



Sweet Home Highlander

Amalie Howard , Angie Morgan

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Lady Aisla Montgomery has a perfectly tolerable marriage...as long as her husband stays in Scotland and she in Paris. But now, years later, she wants only one thing—a divorce.

Niall Stuart Maclaren, the rugged Laird of Tarbendale rues the day he met his beautiful, conniving wife. Though the thought of her incites a bitter and biting fury, no other woman has ever stirred his blood as hotly. When Aisla returns to Scotland to sever ties, Niall agrees on one condition—one week with him for every year of desertion. Six weeks as his wife in his castle...in his bed...in exchange for her freedom.

Sweet Home Highlander Details

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Author : Amalie Howard , Angie Morgan

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From Reader Review Sweet Home Highlander for online ebook

books are love says

Received in exchange for a honest review.

What I like most about this book is how Aisla isn't what you expect for the time this takes place in. She is strong, independent, smart, feisty and mischievous. You can see that her heart is still hurting from her past with Niall but she is also frustrated at what is happening as well. She guards herself well and is very wary of Niall and really doesn't believe he has changed. I love the deviousness of Niall's mom.

Niall long ago had his heart broken. He has come to terms with his part in Aisla walking away and has changed since then. He works hard and is there for the people of his laird. He doesn't want handouts nor does he want sympathy. He just wants to work his land and mine and help his people. Only a wrinkle comes into his world and throws him off kilter.

Aisla must go back to face Niall and asks for him to let her go. This is where the fun begins. We can see the chemistry between these two ignite and spark the pages from the minute Aisla steps on his land but we also see the underlying anger and tension. Niall is angry she is back and why. Aisla is angry she has to be there and for his conditions to being set free. So she intends to make him miserable and win especially after what she overheard. What follows is some snarky banter, tension that sparks the pages, devious ways that have you smile at the antics between these two and a love that is being denied. Niall has changed so much since Aisla left but she doesn't want to see it for she is afraid. She doesn't want to feel hurt again. As she begins to see everything around her and learns about him and how he is with his people, her heart softens. But there is a mystery going on as well. someone is sabotaging Niall's mines. And it is getting more dangerous with each mishap. While Niall is dealing with this he is also dealing with his wife's antics to get him to secede and her win the bet on who succumbs to seduction first. Only Niall is just as devious and finds this side of Aisla invigorating and seductive.

Watching these two battle their attraction while relearning who each other is is fun and seductive. Seeing Niall do what those in love do so others can be happy is heartwarming and heartbreaking. The story is one full of fun times, devious moments, snarky banter but also so much entertainment in the banter and love. We see family that is close and help one another while also protecting those around them. a mystery that keeps you intrigued and a romance that entrances you to the end with characters you love and villains you want to see get their just due.

Lori D says

How often do we get a second chance at love? For Alisa and Niall, it could happen. Married young and then separated for six years (why you ask? will have to find out!) Aisla has been living in Paris and decided she wants to remarry, but has one problem. She must divorce her husband first. Returning to Scotland to confront Niall, she finds he is not as willing as she thought. The only way he will grant her the divorce is that she live with him as a wife for six weeks and then he will give her the freedom she is asking. That seems simple but there is so much more to this story. Mystery, humor and of course strong emotions that come to the surface as someone tries to harm Niall and his family. Will they be able to reconcile and love each other? A wonderful story not to be missed and cannot wait for more in this series!

Maggie Whitworth says

♥?♥?♥?♥?

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This is a really great series of books , that if you've not already reading , what are you waiting for?

They are descriptive and colourful, passionate and emotional, they are addictive and are a pleasure to read .

This is Niall and Aisla's story and is a great piece of writing.

I loved every page .

I received an advanced copy of this book and chose to submit a review

A Klue says

If you prefer more relationship angst than romance, well, you'll feel right at home in Sweet Home Highlander. Just be prepared to keep company with one huge mountain of muscle, knucklehead hero who will test your patience time and time again. Why? Well, he is quick to point the finger and blame at the heroine instead of himself, along with his fury and hurtful accusations. It takes this unforgiving hothead pretty much until the bitter end to realize he was the main reason things ended so badly between them six years ago.

