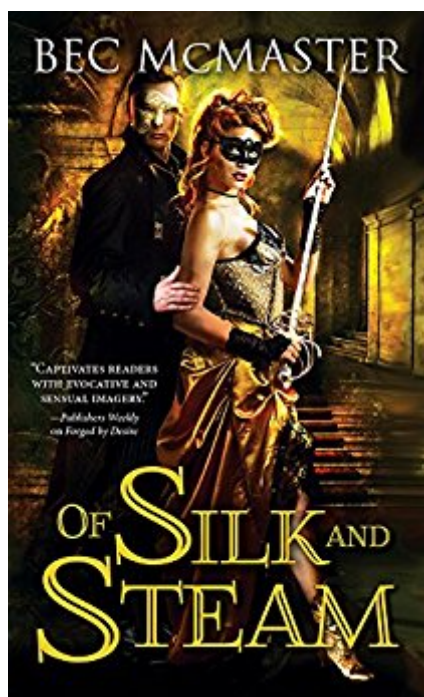


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Of Silk And Steam (London Steampunk Book 5)



Synopsis

RT Book Reviews 2015 Reviewers Choice Award Winner for Best Steampunk Romance
In the mist-shrouded streets of a steam-fueled London, a clockwork army is on the rise, vampire blue bloods rule the streets, and war is brewing...When her beloved father was assassinated, Lady Aramina swore revenge. The man responsible is well beyond her grasp, but his dangerously seductive heir, Leo Barrons, is fair game. When Mina obtains evidence proving that Leo is illegitimate, she has the means to destroy both the killer and his son, a man who troubles her heart and tempts her body. A woman of mystery, Mina's long driven Leo crazy with glimpses of a fiery passion that lurks beneath her icy veneer. He knows she's hiding something, and he's determined to unravel her layer by silken layer. He just doesn't expect the beautiful liar to be the key to overthrowing the corrupt prince consort...or to saving his own carefully walled-off heart.

London Steampunk series: Kiss of Steel Heart of Iron My Lady Quicksilver Forged by Desire Of Silk and Steam
Praise for Bec McMaster: "Action, adventure, steampunk, and blazing hot seduction...Bec McMaster offers it all."-Eve Silver, author of Sins of the Flesh for Kiss of Steel "Deftly blends elements of Steampunk and vampire romance with brilliantly successful results...darkly atmospheric and delectably sexy."-Booklist Starred Review for Kiss of Steel "Edgy, dark, and shot through with a grim, gritty intensity, McMaster's latest title adds to her mesmerizing steampunk series with another gripping, inventive stunner."-Booklist, starred review for Heart of Iron "Rich, dramatic, romantic, and dangerous..."-Publishers Weekly for Of Silk and Steam

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Customer Reviews

Bec McMaster's LONDON STEAMPUNK series was my first experience with this particular Science Fiction subgenre, and I vividly remember being completely taken with this author's romantic writing style and alternate British Victorian era universe. After the first two installments, I found that the plot sputtered slightly, and then began its decline with FORGED BY STEEL. I briefly considered skipping OF SILK AND STEAM until I read the blurb, and realized that this was going to be Lady Aramina's story, the only female councilor among the Echelon. This novel triumphantly rekindled my love of this world, and its characters in one fell swoop. The leading plot arc reaches its zenith in book 5, and what a beautiful thing it was! I enjoyed the way that the Blue Blood's political conspiracies developed side-by-side Mina & Leo's relationship, and that both threads held a comparable amount of intrigue. It's difficult to analyze these two aspects much further without giving anything away, and I don't want to mar McMaster's coup de grâce, but I will go so far as to confirm that the rookeries, humanist mouvement, Council of Dukes, Ivory Tower, and Nighthawks powerhouses all clash. Readers have been getting small peeks at the Duke of Caine's heir throughout this series, and the Duchess of Casavian as well, although to a lesser degree because of her Ice Queen persona. I delighted in getting to know both of their characters on a deeper level; Mina's position within the Echelon was hard won, so her unwillingness to trust was logical, especially given her mysterious alliances. Barrons was more of an open book; I liked how he matched his lady's gumption tit for tat, and stayed true to his course regardless of the obstacles of which there were many.

Steampunk Romance: who knew? What started out as a mistaken click, may very well have opened a whole new romance world for me! I absolutely loved Of Silk and Steam. Something of a hybrid between a historical, paranormal and a science-fiction romance, Steampunk Romance combines the best of many of the romance sub-genres that I enjoy, with the added benefit of bestowing it all in one convenient package. Intrigue, suspense, romance, creativity, unpredictable twists and turns and, lots of "steamy" passion! Of course the London Steampunk world also contains steam-powered machinery, in this case somewhat akin to fighting robots, and is set in an alternate version of the

19th Century British Victorian era, which are the signature traits of Steampunk Romance. The combination of all these fantastic factors turned *Of Silk and Steam* into a magical, mesmerizing read for me. I just couldn't get enough of this book which I devoured in just a couple of sittings. First off, I think it is worth noting that this series is meant to be read in order, as the underlying world continues to evolve over each sequential read. That said, as Ms. McMaster does a fantastic job of retelling the prior history, I had no trouble following the plot or understanding the players and the underlying political conflict, notwithstanding that I have not read any of the prior books. Moreover, the romance is completely contained within this book, as each book primarily focuses on a different couple. However, reading the series out of order, means that there are spoilers from the prior books that have already been revealed should you later choose to go back and read the prior books.

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