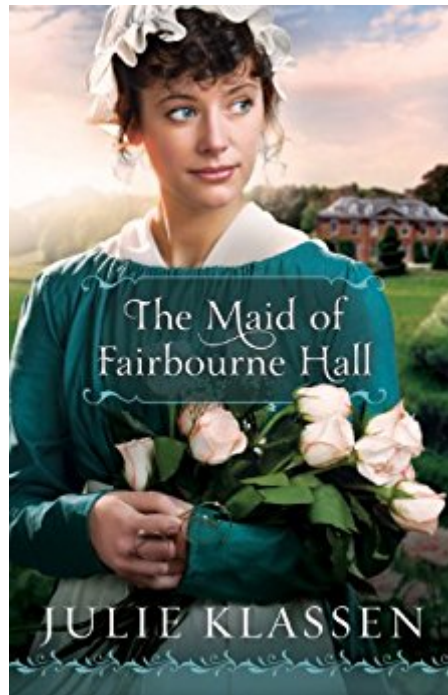




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The Maid Of Fairbourne Hall



Synopsis

Regency Romance and Mystery from Bestselling Author Julie Klassen Pampered Margaret Macy flees London in disguise to escape pressure to marry a dishonorable man. With no money and nowhere else to go, she takes a position as a housemaid in the home of Nathaniel Upchurch, a suitor she once rejected in hopes of winning his dashing brother. Praying no one will recognize her, Margaret fumbles through the first real work of her life. If she can last until her next birthday, she will gain an inheritance from a spinster aunt--and sweet independence. But can she remain hidden as a servant even when prying eyes visit Fairbourne Hall? Observing both brothers as an "invisible" servant, Margaret learns she may have misjudged Nathaniel. Is it too late to rekindle his admiration? And when one of the family is nearly killed, Margaret alone discovers who was responsible. Should she come forward, even at the risk of her reputation and perhaps her life? And can she avoid an obvious trap meant to force her from hiding? On her journey from wellborn lady to servant to uncertain future, Margaret must learn to look past appearances and find the true meaning of "serve one another in love."

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Customer Reviews

I liked the premise of this book, and liked even more that the heroine actually grew up in the book and her world view changed. A few points to know, the heroine needs just 3 months of safety until she reaches her birthday and can then get her inheritance and not have to worry about her step father trying to marry her off to his nephew so he can control the money. The hero of the story is a man who seems to have lived under his older brother's shadow. Considering his older brother will one day have a title, this isn't something that is shocking, so the younger brother (the hero) has known from a young age he is going to have to make his own way in the world, so he has been trying to become a good business man, and for the most part succeeding despite the objections by his father, and his brother's attempt to just keep spending money they don't have. The hero and heroine meet about 2-3 years before the book starts out and are courting, then the heroine meets the hero's older brother and throws him over for the title. However, the older brother is just a flirt and has no intention of having any honorable intentions towards any woman for a very long time. Unfortunately for the heroine she doesn't realize this for a very long time because she is basically a vain and self absorbed woman until she overhears her step father telling his nephew to get her consent to wed her even if he has to compromise her to do it. Now the hero's older brother probably would have helped her through marriage if he had known about the inheritance but the heroine's mother and father (real one not the step father) decided not to let it be known because they didn't want to deal with fortune hunters. They also figured because of her beauty her getting married wouldn't be a problem. So the heroine runs away with a maid who has just been sacked, because the heroine stole money and the maid was blamed, but since the heroine can't go back she basically screws the maid over (like I said the woman was vain and self absorbed and really only cared about herself, her brother and sister and her mother, everyone else could go hang) because heroine will not tell the truth. But she does write the maid a glowing reference that allows her to get a job. Through a series of events that I will not get into, the heroine ends up working in the house of the hero as a maid, it is very grueling work, and since the heroine has never worked a day in her life, this is a very new experience, which also opens her eyes to how servants are treated and how thankless their jobs are. During this experience she really starts to change and becomes a more compassionate person towards others and starts to put their comforts above her own. She also learns while at the house just how unworthy the older brother is and how worthy the younger brother is. She realizes that she has probably burned the bridge with the younger brother, but still holds out hope that maybe one day he will be able to forgive her and get back together. This is a christian book and I didn't feel the characters had to force this, it was part of their being, even if they weren't

necessarily good christians (I mean who is?) but you could tell they sincerely wanted to follow Christ, just sometimes were at a loss. I really enjoyed this book, and I would recommend it for anyone who enjoys a good christian based historical novel, with a little bit of romance thrown in.

I enjoyed this Story so very much . Loved the scriptures used and the short stories before a chapter . I loved the lesson learned by the Heroine. I loved the suspense . I had to read this Book with only a few interruptions , because I could not put it down. I had to find out what was to happen next. I very much liked the Hero in this Book and his love for the Heroine of this Story and I loved his honourable behaviour .

This is definitely one of my favorite books by Julie Klassen. Margaret/Nora started out in the book as someone who needed a crash course in sympathy and kindness for others. It was great to see how she evolved into a more compassionate person. Lewis sounds like a Playboy of his era. Nathaniel and Helen are much more levelheaded. All in all, it was a great book.

The simple fact that I started the book this morning and tonight have finished its peaks volumes. :) Klassen weaves a wonderful storyline that ensnares you from the onset and holds you right through to the finish. A sweet, clean story full of awkward moments that left me giggling aloud in some moment and had me talking out loud to characters in others - she had me engaged! Love watching our heroine grow up and loved watching our hero's true character become known. A light, enjoyable read that will leave you smiling :) And yes, being a Downton Abbey fan definitely helped this book strike the right chord! ;)

IN! Julie Klassen's books always get me sucked in within the first few pages. And this story was no exception and an easy read for the day. Yes.... I couldn't put it down and have accomplished nothing else today besides reading this book and now I'm sad because it's over. Would have loved for the story to continue just a little bit more. ã ã ã^ã

A young woman needed to learn a few things before she would be able to value and love a man who also had to go through personal and tough experiences, for him to be attractive to the woman of his dreams. AND Klassen is indeed to be respected for her thorough research, which makes the reading such a delight. This is not "just" a romance, this is a story of real people interacting on many levels. Never a dull moment whether you follow the H or h or other characters. The setting is

trustworthy and with enough detail to get your "inner-movie" going. Loved the description of the hiring market in Maidstone.

This was a clean kind a slow to read book, nonetheless I persevered and was pleasantly surprised about some of the characters will read more from this author.

I like the concept of the story. Very fun and entertaining to read I love good clean stories and learning about history and past ways of life.

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