Niall was his own worst enemy back then and through most of this book. To make a wager that is sure to hurt and humiliate Aisla, the heroine, had me seething with anger and resentment. For her to come up with her own kind of crazy that lowers herself to his level and ultimately likely to backfire was just as frustrating. Niall pushing her away and not fighting for love on at least three separate occasions speaks for itself.

Therefore, in that regard, I guess you could say they were perfect for each other. Either way, their hearts remained broken and neither one walked away feeling like the victor. That was what wrecked me, folks, seeing them carry around so much hurt and wishing things were different but not trusting one another to make it happen. Sadly, Niall was still too quick to listen to lies a subcharacter, who wanted them apart, spewed in order to manipulate him.

After some life-threatening, nail biting drama, you would think the blinders would finally be off. But, no, miscommunications and jumping to assumptions still got in the way. Fortunately, one of them swallows their pride and summons the courage to do what needs to be done.

With writing that flowed, I did keep reading to see how this toxic relationship would play out. Despite my frustration, I clung to the hope a groveling hero would finally surface and heal their relationship woes. Once I got some insight into their young, hasty marriage six years earlier, it was clear Niall's doubts, insecurities, and immaturity kept him from being the man he needed to be. The author certainly did put my heart through the wringer, as I watched this couple finally find forgiveness and move on with a love they profess never completely died. At least they both were celibate during their long separation.

Romance Safety Gang: (view spoiler)

Title: Sweet Home Highlander, Series: Tartans and Titans (Book 1), Author: Amalie Howard/Angie Morgan, Pages: 391, tons of relationship angst, angry, resentful, unforgiving, stubborn hero, almost dies, pushing away, misunderstandings, celibate during separation, OM wants to marry her, OW causes problems.

(I voluntarily read and reviewed an advanced reader copy of this book via NetGalley. All thoughts and

opinions are my own. I was not given any payment or compensation for this review, nor is there any affiliation or relationship between this reviewer and the author/publisher/NetGalley.)

Linda says

This was not a “happy” sort of story. The antagonism, and mistrust between Aisla and Niall is prevalent throughout the story until the end when all is finally resolved.

I actually liked both their characters. Aisla’s leaving him is a waking up call to Niall who then buckles down and finally mans up. He learns responsibility and turns his efforts to improving the lives & livelihood of his people and finds that he has talents that he never realized before – a skilled craftsman and inventor. But he is constantly driven and is not happy.

I have to admit my sympathies were with Aisla over their failed marriage. I did feel that the details behind their marriage was not fully explained – why Niall turned to drink and his seemingly abandonment of his young, lonely wife when they were supposedly so in love.

Copy gifted in exchange for an honest review

Dani (Dani Reviews Things & Love in a time of Feminism) says

TW: Alcoholism, miscarriage, hints of domestic abuse

So, something to know about me. I *love* Sweet Home Alabama. (I watch it almost every year.) Yet, somehow, it didn't dawn on me until a third of the way through that this book is Sweet Home Alabama, except set in 1820s Scotland. You'd think the name would tip me off, eh? So many things were similar, from the reason Aisla returns for a divorce so she can marry someone else to the way she slips right back into her old accent when worked up. I was *absolutely delighted*.

So the premise of the book is that two Scottish teens fell in love over the course of a few years, eloped, and then had a pretty bad start at life together. After a particularly terrible event, Aisla leaves, going to live with an aunt in Paris, where she stays for six years and befriends a Frenchman. Due to an arrangement with the Frenchman, she returns – with him in tow – to Scotland to seek a divorce, only to find that Niall is not quite the same man he was years before. And Niall will only agree to let her leave if she spends six weeks with him as his wife, not realising that he was biting off more than he could chew! Because Aisla isn't quite the same person either, and her fiery wit and stubborn strength shouldn't be underestimated.

I liked both Aisla and Niall as stars. Both showed tenacity and intelligence, though they had their flaws. Niall, especially, was particularly pigheaded, and too easily swayed by others at times. I could understand why Aisla left the first time, as Niall drank too much and didn't seem to understand or care about what she was going through, leaving her clan and being completely alone among his people. When tragedy hit them, he was particularly cruel, I think, though I understand that such events can affect people in different ways. But these flashbacks, while unflattering, were a good juxtaposition for who Aisla and Niall are now, both stronger but also more cynical.

