



Lynne Graham

EXPECTANT BRIDE



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Ellie Morgan hoped to buy the bookshop where she worked, so evenings she moonlighted as a cleaner at Alexiakis International... Until she overheard Dio Alexiakis discussing a top-secret deal, and he insisted that Ellie was an industrial spy! Ellie was unnerved by her confrontation with Dio Alexiakis. However, Dio knew just how he would deal with her....

Ellie found herself on her way to Dio's island, and two days and nights of perfect passion... followed by an unexpected pregnancy. Dio had the perfect solution -- they'd marry for the baby's sake. By now, Ellie was in love with Dio, but could he learn to love his expectant bride?

Expectant Bride Details

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From Reader Review Expectant Bride for online ebook

Vintage says

No plot review as it has been done and better than I would do justice..

All I want to say is the hero deserved a skillet upside the head for ALWAYS believing the other woman and consistently blaming the heroine. I see a divorce in the future when he steps over the line one too many times, and the heroine shows him and the reader that when she's says she's going she means business.

Scraped to three stars because heroine actually stood up for herself.

Jenny says

I think this is my favorite Lynne Graham story by far!!!

Ellie is an office cleaner at night a job she needs since she is saving up to buy her own bookstore. When Dio Alexiakis sees her hiding in his offices he thinks she is an industrial spy and takes her with him to Greece to have her under surveillance. Their attraction is crazy and their night of passion results in pregnancy. Ellie accepts to marry Dio but Helena the woman the hero was expected to marry is doing everything in her power to tear them apart and she almost succeeds.

I adored Ellie's character. A lovable underdog from the start. She kept fighting no matter what was thrown her way. And a lot came her way! She was very strong and never gave up without a fight. She is a great heroine who is unfailingly honest to herself and those around her. She has had a difficult childhood and isn't sure that she can ever truly give herself to someone, but Dio awakens feelings deep inside her that she never knew she was capable of. She made me smile and broke my heart (more than once).

Dio trusts Helena more than his own wife and I was furious he couldn't see her for the cold vicious bitch that she was. He is not cold or unfeeling just really oblivious when it comes to women and true love. I enjoyed his grovel and how he was drown in buckets of booze and self-pity when Ellie left him. The way he treated her towards the end and the things he said to her made my heart melt. He was so sweet! And his love for her was pure.

I loved the dynamic between Dio and Ellie. I really felt throughout the story that they were meant to be together. They had to earn their happily ever after but it was well worth it. I loved both characters so I was rooting for them all along!

Sruthi says

[H assumes h to be a spy eavesdropping his very confidential meeting , she is a cleaner of course . So he takes her with him for a 2 day Island arrest with him, They have a passionate night and the next morning H blames her for leaking his company's confidential deals and lashes out on her , She gives it back on his face and comes back home .

Of course H realises that its not the h and is g

Debbie DiFiore says

Just as good the second time

I almost took it down a point for that last fight and the horrible things he said but I am a sucker for a man who grovel. And he did believe me. I loved that the heroine stood up for herself and would not let anyone out her down. She was amazing without being a shrew. I hated the OW with a passion. I really hated that Dio took her word over Ellies every time. It just made me so mad. I honestly wanted her to leave him when he said those final hateful words to her. He deserved it and I am totally glad he suffered. I know I am blood thirsty. He did redeem himself but insist he would have believed in the h before he found out the truth. It's so easy to say it after the fact but I wanted him to totally trust the h over the OW without proof. I will probably re-read this again as it is one of my favorites. Lovely story.

lily waheed says

why can't I stop rereading this book? I think I read it more than 10 times ,iam serious , I can't get enough of Dio and Ellie , I adore them ???

StMargarets says

This is the one with the cleaner who accidentally overhears the hero talking about taking over a company. (Not the one where the cleaner is playing chess.) So he decides the best way to make sure no corporate secrets are revealed is to keep her with him 24/7. This means going to Greece for his father's funeral, buying the h lots of designer clothes (at the airport?), hanging out on the beach together, having great sex with the virgin heroine and then dumping her when the stock prices of the company in question go up.

But the hero can't quit the h and returns for more sex and promises of a mistress position, which the h soundly rejects. Meanwhile she's pregnant and is going to lose her job and flat over the bookshop because of the old man owner is handing it off to his son. But she still has that job as a cleaner! Luckily she faints and the hero is there to catch her and browbeat her into accepting his marriage proposal.

