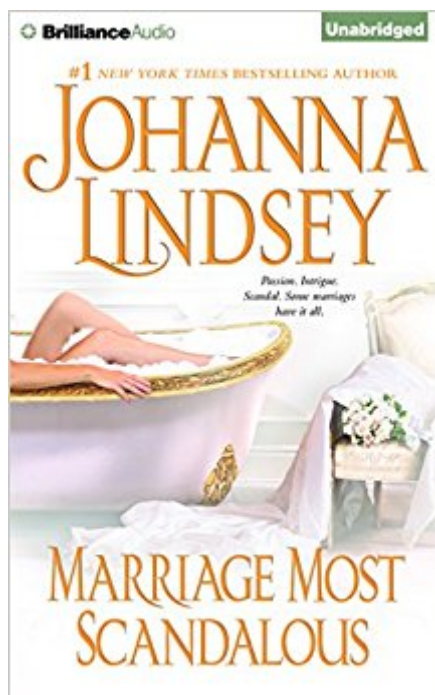


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# Marriage Most Scandalous



## Synopsis

Lady Margaret Landor first met Sebastian Townshend as a child, when he caught her peeking into her older sister's engagement ball. Tall, dashing, and charming, Sebastian was one of the most sought-after bachelors in Kent and cut a romantic figure she would not soon forget. Never did she dream that one day she would be living at his family's magnificent estate with Sebastian's father, the eighth Earl of Edgewood, as her guardian and Sebastian banished from his family due to the tragic results of a duel. When life at Edgewood takes a sinister turn with the earl suffering a suspicious number of life-threatening accidents, Margaret wonders if Sebastian's younger brother and his wife have grown impatient to inherit the earldom. Setting out to find the one man she believes can set the situation to rights, she discovers that Sebastian Townshend has forged a new identity for himself on the continent. Now known as The Raven, a deadly mercenary, notorious for accomplishing any mission no matter how seemingly impossible, he has vowed never to return to England. Not until Margaret meets his outrageous monetary demands does Sebastian agree to return home, reluctantly posing as her husband in order to facilitate his return to society. When he learns she cannot afford to pay his fee, he suggests a scandalous trade. As Margaret and Sebastian work to uncover the intrigue at his father's estate, a fierce passion blooms that neither of them anticipated and neither can resist. But can Margaret persuade Sebastian to abandon the dark path he believes is his fate and claim the life and love he deserves? Breathtaking in scope and wondrously passionate, *Marriage Most Scandalous* is Johanna Lindsey at her finest.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Plot twists abound in this melodramatic tale of revenge, families torn asunder and (of course) true love. Set in Regency England, the story opens as Sebastian Townshend, the heir to an earldom, reluctantly takes part in a duel with his best friend. After unintentionally killing the man, Sebastian, now disinherited by his father, leaves England and adopts a new identity as a brooding mercenary called the Raven. Sebastian's Raven persona is so over the top that it's almost laughable (at one point, he fells two burly bodyguards merely by knocking their heads together), but Lindsey (A Loving Scoundrel, etc.) gives her hero enough magnetism, sexual appeal and human flaws to make his romance with 23-year-old bluestocking Margaret Landor believable. Margaret has hired Sebastian to investigate the truth behind the numerous "accidents" that have befallen his father, who also served as Margaret's guardian. To carry out this assignment, Sebastian returns to England, pretending to be Margaret's husband. When they arrive, a series of clues keep the young couple hopping, while their passions lead them to consummate their pretend marriage. One might quibble that the story's final twist comes out of nowhere and that the protagonists are really modern characters in Regency guise, but Lindsey writes with such gusto and warmth that her legions of readers are unlikely to object. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Margaret Landor spent months searching Europe for Sebastian Townshend, who disappeared from England 11 years ago after accidentally killing his best friend in a duel. Unsuccessful in her quest, Margaret decides to hire the notorious, ruthless, "satisfaction guaranteed" mercenary known as the Raven to find Sebastian. Then, much to her surprise, she discovers that the Raven is none other than Sebastian himself. Despite the fact that Sebastian vowed to never again set foot in England, Margaret tricks him into accompanying her back home to look into the series of mysterious "accidents" that have been plaguing his father, the earl of Edgewood. Long since disowned by his family and friends, Sebastian will need some means of entree into his former world, so when Margaret suggests that they pretend to be married, he reluctantly agrees. The only flaw in the plan is that neither one expected they would want to stay married for real. Lindsey deftly mixes danger and sensual sizzle in a quicksilver plot before neatly wrapping up her subtly witty, deliciously sexy historical romance with a clever twist. John Charles Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Johanna Lindsey's books are very formulaic. Sometimes that's not a bad thing when I'm just looking for a quick reading escape, but other times it can be dull. I found that this book was more in the

latter category. I didn't really care that much about the hero; although, I did find the heroine fun to read. So overall it was okay.

I have always enjoyed Johanna Lindsey's books and this one did not disappoint. I was enraptured with the story from start to finish and was excited that I was not expecting the ending the way it played out. Usually I can solve a mystery by half way and in this book I was just in shock as the characters. It was a wonderful surprise.

I love, love, love this story of heartbreak, love and redemption! The characters are all so well written and the plot line moves right along so that you never want to stop reading. Another example of this author's genius!

Full of surprises! Love these stories. Lindsey creates characters that you remember and romances that last. I've been reading her stories for years and have never been disappointed.

When I first started reading romance novels, it was because my mom was reading all of Johanna Lindsey's novels when she was younger. I thoroughly enjoy the books she writes. I see some negativity on here, but to be fair, as romance books come out, stories often repeat certain things that happen, I appreciate the characters and who they were. I enjoyed it a lot, even if there were some repeating situations.

I've read several books by this author in the past, and have generally enjoyed her story ideas and writing style. But this one was much too convoluted. Felt like the initial idea was good, but it seemed as though the author started writing the book without plotting out the ending, wrote herself into a corner, and then had to scramble to write herself out of the mess she'd made, without much success. The romance between the two main characters was rushed, and while I could accept that they were attracted to each other, I never for a moment felt they were in love.

Ever since the day he was disowned by his father by a duel that went horribly wrong, Sebastion has never set foot in England. He has also never worked for a woman before either. But he ends up doing both when a former neighbor hires him into looking at some accidents Sebastion's father has been having. She is convinced that Denton or his wife Juliette is the one responsible. Is this Sebastion's chance to heal the rift with his father or is it already too late? And will a pretend

marriage between Sebastian and Maggie become the real thing?

This is a great story from a master story-teller. Sebastian kills his best friend in a duel and is disowned by his father. Eleven years later, little Margaret, all grown up now, comes to France to bring him home to investigate strange accidents that have happened to his estranged father. Pretending to be married, they embark on investigations, stir the fires of the old scandals, and solve the problems with an unexpected twist. Excellent story.

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