While I adored Aisla and how strong she was, especially after what she went through, Niall really stood out

for me. My first boyfriend turned into an alcoholic, and it was horrible, so I did not warm at all to Niall's 18-year-old self. I was 100% on board with Aisla leaving. But who he became impressed me so much. He grew into a hardworking, highly talented, successful *laird*, not letting the fact that he was missing a hand stop him from being *amazing*. I loved that the authors included that detail but didn't let it define him or hold him back. And, as an extra bonus, he went out of his way to employ war veterans, people with disabilities, and widows. Hell yes. Naturally, the Scottish brogue didn't hurt either. *Swoon*.

Romance-wise, this was *delicious*. There was so much tension, so much pent up lust. I couldn't get enough. I longed for them to give into their desire, and each kiss (and more) was perfect. A 5-star read for me needs to get a visceral reaction out of me, and each act of physical intimacy did. I love reading romance novels on the train (knowing it's naughty makes it so much more fun), and I actually felt like it was *too much*, even though the acts themselves weren't that dirty. The authors managed to write quite vanilla sex scenes with so much heat that I almost had to close the book because I was almost reacting too much!

Also, a nice touch with regards to the romance, as I know that some people find this can make or break a second-chance romance... Neither Niall nor Aisla have feelings for others during those six years, be they romantic or sexual. I know this isn't very realistic, but in romantic fantasyland, I personally love this, as it shows just how meant-to-be they are. Which they 100000% are. <3

The verbal sparring and tangible chemistry between Niall and Aisla kept me coming back to the book for more. I went to bed late because I couldn't put it down, then got up later than I should have because I immediately picked it up when I awoke. I had to rush to work and was later than I intended. (Thank god for flexible hours.) I read during my lunch break. I read on the train. I was *hooked*, and I'm keeping my eye on Angie Morgan and Amalie Howard! A certain Frenchman needs his HEA, and I also want someone to knock Ronan over...

Read the first chapter on Love in a time of Feminism!

I voluntarily read and reviewed an advanced copy of this book. All thoughts and opinions are my own.

Brigitte says

Set in 1800s in Scotland, this is a second chance romance with treachery, jealousy, misunderstandings and love. Lost and found!

Niall and Aisla were introduced in the previous book where they were teenagers and madly in love. However, six years has passed since and things are very different.

Jealousy and conniving pulled this young couple apart and they went their separate ways. Aisla went to Paris whilst Niall has become a responsible and respected Laird.

Although, they are so far apart, they still have mixed feelings for each other. Love, hate and resentment. When Aisla receives a proposition from her best friend, Jules, she tells him about her past and they come back to Scotland in order for Niall to agree to a divorce.

She is no longer the naive girl who left those years ago, but her spirits remain. He has a successful business and has discovered a talent in craft. As expected, the first meeting doesn't go well. Aisla acts with indifference and Niall with contempt. They come to an agreement with conditions attached. Niall's condition is for Aisla to stay with him. He has revenge in mind, but she is not easily outwitted. It turns into an ongoing

mind game.

During that time, Aisla discovers that much have changed about Niall and he is stricken by her beauty, grace and confidence. The more reason to hate her! Underneath, they both still long for one another, but neither of them is prepared to give in. When they do, the green monster who has been lurking around steps in to tear them apart once more.

Niall and Aisla feel betrayed, and any hope of rekindling their relationship is shattered. Niall makes a rash decision which ironically enough, prompts the troublemaker to show her true colours. It then becomes apparent that she too has been played. Even though the signs of her devious actions were apparent, the extent of the damage done is totally unexpected. Although it has its reward, the twist here is heartbreaking and destructive. Is it too late for the damage to be repaired?

This story is compelling and captivating. The relationship between Niall and Aisla is full of different kinds of emotions, but the end is absolutely delightful.

I was kindly issued with an eARC and the views expressed are my personal opinion.

Melanie says

Sweet Home Highlander was a very enjoyable read and a great start to the *Tartans and Titans* series, a spin-off of the *Lords of Essex* series.

Lady Aisla Montgomery is happy with the life she's made for herself in Paris, so long as her husband, Niall Stuart Maclaren, remains in Scotland. However, after six years she must travel to Scotland to seek a divorce, meaning she will be forced to face the life and man she fled. Niall is shocked to find Aisla has returned and even more so when she asks for a divorce. Niall agrees to give her what she wants, but first he wants one week for every year she was gone.

