocent, virgin who has never seen half the things that haunt Lucian. The scene

and circumstances to which they meet for the first time is perhaps my favorite meeting of all time, and there are scenes throughout this book that make it UNFORGETTABLE (ie..the rain scene, the hot springs scene, the key scene..just to name a few).

Other reviewers have mentioned the unlikelyhood that these two could ever actually get together. Others talk about Alice's naivety and purity as being annoying or stupid. I just don't agree. Alice is exactly what Lucian has been missing from his life, and if she were any different, I don't think she would've had the impact on him that she did.

I really liked Alice....I really loved Lucian. He was a unique blend of power, strength, vulnerablity, and tenderness. He is in touch with his feelings and tells Alice he loves her before she tells him. He goes to extreme measures to keep her with him, but as soon as their friendship develops past attraction, he gives her the keys (literally and figuratively) to leave. Of course by this time, WHY would she want to! This is a wonderful love story. This is really Lucian's story of his redemption and acceptance of himself...the definition of "a keeper".

Nefise says

I've just finished it. I'm not sure how I'm feeling about this book. Because in the first half of it, I could enjoy and forgot some senseless developments. But last quarter part was almost unbearable for me.

There are so many things in the story that I can't accept. First of all, the hero forced the heroine (Alice) make a choice out of a child who was ill at that time. It's an unacceptable thing. Anyway, in a week, our strong, infamous, strong hero fell in love with the heroine and proposed her! Of course she accepted it buecause she noticed that actually he was a good guy etc.

After a few absurd other things, Alice learned that Lucien was a spy and he had a duty to capture a very bad French spy. Well, what did she do after this information? First tried to persuade him to give up. When she failed, she tried same tactic, he did to her a week ago, forced him to make a choice! Because she couldn't bear to think lose another a loved one, so left him! Actually either way she lost a loved one. In my opinion it's not a logical choice nor honorable or protectiveness yourself.

The last quarter part was so bad for my taste that it ruined the story. I don't know which ones I can write. When they were running out of time to capture the bad man, they had time to make peace, make love, make big confessions, give command with each others, get in action to set trap blah blah...

And in a day, they had so much different emotions which in my opinion is impossible. You can't believe their sincerity. And so-called Miss Goody Two-Shoes, Alice was not so good for me. She's just a good-hearted girl. I couldn't see any special thing.

Sometimes H/h behavior is very incompatible with depictions of their characters, especially the hero...

So I thinks Ms Foley's stories are not for me because I didn't like much The Duke book either :(

Grecia Robles says

A pesar de que el comienzo fue de lo más aburrido el resto de la historia fue entretenida y me gustó bastante no tanto como Seductora Inocencia ese libro me encantó so much.

Después haré una reseña un poco más extensa.

Blacky *Romance Addict* says

Great book, though the first half is so much better than the second. Love Lucien!!!!!!!!!!

Here's my favorite quote:

“You don’t know,” he said in a low, almost hostile voice. He shook his head. “I don’t even know what I’m doing with you. You’re not like anyone else who’s in my life—” He stopped abruptly. “Did you ever drink too much wine, Alice?” He held up the glass in his hand and waggled it idly, making the ruby contents swirl.

??“I’m not one to overindulge.”

??“No, you wouldn’t be,” he said wryly. “Allow me to explain, then, that the more you drink, the more thirsty you become. Not all the wine in the world can assuage the thirst for water. Water. Wine makes you merry, but a man needs water to keep him alive. Pure, clean, sweet water.” He sighed, silent for a moment. He stared almost bitterly into the fire. “I am parched, Alice, scorched like a wasteland, burning like a damned soul in hell. I thirst.”

Cherna says

This book had me exercising eye-rolls. I think I actually strained an eye-muscle (if such a thing exists).

The heroine is sooo incredible stupid that I was wishing she'd trip, fall down the stairs and die so I could start reading a new book.

Imagine you're a young virgin with high moral standards. You end up smack in the middle of an orgy, get forcefully dragged off by an unknown man and felt up by him, perhaps even thinking you'll get raped, threatened with a gun, emotionally blackmailed with a child you care about and then what do you do? Yes! You fall in love with the guy, ofcourse! eh okay.. didn't see that one coming. But hey, he's good looking, right? :P

She never tries to escape, she never stops to think about his actions and what that tells her about him. Her (re)actions are all over the place, she fights about things that don't matter, she accepts or ignores the things that do. Then she kills the last braincell she had by going against his wishes when he is threatened. I mean, she loves him, she knows there is a bad guy on the loose who can use her as leverage but she just *has* to prove she doesn't have to do as he tells her. How old was she again?