There is an OW (friend of the family) who lies and then lies some more causing trouble before, during and after their marriage. It's only when the heroine finally leaves the H and he confronts the OW does he realize how she has been manipulating everyone.(This was off page) He grovels a bit to the heroine and HEA.

This one was cute. The heroine wasn't living in abject poverty (she was working two jobs to buy the book shop) and stood up for herself as much as LG heroine can.

The hero is a typical afraid-of-his-feelings alpha. The whole funeral things was weird, though. The hero had been close to his father and was estranged - but he gets over his guilt after one conversation with the heroine - and doesn't seem to mourn at all. (Too busy having sex with virgins, I guess) One good thing about this hero is that while he is quick to have a temper, he holds no grudges and he did apologize for thinking the h

had sold out his corporate secrets.

Because we never see any interaction between the H and the OW, the OW just doesn't seem like that much of a threat. It was annoying the hero kept sticking up for her, but he didn't seem at all interested in her.

This is another solid story in LG's canon.

Ivy H says

Review of book read years ago.

Ellie is one of Lynne G's more strong minded and independent heroines. She's learnt the hard way to depend only on herself because her mother's tragic life as the mistress of a man (Ellie's sperm donor "dad") who never respected or acknowledged her in public, has left her with emotional scars. What I loved about Ellie is the fact that she is also feminine and sweet and isn't waiting on a man to solve all her problems. She works hard at two jobs to save money to buy her own little bookshop. Ellie is quite beautiful and sexy and could have easily found some gullible guy to pay all her bills but she has far too much pride for that. Lynne G manages to create a strong, independent heroine who isn't a raging dragon or a shrewish harpy. She is downtrodden like most of LG's heroines but she isn't stupid or helpless. I loved Ellie.

Dio. What can I say about this tall specimen of virility and male beauty? Is it just me or does a lot of Lynne Graham's heroes have "golden eyes" or eyes that look golden in certain settings? Anyway back to Dio: he's a typical alpha billionaire manwhore who has the supercilious socialite fiancee waiting on him to finish pleasuring himself with his hordes of empty headed anorexic supermodel bimbos, so he can marry her and create prudish, snobby, and entitled billionaire babies.

Well, unfortunately for the ice queen Helena (the aforementioned socialite fiancee), Dio encounters Ellie and that just changes his whole life. They end up getting hot and heavy and Ellie becomes pregnant. Dio immediately proposes marriage but the snake Helena manages to infuse her poison into their marriage in many many many evil ways. The crux of the problem is that Dio believes everything Helena says about Ellie. Helena is the queen of all soul stealing, lying two faced succubi. Does Ellie take it lying down like a spineless wimp ? Nope. Ellie loves Dio with all her heart but she has her dignity and won't stay and let Helena's poison destroy her and her unborn child's life. Therefore, after Dio believes all Helena's lies and castigates Ellie for daring to point fingers at his pious and perfect ex-fiancee, Ellie dumps his ass and departs.

In the end, Dio discovers he can't live without Ellie and his investigation into Helena proves that she's a lying weasel toad bitch (I know I am getting really senselessly inarticulate with my jumbled up metaphors here but I really hate Helena !). It also takes the interference of a kindly third party for Dio to believe that Helena has been lying and manipulating him to cause trouble. Dio then washes his hands off Helena (who has to find some other asshole to look after her investments) and rushes off to kneel and grovel before Ellie. That part was perfect ! Unlike many other LG heroes, Dio really grovels and begs Ellie's forgiveness. However one thing irritated me a little and that was that Helena did not get enough of a comeuppance. What would have been more perfect would be for Helena to end up marrying a short, obese, old, no neck bald man with a penis that's only 3 inches when erect. Instead the prudish ice bitch marries a young British peer of the realm. None of the aristocrat's relatives attended the wedding, though, because Helena's nouveau riche and foreign status wasn't good enough for their blue blooded legacy. I guess that was a fairly good case of karma for a snobbish bitch wasn't it ?

Mou says

["No, you listen to me! You don't own me, You don't tell me what I can do, where I can go or who I can be with. It that understood?

Chris says

I really wanted to like this book, especially because Ellie, the heroine, is a hardworking type who is saving up to buy her own bookstore. I liked the fact that she wasn't some poor waitress or someone without ambitions.