Aisla grew from a woman unsure of herself into one who knows exactly what she wants and how to go about getting it. Aisla no longer allows anyone to push her around or try and talk her into doing something she doesn't want to do. I admired her willingness to do anything to help a friend in need even if I felt she held onto her promise longer than necessary when it became clear she shouldn't keep it.

Niall is the most changed character from who he was six years ago when he drank too much and never put forth any effort to do anything with his life. After giving up drinking, he bought a parcel of land and with the mines on the property, he is making something of himself when so many thought he wouldn't amount to anything. I enjoyed the inventions he created to help make up for his injury and liked the clever side of himself that so many never got to see.

Aisla and Niall's relationship perfectly combined two of my favorite romance tropes, hate to love and second chance romance. In their youth, Aisla and Niall were caught up in their whirlwind romance which likely led to them marrying too early in life. Aisla didn't know yet how to stand up for herself and Niall wasn't sure how to break free of the limitations his clan placed on him. Also at that time the two didn't communicate well which led to a number of issues between them. After six years apart, I feel like Aisla and Niall were perfect for each other as the more mature versions of themselves. Plus, they have great chemistry, fantastic banter, and the sexual tension was off the charts.

Throughout the story several characters from the authors' previous series are mentioned with a few of them

showing up here and there. It was nice hearing about some of the previous characters and getting a glimpse of their lives although reading the other series is not necessary for reading this one.

Sweet Home Highlander was a ton of fun to read and I'm looking forward to future books from this author duo as they've yet to disappoint.

I received an advance copy of this book from Netgalley and the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

Ira says

I really wanted Niall and Aisla to get back together because it is so very obvious that those two are in love despite everything that happened between them and I must admit that their lack of communication or sometimes even their malcommunication made me a bit mad. Fortunately, before they really made me mad, they started to talk and ...well.

This book pulled me in and kept me reading despite their lack of proper communication. I loved Niall and Aisla and hated those that tried to tear them apart - again. Actually, I really didn't understand that Niall didn't see any of that (okay, he is a man, so probably that explains it all). I also loved most of the minor characters and I can't wait to read Makenna's story which will hopefully follow (very) soon!

Back to Niall and Aisla though. This heartwarming and heart-breaking second chance story was written beautifully and comes along with lots of treachery, misunderstandings and pure viciousness which were perfectly balanced by true love, friendship and loyalty. A really nice story that I thoroughly enjoyed reading and I am already looking forward to the next book in this new series!

(One thing though - I was a bit upset because despite the fact that we read very often about the devastating effect that alcohol had on Niall's character (even though he himself doesn't really acknowledge it despite the fact that he never drinks anymore), he smells it and tastes it again without any effect. He even prides himself because of his strong character that would allow him to never really drink again, a sip or a glass would be okay, though. Okay, I know that in those times people didn't know anything about it but I know that it is not that easy to drink "just one glass" or "just one sip" if you have been addicted to alcohol and honestly, as often as he was seriously drunk, as much as he destroyed by his drinking, I consider him a former addict - and I wouldn't let him near any alcohol because the danger of a relapse is always there. I know, that has nothing to do with the book itself but having met quite a number of former addicts in my life, it feels wrong to accept that Niall just drinks - or not - without any danger of a relapse.)

Linda says

Niall McLaren love of his life is in Paris, pushed there, by no one other than him. Well not the Niall of now, but the Niall of six years ago drank too much, thought too little of himself and allowed jealousy to rule; so in a drunken state he sent Aisla away. They young passionate couple they were destroyed by an inability to talk to each other, communicate their feelings and cope with interfering people at McLaren keep, people seeking to destroy them.

Niall's brother Ronan takes him in hand and sobers him up and Niall spends the next six years becoming a better man, a wonderful laird to a keep given to him by his sister Sorcha from her dowry.

Niall has done just that but he still is missing what he wants the most his estranged wife Aisla Montgomery McLaren and his current mood is not being helped by his freinds and family who keep pushing him to go get her, but he has tried that before ; and only returned home to Scotland more broken hearted. So Niall is floored when Aisla returns to McLaren keep , but with an escort , a handsome escort Julian Leclerc. Niall may not be the young drunken man he was but controlling jealousy and old mistrust are harder to get past however the immediate longing and passion both feel for each other on sight is unmistakable; perhaps this is a second chance at making their marriage work. However , Aisla's return is not for that but to secure a divorce, but to get one it will have to be on Nial's terms. Love as his wife for six weeks. One for each year separated , the bet makes for n intresting story line , then add to that old foes seeking to wreak additional havoc mKes for a too sh turvey reunion , with sexy times , true moments of clarity , of love that is unfortunately always in danger of collapse between to stubborn people both carrying baggage . It may take some time but a HEA is in the readers future .