I don't understand the raving reviews for this book. So to compensate for at least one of them, I give you one star! Enjoy.

Ursula says

An emotional 4.5 stars.

I put off reading this one in the series because I did not like the sound of the hero, Lucien Knight, at all. And as I began reading the story- with some trepidation- I found my fears largely justified. He was a pretty horrible person.

Whatever the excuses or explanations, he was a massive man-whore, one who thought nothing of indulging any selfish desire he had or, just as disappointingly, thought nothing of using sex as a means to an end. That end might have been vaguely linked to some patriotic duty (view spoiler) but sex for him was just another form of currency used to buy or sell people or favours. His "orgies", ostensibly to find out information or recruit followers for the patriotic cause, were disgusting.

The *piece de resistance* was his blackmailing (effectively kidnapping) the heroine, Alice, to stay with him for a week directly after the orgy because he was in lust with her. He shamelessly used her love for her young nephew to do this. What a guy! So the first third of the book was a struggle for me to overcome my instinctive dislike of him.

What about Alice? I have read so many reviews that slam her big time. I just don't understand. I loved her. She was strong, principled, virtuous- yes, that old-fashioned word: virtuous- and these were exactly the qualities that attracted Lucien, a man who had fallen so low he no longer **had** any principles.

I feel one must acknowledge that it is Alice's strong personal code of honour, her **difference** from Lucien, that mean she can rescue him and help him rediscover the integrity and self-respect he thought he had lost. If you think she was mean and self-righteous and narrow-minded and should have been softer, more compassionate, (*more of a doormat!*) then I am saying that **that** kind of heroine would not have been able to snap Lucien out of his downward spiral. An easy victory for him would not have had him questioning his life-choices or contemplating any changes to them. He needed her to prove to him that deeply honourable, selfless people still existed in the world.

I was initially a bit sceptical of Lucien's rapid transit into vulnerability and sensitivity. The damage of years would not be healed so quickly. But I was swept up by the emotion and the passion, so that my disbelief faded and I just went along for the stormy ride.

In the end, I loved Lucien. Who would have thought it of little old (judgemental) me?? He needed to suffer and work really hard to win Alice - and ultimately, he deserved to win her. She did a couple of TSTL things at the end which I put down to immaturity, naiveté and, frankly, a justifiable scepticism where Lucien was concerned- he had a pretty shite track record, let's face it. (And just think of when they first meet!)

I must add, though, that the villainess was so OTT (as was the villain, in a way) that it bordered on the melodramatic. She was repulsive and it didn't make sense to me how Alice's brother could have been taken in by someone like her (view spoiler)

I am so happy I finally read this one. Lucien was ultimately a complex and damaged man who needed the purity and belief of a heroine like Alice to drag him out of the self-destructive pattern his life had assumed, and she needed the single-minded love and devotion that such a man could give her. A very satisfying read!

WhiskeyintheJar/Kyraryker says

This books starts off highly charged with Lucien holding court over a party that is basically a BDSM and orgy scene. I did say these books were not for the faint of heart didn't I? Lucien and Alice's first scene together made my toes curl and well, basically "Oh Nelly!" is all I have to say about that.

Lucien is that delicious combo of dangerously dark and little boy vulnerable. Alice is the consummate good girl (Lucien calls her "Goody Two-Shoes") until she gets around Lucien, then she finds herself behaving in ways she never imagined. Sounds a little trite but trust me people it works, or at least it did for me!

This book started off incredibly good but kind of fizzled toward the middle and end. The end picks up in action with a spy trying to blow up London and Lucien trying to stop it. This story worked best for me with Alice and Lucien struggling to deal with their feelings. Good god the tension!

Completely dark book but I loved it. I can't seem to adequately put into words why I loved this book, it's just I was completely tied to these characters and will remember them for a long time.

The first line of the book is a quote by Shakespeare: "Something wicked this way comes". Couldn't have said it better myself.

Nani says

He de decir, que lo terminé hace unos días, pero llevo otros tantos sin conectarme desde el PC. De ahí, que mi opinión sobre este libro sea tarde, justa y muy poco explicativa.

