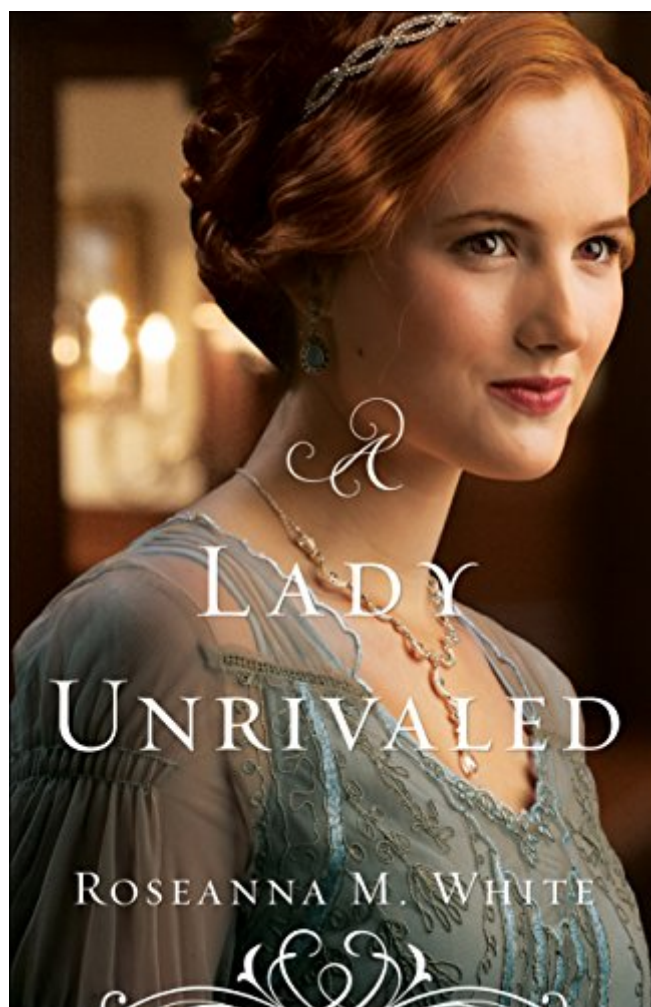


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A Lady Unrivaled (Ladies Of The Manor Book #3)



Synopsis

White Is Quickly Becoming the Top Name in Edwardian Romance Lady Ella Myerston can always find a reason to smile--even if it's just in hope that tomorrow will be better than today. All her life everyone has tried to protect her from the realities of the world, but Ella knows very well the danger that has haunted her brother and their friend, and she won't wait for it to strike again. She intends to take action . . . and if that happens to involve an adventurous trip to the Cotswolds, then so much the better. Lord Cayton has already broken two hearts, including that of his first wife, who died before he could convince himself to love her. Now he's determined to live a better life. But that proves complicated when old friends arrive on the scene and try to threaten him into a life of crime. He does his best to remove the intriguing Lady Ella from danger, but the stubborn girl won't budge. How else can he redeem himself, though, but by saving her--and his daughter--from those dangerous people who seem ready to destroy them all?

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Customer Reviews

A Lady Unrivaled is the third book in Roseanna M. White's Ladies of the Manor series, coming after The Lost Heiress and The Reluctant Duchess. I am a HUGE fan of Roseanna's, and this

series to be honest, so I've been super excited for this book for quite some time. I absolutely LOVED The Lost Heiress, and even though I hardly believed it possible, I loved The Reluctant Duchess even more, so I just knew I would love this novel as well. And I must confess, I most definitely wasn't disappointed. I already loved both Lord Cayton and Lady Ella, so I knew it wouldn't be hard to fall for their story, and I was right. If only this book had lasted longer! Lady Ella Myerston is such a sweet, innocent, spitfire of a character, and I absolutely love everything about her. She is so set on keeping her brother and his wife safe that she completely disregards her own safety, and that is definitely something to admire. But my absolute favorite thing about her is actually not entirely just about her. My favorite thing is her relationship with Cayton. They are literally the cutest thing, and I couldn't get enough of the two of them. Lord James Cayton is completely and utterly wonderful. That's all I can think to say. Even though I know he doesn't have the best past, and is actually very hard on himself because of it, I can definitely see that he is redeeming himself, and I couldn't help but love him and feel so much compassion for him as he struggled to finally forgive himself for all he had done. Plus, as I watched him fall in love with Ella, my heart was completely taken over, and if I wasn't already sure of his perfection, I certainly was after that.

Have you ever been in that place where you really want to read a book because you know it's going to be wonderful while at the same time you really don't want to because you don't want it to end? That's exactly how I felt as I read *A Lady Unrivalled*, the third and final installment in Roseanna M. White's *Ladies of the Manor* series. Readers met Lady Ella Myerston briefly in *The Lost Heiress* and got to know her more in *The Reluctant Duchess*. Now she gets her own story. Loved. This. Book. The bubbly, optimistic personality of Ella perfectly offsets the negative, surly, taciturn (see how I got that *Pride & Prejudice* reference in there?) attitudes of Lord Cayton (who also made appearances in the previous books in this series). Catching up with the Duke and Duchess of Stafford (Justin and Brook) was a treat, and Brice and Rowena (Duke and Duchess of Nottingham) also make an appearance. The heart of this story is in the personal journeys of both Ella and Cayton. After Ella's best friend went mad, she doesn't trust her instincts. How could she not have noticed Stella losing her mind over Ella's brother? And Cayton's past traps him. Though he strives to become a better man, he is constantly concerned about returning to his old ways and he's absolutely certain he's not deserving of someone as good and pure as Lady Ella. Through a scheme to rid both the Staffords and Nottinghamams of the curse of the Fire Eyes (red diamonds from India), Ella and Cayton's time together grows their attractions. While Ella's

determined to push past pretending, Cayton's set on keeping both feet firmly planted in the facade. This book is the perfect ending to the trilogy.

Oh, how I have enjoyed this series! Roseanna White has captured the elegance of the Edwardian era beautifully in both her characters and the setting, and added a wonderful flavour of romance and suspense besides. I'm not sure what more a reader could ask for! After reading the previous book in this series, the Duke of Nottingham became one of my favourite literary heroes ever (yes, right up there with Gilbert Blythe and Mr. Darcy!) but I now find myself thinking it must run in the family. Lady Ella Myerston positively sparkles in this novel "in a refined, English way, of course!" and I can't help borrowing Jane Austen's words about her own heroine, Elizabeth Bennet: "I must confess that I think her as delightful a character as ever appeared in print, and how I shall tolerate those who do not like her at least, I do not know." Lord Cayton, on the other hand, tries very hard not to sparkle - something that only encourages Lady Ella in her light-hearted banter! Now a widower and a single father, he has genuinely turned his back on the man he used to be, but his new faith is untested, and there is no way he is going to be responsible for Lady Ella being hurt, either physically or emotionally. In the hands of some authors, Lord Cayton's attempts to be surly and disagreeable in Lady Ella's company could have been overdone and grating, but here they provided some of the most enjoyable scenes in the novel, not to mention one of my favourite "first kiss" and "declaration of love" scenes ever! The latter stopped my heart at one point, it was so beautiful! As for the Fire Eyes, the intrigue in this novel is two-fold.

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