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Passionate Secrets (The Secret Trilogy Book 2)



Synopsis

Victorian Romance. Michael Drury, Viscount Weston, treats life like a business, shunning personal connections at all costs to avoid the passion that ultimately destroyed his parents. Discovering drab governess Emma Grisby in his library is a shock, especially since her uncle appears to have risen from the grave with deadly intent. He suspects her of working with her uncle and devises a scheme to watch her. Desperate to aid her family, Emma reluctantly agrees to Michael's offer to give her a season with the hopes of finding a wealthy husband. She trusts no man and does her best to ignore her growing feelings for the handsome viscount. Watching Emma transform into a beautiful, confident woman is more than Michael bargained for. He fears losing control of his carefully ordered life when his love for her intensifies. As passions collide and secrets are revealed, Michael and Emma must decide if they are strong enough to risk their hearts, and possibly their lives, for love.

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Customer Reviews

Okay, enough, Ms. Williams! You're books keep me up late at night, and I need more sleep. But no! You have to have another brilliant one out! Hee-hee! Seriously, I LOVED this book! Michael Drury, Viscount Weston, is hot in pursuit of an evil professor, when lo and behold his niece, Emma Grisby,

lands herself in his library one morning, looking for a reference. He has other plans, although he does provide a reference for a job that Emma doesn't get. Michael decides instead to have Emma close, to keep watch over the one lead he has of the professor, and offers her a season for the prospect of marrying one of the rich London bachelors in the ton. Although Emma has some issues with men and trust, she sees the logic in Michael's plan. After all, this is Victorian London when precious little else was offered to women who aimed to provide for her family, which Emma has been trying to do for years. In the process of the showing Emma the town and ton, Michael realizes he has feelings for her. But he's engaged to be married to a woman who could grant him the home his father had gambled away. It's wonderful to watch the two fight their growing attraction and try so hard to do the right thing. Through it all the evil professor has plans of his own, and when life and love are threatened the characters must make tough decisions. I cannot wait for the next book!

I loved this book and the romance between Michael and Emma so much I could barely put it down. One of those that kept me up to the wee hours - my favorite kind of stories. Michael is all business, keeping his emotions deeply hidden after his parents' tragic death. He's even gone so far as to arrange a marriage based on his need to gain the family home his father lost. But his world--and heart--are turned upside down when Emma Grisby comes back into his life. Emma has been struggling for years to keep her family afloat, and the world of the ton Michael offers to her seems terribly beyond her reach. But together the two of them navigate a season in Victorian London and their path to happy ever after. I enjoyed not only the passion, but the sweetness, between the two of them and everything they had to go through for love. Can't wait for Lucas and the final book in this trilogy!

The blurb doesn't begin to do this book justice. I really liked Michael and Emma. They both have flaws and insecurities. And they both love their families and will make any sacrifice necessary to make them happy. This book didn't seem to focus as much on Michael's "gift" as much as the first book did. It was mentioned, but it wasn't really part of the story. I thought the book was good - but there were some inconsistencies that distracted me and some parts that were anticlimactic. Overall, it was enjoyable and I would recommend it. Now I am anxious to read *Shattered Secrets*. Lucas is a total mystery and I want to see how Ms Williams manages to wrap up the ongoing story of the professor!

Passionate Secrets is a fun read, which I thoroughly enjoyed. It is part 2 of a trilogy, however, and to

make sense of the story, you really, really need to read the first book. References and very brief re-caps of events in *Revealing Secrets* serve to jostle readers' memories but don't cover more than the most necessary details. Only the romance is actually wrapped up in book 2, so I'm anxious to start book 3 to find out how it all come out. I like Emma and find her humility, bravery, and tenacity to be admirable. Her transformation from a mousey governess to ballroom belle had me grinning. Weston wasn't quite as appealing and his aura-reading ability was far less prominent in the story than Ashton's was in Book 1. (I SO wanted to see him use it playing cards!) The plot in this book was far less convoluted than that of book 1, but there's still plenty happening besides the romance. The writing was mostly good, though there were still a few confused homophones. (Affect is a verb, effect is generally a noun,) The errors weren't overly distracting. The book ends abruptly, so I grade it at 4 instead of the 5 it could earn if a bit more was tied up.â

In this Victorian era historical romance, Michael is a hot viscount embroiled in a mystery involving his former professor--a man he thought died. Emma is a desperate governess who needs a job as soon as possible to save her family from the work house. But Emma is the professor's niece, so Michael of course suspects her of working with him. Michael reluctantly offers to give her a season to help her find a husband as a way to keep her close. But when Emma transforms from drab to gorgeous, he has a hard time remembering his goal. With clever characters, a mystery that involves electromagnetic experiments, and a passionate romance, this book was a total page turner!

I just could not get to like the new characters introduced in this book. I quite liked the first book and the underlying story which will link all the books together is quite fresh and interesting and the books are well written but this one was a struggle for me. The ending seemed rushed and a lot more could have been made of the relationships between these characters. Not sure if I will bother with the next book but if you like Historical Romance/Adventure books you might get more out of this than I did.

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