A mi los dos personajes me han gustado en su base, sobre todo él, que demuestra mucha profundidad de sentimientos, más de los que demuestra. Ella, en cambio, ha habido veces que me ha chirriado un poco los dientes, pero ha sabido compensarlo muy bien, ya que siempre, siempre ha apoyado a Lucien. Donde se demuestra que una persona está realmente enamorada y quiere a otra, no es solo con las palabras, sino sobre todo con los hechos, los actos que demuestra ese amor y aquí ella lo hace magistralmente. Yo lo hubiera hecho de otra manera en algunas circunstancias pero hay que tener en cuenta que ella es una mujer que ha vivido protegida durante toda su vida y tiene esa inocencia (que a mi me han dado ganas de darle de h*st*a varias veces) que la hace actuar de aquella manera. No es una crítica, sino para mi más bien una observación.

Sigo con la serie, ahora viene el hermano gemelo, que me ha decepcionado bastante en este libro ya que odio con todas mis fuerzas, que los hermanos no se apoyen y estén ahí para con sus propios hermanos.

Shawna says

5 stars – Historical/Regency Romance

Dangermousie says

I got lulled into security by reading four romances in a row where the heroes were likeable, treating heroine and others around them with respect, and not in need of reform.

But that's all right.

Things are back to normal with Gaelen Foley's Lord of Fire. What an apt name for the novel because that is precisely what I want to do to the hero - stick him into the fire and have some barbeque while he roasts.

OK, let's get down to this hypothetical. You are a young woman and this is your experience with a guy - you first see him presiding over a disgusting disgusting orgy during which he drags you off against your will (and you fully believe for raping), sticks a pistol between your eyes, and feels you up everywhere against your will. Even when he finds out you are actually the sister-in-law of his mistress, come to fetch her to her sick child, and have never done anything improper or sexual in your life, he still offers you some sex.

Next morning, he tells you that only one of the two, you or your sister-in-law, can go to the sick kid, because he knows you treasure the child and wants to use your weakness for the kid to get you in his clutches.

OK, in this hypothetical, if you are in any way sane, are you going to (a) assume this is a horrible monster who deserves to be castrated and soon the hero of the piece will appear to help you heat the knives or (b) decide that all of this is OK because he's hot and angsty.

If you picked (a), congrats, you are a normal human being. If you picked (b), my condolences, you are Galen Foley.

I am supposed to believe the heroine feels physically drawn to him after that? In what Universe, unless she is a closet BDSM aficionado with a rape fetish?

How on earth the author expects me to root for them as a couple is beyond me. As it is, there is some evil French spy who supposedly wants to off our "hero" and I keep hoping he will succeed. I mean, when "hero" was relieving his hideous torture at French dude's hands, my reaction was not "poor woobie" but a "serves you right, you bastard!" and a fierce desire that the French Dude do it again.

I like other Foley books but wtf wtf forever about this one.

Mary B. says

So this book took me forever to read. FOREVER. Part of that was because I went through a huge reading slump for the majority of last year. I just couldn't sit down and allow myself to indulge in reading long enough to make it feel worth it. This book at on my nightstand getting dusty until finally I resumed in the last couple of week. It wasn't the books fault.

This book didn't quite grab me the way its predecessor did, but again, that could have been my fault and not the book's. Overall, the story was very good and compelling. I loved Lucien. I wasn't so crazy about the heroine in this book. She was a bit too prissy, but she was intended to be. That's just not the kind of heroine I gravitate towards. Although, she did have a lot of depth. I'm also not crazy about spy plots. It's a solid 4 stars. I liked it a lot, wasn't in love with it. But I did go and order "Lord of Ice."

Kathy says

I was on the sofa ALL DAY reading this book. What a slug but, hey, it snowed last night and I pretended the roads were bad and I was stranded.

I couldn't put it down. Lucien and Alice were such a great pair. They were so loving towards each other it made me smile. He was a bit of a bad boy with a real softness to him, as contradictory as that sounds. He definitely needed a hug. No, alot of hugs. Which I would have gladly provided. Alot. Of hugs, that is. :-)

Dee says

I enjoyed this addition to the series and thought it a good read. Although it is classed as a Historical Romance it has quite a few elements of a Spy/Thriller novel which I really enjoyed.

Lucien is a bit of a dark character but in his job he has to have secrets and pretend to be many different things/people. Deep down he is a bit of a tortured sole who believes that he is not loved or wanted by anyone, even his family. He puts on a stoic exterior and even tries to convince himself that it is not affecting him but then he falls in love with Alice. Already feeling a bit raw that his twin brother is practically ignoring him, Alice then rejects him and in order to win her love he breaks down and bears his sole to her. Alice admits that she still loves him and they eventually get their HEA.