Cathy Geha says

Sweet Home Highlander by Amalie Howard and Angie Morgan
Tartans and Titans #1

Historical romance set in Scotland with a second chance at romance theme for Niall and Aisla proved to me that what is usually wrong with a relationship in the beginning is often a problem later on or should the two get back together again.

Both hero and heroine seemed a bit lame brained at times and had me scratching my head thinking they must be daft or not have thought things through before saying or doing what they said or did. I wondered about their getting together the first time even though I kind of remembered older brother Ronan confronting Niall over his drinking...wanted a few more details about the beginning and that might have helped me understand why they were still so in love with one another even if unwilling to communicate with one another.

The two did get their happily ever after eventually. Evil was thwarted. There is an intriguing side story that has me wondering if Julien and Makenna might end up together or at least find their own HEA together or with someone else. And I also wonder if Ronan will eventually find a bride.

I enjoyed the story but wished that Niall and Aislin had communicated more openly and thus avoided the angst and drama they seemed to have to deal with. I have told friends that to make a marriage work there needs to be communication, commitment and trust...these two had a problem with these throughout the book...I do hope they get things right after the book ends.

Thank you to NetGalley and Entangled Publishing – Amara for the ARC – This is my honest review.

3-4 Stars

April says

Sweet Home Highlander by Amalie Howard and Angue Morgan is #1 in ",Tartans and Titans" new series

Great beginning to what promises to be a great new series. Lady Aisla Montgomery and Niall Stuart Maclaren, the rugged Laird of Tarbendale's, story is entertaining, compelling and intriguing. Their witty banter, their bitter partakes, and their growing attraction makes them an enjoyable couple. I enjoyed the fact that Niall had a disability, which the authors did a wonderful job conveying this fact to readers. It did not hold him back from life nor his circumstances. They also handled Aisla's reaction with care that left Niall's dignity intact. It was easy to forget about his disability, although, some people underestimated him due to his disability. He shows them how unwise that can be.

Steady paced, well written with exciting and engaging characters. The storyline was unpredictable, intriguing, adventurous, with danger, turmoil and finding a HEA.

I truly love Scottish Romance, Medieval romance, brawl highlanders, feisty lasses and unpredictable stories. These authors did a great job with this story, I thought. I look forward to reading more from these authors and reading the next adventure in this intriguing series.

I received a complimentary copy, however all opinions are my own.

Jennifer Trethewey says

I adore resurrected marriage stories and this one goes to the top of my list. Lady Aisla Montgomery has lived the last six years the toast of Paris while her husband, she assumes, continues to drink and wench at his castle in Scotland. She married for love the first time. Perhaps marrying for friendship would work better the second time. But first, she must return to Scotland and ask her husband for a divorce. Little does she know, Niall Maclaren has cleaned up his act, but he is bitter and determined to get a bit of his own back. He'll agree to the divorce if she spends six weeks as his wife without succumbing to his charms. He probably should have thought that one through better. Ha! I loved this book and I adored Aisla and Niall. I especially loved Aisla's French suitor, Julien. I expect loads of great stories to come from the Howard and Morgan writing team!

Heather Andrews says

Sometimes Niall needs to be shut up by the only way his woman knows how, "all this time, I thought..." Aisla kissed him, so he wouldn't have to finish his sentence..." Niall loves to tease his lady, "what do ye expect looking the way ye do, lass? I'm only a man after all." His voice had gone low and husky. "Dunnae fash, we'll be doing a different kind of dancing later." I liked this book, I loved Niall.

Marissa Clarke says

I was lucky enough to read an early version of Sweet Home Highlander. Howard and Morgan are off to a great start to a new series. Though slightly darker than the last book of theirs I read, I enjoyed every page of it. I adored Aisla and Niall and rooted for them the entire time. Looking forward to book 2 in Tartans and Titans.
