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A Spring Deception (Seasons Book 2)



Synopsis

The second book in the next historical romance series coming soon from USA Today Bestselling Romance Author Jess Michaels Miss Celia Fitzgilbertâ™s grandfather has decreed she must marry a man with a title or heâ™ll never reveal her mysterious fatherâ™s identity. But her engagement to an Earl was already broken, leaving her steeped in scandal. She has all but given up until the reclusive Duke of Clairemont returns to Society and sweeps her off her feet, a potential solution to all her problems. But things are not so simple for the duke. Aiden is not comfortable with his position in Society, perhaps because he is a fraud. In truth, Clairemont died months ago and the man playing him is a spy, bent on uncovering a dangerous secret. A flirtation with Celia, meant to help him fit in, quickly turns very real. But can Celia recover when the lies come out? And can Aiden keep them both alive long enough to even consider a future? Length: Full-length novel Sensuality level: Hot and steamy This book can be read as a stand-alone novel, but is part of a series (Seasons).

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"He had set the wheels in motion for the next phase of his investigation. And for her heartbreak, no matter how successfully this case ended." FINAL DECISION: This was a book that slowly built the relationship between the hero and heroine. By the time the book ended, I adored them as a

couple. **THE STORY:** Celia Fitzgilbert is recovering socially from a broken engagement when she meets the reclusive Duke of Clairemont. There is something special between them from the moment they meet. Celia is thrilled that she might actually find a man she can love. But the Duke of Clairemont is actually an imposter who is masquerading as the duke to uncover a murderous traitor. **OPINION:** This one quietly crept up on me as a book I really enjoyed. There was a bit of suspense in determining what happened to the real duke and also the story behind the hero. What I loved best was that while the two were falling in love under false pretenses, the truth is that both had things to hide. When the hero's secret is revealed, Celia is shocked and upset but then realizes that there is much she can forgive. The sweetness of their story after the big reveal made me love the romance between these two. Everything seems hopeless and yet there is still a possibility for a happy ending. Best of all, there is no magic wand at the end. These two have to live with challenges because of the hero's past but love makes all of it worthwhile. I liked Celia as a character. She is pragmatic and willing to forgive when I expected drama when the deceit is revealed. To have the man she falls in love with go from a duke to a not-duke might be expected to make a woman despair about all she has lost.

I have read pretty much all of Jess Michaels books, but this one has been by far my favorite!! definitely recommend reading the first book "An Affair in Winter" first. You will understand and appreciate Celia and how sweet she is. It's also nice having her sister and all the other characters revisited. Reading this book right after the first novel just blended the storyline together so perfectly! Celia and her sister are in search for her real father. It means more to Celia than anyone really knows. She has gone through scandal yet the ton has kept quiet, due to her sister's marriage. But the very beginning of this book drew me in right from the first page. Mystery, murder, deceit, scandal and passion makes this an amazing read. The reclusive Duke of Clairmont is a man full of inner pain and Celia picks up on it right away. When they meet, sparks fly and oh how he says and does all the right things to make your toes curl! For example-a little excerpt that made me fall in love with this alpha male at 21% into book. Mind you I am cutting out some of the author's writing to keep this short: "Are you offering, Celia?" He asked, his voice softer, rougher, "to save me". She licked her lips and whispered "if I knew how I would". He nodded slowly. "I believe you would". He cupped her cheek in one big palm. As he inched closer, making her aware of only him, consuming the space around her. "I might even believe you could," he said, bending his head. His lips brushed over hers. Awww, he had all the right moves! Excellent book! Much passion, romance, kisses, love, danger, adventure... I could go on and on. Yes, this was definitely my favorite book. Jess Michaels is

brilliant with words.

I absolutely loved this book. It picks up the tale of the two Fitzgilbert ladies a few months after 'An Affair in Winter' (which is about Rosalind and Gray) and follows Celia, Rosalind's sister. After her broken engagement to Stenfax (Gray's brother - you should really read the first book!), Celia is returning to Society, keenly aware that her every move is observed. At a ball, she meets Aiden, the reclusive Duke of Clairemont, a man who stirs her senses in a way Stenfax never did. Despite this, Celia is wary of becoming involved, concerned that Society will think her title hungry if she is courted by a Duke, so soon after the scandal. Thankfully, Aiden seems to reciprocate her feelings - but, as usually happens when matters of the heart are at stake - all is not quite as it seems. Aiden is actually John Dane, an extremely skilled undercover agent who, coincidentally, looks rather similar to the Duke. Said Duke, by the way has been murdered - a murder that has already occurred as we are introduced to John/Aiden, right at the beginning of the book! Owing to this similarity, Aiden is charged with taking on the role of Clairemont, to try to flush out a traitor. A love that is founded on deceit could so easily falter, but let's face it, life isn't always an smooth journey and sometimes we are faced with what seem to be insurmountable obstacles. It is how we chose to tackle them that makes us better people. This was where Celia's strength of will came to the fore and it emboldened her to talk to Aiden more openly than maybe a woman of her position should do and later to trust him when one of those obstacles threaten to undo her. It may not be enough, however, when secrets are revealed. As for Aiden, well he is just the cat's pyjamas.

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