On a personal note my husband says that it can't have been that good as it didn't occupy me enough to stop me from moaning that he was watching football on the tv and made him turn the channel over ha ha.....However, I am not that mean and did let him watch the cricket (I hate football!) :))

Cristina says

Not my favorite in the series.

Kimberly Carrington-Fox says

Ya se veía que no y es que no. Me sigo quedando con Robert.

Nuestra reseña en *A la cama con... un libro*

Joanna Loves Reading says

[when Lucien comes to ask her help to

Zoe says

It's now 3:40am. I stayed up to reacquaint myself with this book which I remember with loving memories. I read it more than 10 years ago, forgot all about the names of the book, the writer and lead characters. But I

remember the plots and oh the characters. I have been on some kind of a hunt for this book for about a year, reading any books which have similar plots hoping to find this book again. Reading *The Duke* led me finally to *Lord of Fire*. While I disliked *The Duke*, I am so happy that it helped me "reunite" with Lucien and Alice's story that I am willing to forget all about how I disliked *The Duke*.

Now, about *Lord of Fire*.

I love the character of Lucien with a passion. Tough guy that he was but oh so vulnerable in love. I don't know what is about him that I love so dearly. He was an isolated man and very jaded from the war and his profession. I think it is only natural that he would want something "clean and pure" in his life, after having witnessed so much suffering in life. To meet Alice at one of his infamous orgy parties which he hosted to collect information for the Crown is the beauty of the plot: meeting an angel in hell. The first ray of light in darkness. How could he not hold on?

I suppose it is questionable how Lucien blackmailed Alice into staying at his house for a week and how that could seem unappealing to some readers. It did not bother me because his loneliness and desperation for tenderness and love really spoke to me. Maybe I am gullible. But this particular emotion really strikes a note with me.

Alice was all that is beautiful in Lucien's eyes. She was a loving character most of the time but turned rather TSTL later in the book so that we could have a conflict, quite a shame. It all started with her ultimatum when she asked Lucien to choose between revenge and her. I thought oh you poor dear do you not know that Lucien had to kill this guy or this guy would kill him and whoever that mattered to him? She then went on to thinking about how she would explain her lack of virginity to her future husband after falling out with Lucien. I was exasperated. What the hell woman? You have got a guy who loves you hopelessly and desperately and you are holding this revenge thing against him when you should have stayed by his side? Alice is a 3 stars heroine whereas Lucien is all the way 5 shining stars.

Their relationship is heartbreaking. 2 lonely souls, kindred spirits finding solace in each other. It isn't often that you find a hero who has "his soul in his eyes" in Foley's own words. Intense love is most fragile. It has something to do with having too much to lose.

The war and spy elements were ok but at times I just skip those paragraphs. The last 20% was rather untidy. I am not a fan. If I was rating on the relationship between Lucien and Alice alone I would have given 5 stars. But the book has questionable plots in the 2nd half and that resulted in a few TSTL moments for Alice. Gotta take a star away. It was rather messy in the end.

But I am going to dream about Lucien tonight, er, well, this morning.

Julianna says

Lord of Fire was a fabulous book that has a little bit of everything: heart-pounding action and suspense, spy intrigue, history, and best of all, swoon-worthy romance. Galen Foley's writing style contains a richness of detail that vividly brings to life the world she has created, making me feel like I had actually been transported to another time and place. It is apparent to me through reading her books and looking at her website that Ms. Foley is meticulous with her historical research, and it definitely shows in her writing. I also loved that the author kept me on my toes throughout the story. Every time I thought that she was going to resort to some well-worn plot device, she surprised me. There were many times I thought that Lucien and Alice were going to have the "big misunderstanding," but then not long after a confession would be

forthcoming. They did have a few quarrels, which can often be irritating to me, but in this case, I found them to be genuine issues that a couple in their circumstances might actually have to face, rather than just petty bickering. Even though there were a couple of things that I predicted would happen early on, it did not detract from my enjoyment of the novel, because there were plenty of things that didn't go as I expected. I normally am not a fan of love at first sight stories, but Ms. Foley managed to make me believe in this couple's love for one another and a lasting happily-ever-after, even though they had only known each other for a short time. She accomplished this by creating a deep emotional connection between Lucien and Alice, as well as between the characters and the reader, by having them get to know each other fairly intimately before sharing physical intimacies. Admittedly, the love scenes are few, but I found the sexual tension to be exquisite and laden with tender emotions. All in all, *Lord of Fire* was a very well-rounded story that kept me excited about reading it.

