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The Lost Heiress (Ladies Of The Manor Book #1)



Synopsis

Roseanna White Debuts Sparkling British Historical Romance Brook Eden has never known where she truly belongs. Though raised in the palace of Monaco, she's British by birth and was brought to the Grimaldis under suspicious circumstances as a babe. When Brook's friend Justin uncovers the fact that Brook is likely a missing heiress from Yorkshire, Brook leaves the sun of the Mediterranean to travel to the moors of the North Sea to the estate of her supposed family. The mystery of her mother's death haunts her, and though her father is quick to accept her, the rest of the family and the servants of Whitby Park are not. Only when Brook's life is threatened do they draw close--but their loyalty may come too late to save Brook from the same threat that led to tragedy for her mother. As heir to a dukedom, Justin is no stranger to balancing responsibilities. When the matters of his estate force him far from Brook, the distance between them reveals that what began as friendship has grown into something much more. But how can their very different loyalties and responsibilities ever come together? And then, for a second time, the heiress of Whitby Park is stolen away because of the very rare treasure in her possession--and this time only the servants of Whitby can save her.

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Customer Reviews

Brook Eden is just 18 when she finds she is actually the Baroness of Berkeley. She has always thought her mother was a singer who had ties to the Prince of Monaco. The Prince and Brook were very close as she grew up. When Brook learns this good news, she journeys to England to meet with the father she has never known. Brook and her mother had been in a carriage accident that took her mother's life and Brook was taken away and not seen again. Her father has tried for years to find her. Several young women have tried to claim that they are the true daughter only to be turned away after a time. Justin Wildon has been a friend to Brook for many years. His father is the heir to the Duke of Stafford in England. However, his father does not care for the weather of England and prefers living in Monte Carlo where he can gamble and live his life drinking and partying. But when Justin's father dies in a car crash and soon after his grandfather dies, Justin returns to his family home in North Yorkshire, England to become the next Duke of Stafford. When Brook arrives in England and meets her father, he is very loving and sure that she is his lost daughter. However, not every one of the extended family members, and some of the servants are not convinced that Brook is the lost daughter. They have been fooled before by other pretenders and can't help but be skeptical of Brook. Justin and Brook continue to be friends and support one another. Soon, that friendship begins to turn an attraction much deeper than friendship. But danger lurks because someone is in search of an extremely valuable possession in the family. When attacks on Brook begin, fear increases and events from the past are about to explode.

I have never read anything from Roseanna White. I have seen her books, but they were very historical looking covers with the lady in the long dress and the ships in the background. I didn't feel any urge to pick them up and buy them. But with her newest release *The Lost Heiress* by Bethany House publishers, I loved the image of Brook on the cover and the synopsis on the back sounded intriguing. So I picked up a copy. White does a good job at creating the historical time period with the descriptive words. I enjoyed the struggle the characters had with the differences between driving the new automobiles or riding their horses. It made me wonder if I would have had the same dilemma if I lived in 1910. One of White's greatest strengths, in my humble opinion, is her ability to paint a picture with her words. I really felt like I was roaming Brook's father's home and riding the horse through the back pasture. Her attention to detail really drew me in. The conflict surrounding the red diamond aka Fire Eyes grabbed my attention. I wanted to know as much as Brook did why she didn't live with her father after her mother died. I kept waiting for the journal to explain, but after finishing the complete novel and writing this review, I

realized that White never explained why Brook went to live with the opera singer's family. Why didn't she return home? There was a mention of a newspaper article sent to her mother. I don't know if this was what White wanted to satisfy that question, but it didn't work for me. As an avid fan of suspense, this mystery seemed alright. It didn't leave me begging for more and staying up all night to read, but fans of lighter mysteries might enjoy this one. The characters weren't that two dimensional. I really didn't relate to either of them.

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