Lucien and Alice were a wonderful and perfectly matched couple. In spite of his charming personality, Lucien is a tortured soul. Working deep undercover as a spy for the Crown, he lives a dark, rather solitary existence. Personally knowing someone who has done deep cover law enforcement work and having heard some of his stories, I felt that the aloneness and soul-searing intensity of Lucien's work was very realistically rendered. It was a fabulous contrast of dark and light, and doing things you really don't want to for the greater good. Lucien loved his twin, Damien, deeply, and their recent estrangement over Lucien's choice of professions has left him feeling more alone than ever. Yet, Lucien has always felt like he was living in his brother's shadow and never quite measuring up. When Alice unexpectedly shows up in Lucien's life she brings the light of her innocence and goodness into his darkened world, making his heart long for things he thought lost to him forever. When Lucien used trickery and manipulation to keep Alice at his country estate, I wasn't sure I would like him, but aside from that one lapse, he behaved in a gentlemanly way for the remainder of the book, which endeared him to both me and Alice. I thought Alice was a very well-balanced heroine. She was kind, caring and intuitive, understanding Lucien in a way that most people didn't, and he reciprocated in kind. She also had spunk and spirit, speaking her mind to both Lucien and her sister-in-law, Caro, when the circumstances warranted. There were a few times when Alice's spunk led her into potentially dangerous situations, but I felt like I generally understood her reasoning and that she was usually just trying to protect those she loved. Overall, I found Lucien and Alice to be a delightful couple who were a pleasure to read.

The palette of secondary characters was varied and interesting. Lucien's rogues were charming and entertaining. The main villain, Claude Bardou, was irredeemably evil, bringing a dangerous menace to the story. There are a couple of other foreign spies, an American double-agent and a Russian woman, who added a bit of extra intrigue. Alice's sister-in-law, Caro, is very well-rendered as a flamboyant, self-centered woman who rarely thinks of anything but her own pleasures, and has little interest in even trying to be a good mother to her three-year-old son, Harry. Harry is a sweet, endearing child who charms nearly everyone with whom he comes in contact. In addition to these, there are a whole host of other supporting characters who for the most part play small roles, but manage to add a great deal of depth to the other characters and the narrative. The most realistic and intriguing of the secondary characters though, is Lucien's identical twin brother, Damien. These two rogues may look alike, but their personalities are opposites, with Lucien being a charming, smooth-tongued devil and Damien being more staid, reserved and uncomfortable in social settings. Most interesting of all is the sympathetic portrayal of Damien as an honorable man and wounded war hero suffering from severe PTSD. I was so fascinated by Damien that I can hardly wait to read the next book in the series, *Lord of Ice*, in which he becomes the hero.

Lord of Fire is the second book in the *Knight Miscellany* series. It is preceded by *The Duke*, which was another wonderful book. I wasn't sure that Ms. Foley would be able to equal it, but I was mistaken. As much as I enjoyed *The Duke*, I actually liked *Lord of Fire* slightly better. The remaining books in the series are *Lord of Ice*, *Lady of Desire*, *Devil Takes a Bride*, *One Night of Sin* and *His Wicked Kiss*. I love Ms. Foley's writing style, and think that she has found a great balance between descriptive prose and beautiful dialog. With two keepers in a row, she has definitely earned a place on my favorite authors list. In fact, I have

already ordered a copy of *Lord of Ice* and will be anxiously watching for it to arrive in my mailbox, so that I can read sexy, tortured twin, Damien's story and continue this enchanting and thoroughly romantic series.

Jane Stewart says

It could have been a good story if the heroine had been smarter with her actions.

I disliked the heroine Alice's actions. Lucien was a highly skilled spy. He told her to stay away from certain things, but she didn't and as a result, she caused problems, putting him in danger, herself in danger and causing a spy to get away. Later in the story Alice's sister-in-law didn't do what she had been told to do, and as a result she was taken hostage. This story used women's stupid actions to cause the conflicts and help the bad guys which I didn't like. I also didn't like the way Alice gave an ultimatum to Lucien that he stop trying to catch the bad guy, telling him to have someone else do the job.

Sexual language: strong. Number of sex scenes: three. Setting: 1814 London. Copyright: 2001. Genre: regency romance.

To date there are seven books in the Knight family series, of which I have read six, as follows. My review for *His Wicked Kiss* was posted to Amazon on 2/6/07. All the rest are posted on 5/26/08.

The Duke (4.5 stars)

Lord of Fire (2 stars)

Lord of Ice (3.5 stars)

Lady of Desire (4.5 stars)

Devil Takes a Bride (2 stars)

His Wicked Kiss (3 stars)