Ellie started off strong but once she slept with the hero it was like all her convictions about avoiding bad relationships went out the window. Which, as a romance, I guess is what's supposed to happen but it was really hard to buy into the fact that she fell in love with the hero after meeting and sleeping with him in one weekend. She then spends the rest of the book convincing herself that she's strong and that she doesn't need a man - only to marry the hero the minute he proposes, even though all the reasons why she shouldn't marry him were still there.

Dio, the hero, is a real ass. His only saving grace is that he's really good at groveling and making you want to forgive him for his mistakes. He's refreshingly honest for a hero. He admits when he's wrong and even when he's confused. Yes, he's bossy, but it's almost sweet because he really does it because he cares about Ellie and her well-being - he's just really bad at being smooth about it.

Overall, the book was okay. If you like books where the heroine and hero fall for each other almost right away, unexpected pregnancies, and conniving third parties to throw obstacles in the path of the heroine and hero, then this book might be good for you.

Claire says

Okay, I'll bite. I'll pretend that there's **no evident ground** here for a lawsuit, either for kidnapping or sexual harassment, and that Gloria Allred wouldn't be salivating to take on the girl's defense against Gio the Greek Tycoon.

I'm giving this book three stars. **One** for the girl because she followed through and actually left him after giving him an ultimatum: her or the Helena, his long-standing "friend." **Two** for the girl again because even when he had contrived to find her and they had returned to their apartment for a talk of some sorts, she was still going to pack away her suitcase with the intention of leaving him. And **three** for the delicious mental picture of him being distraught, pleading, helplessly watching her readying to leave **which is in stark contrast** to his stance a few pages back when he was savagely taunting her to get over her jealousy over the Other Woman because nobody could dictate what he could or couldn't do.

If I were the heroine, after he finished explaining about Helena and her machinations, I would have quietly repeated his own derisive parting words to me then -- that Helena was a lot of things I wasn't --and made him

stew in his apology.

The problem is he was too quick to cast the blame on the OW, when in reality, the bigger culpability rests on his failure to believe and side with his wife who had repeatedly asked for his trust and support. Each time, he held the welfare of the OW in higher regard than his own wife, perhaps out of guilt and habit. I'd daresay that although he didn't have sexual intimacy with the OW during his marriage, he could be accused of emotional cheating. He ignored that crucial part in the marriage vow: forsaking all others.

The good news is his blinders were totally off at the end so there could be reasonable expectations of an HEA.

KatieV says

In many ways a very typical LG.

A short, virginal, mega fertile, plain spoken, poor working girl heroine with no family meets arrogant Greek tycoon who expects to marry a society ice princess and keep a piece on the side. *Why are these chicks always orphans?*

In this case the formula worked. There was angst and humour. The hero was sometimes a terrible jerk, but also often hilarious with the way he stuck his foot in his mouth and quoted a pregnancy manual at the worst moments. Plus the heroine had a real backbone, even if it sometimes bordered on a bickerfest. She actually left or lashed out rather than just thinking about it real hard.

Nice ending grovel too.

Kaycee ❤️? says

Expectant Bride was a good read. I really enjoyed it. Ms. Lynne Graham never ceases to amaze me.

Ellie was accused of spying and getting information regarding an important deal Dio's working on so he whisks Ellie off to his Greek island home. The sexual passion between them can't be ignore so they shared one hot, steamy night. A lot of misunderstanding came between them before Ellie learned she's pregnant and agreed to marry Dio. But their union was short-lived when a jealous ex comes between them and threatened Ellie. And when she told Dio, he refused to believe her and defend the other woman instead.

Will Dio learn to trust Ellie, his wife? Will they be able to hold on to each other when everything stands against them?

I wasn't sure what kind of guy Dio was, I mean one minute he's sweet, caring, loving and all, then the next he's saying insults and hurtful words to Ellie, comparing her to other woman, which is by the way a big NO-NO for me. Honestly I thought that there was no way I would like the hero, no way. But I ended up liking Dio. Yes. I did. He's the perfect combination of alpha.

I loved Ellie's character. She's independent, feisty, gave as good as she got, stood up for herself and didn't let the hero walk all over her. She isn't afraid to jump right in and not afraid to speak her mind. She was exactly what Dio needed. She was there for him, loving and supporting when he needed it, but also could put him in his place when need be. I admired her strength and the way she handled herself.

And I loved the scene where Ellie gave Dio an ultimatum - Her or the other woman. And leave when she says she is, which leaves the hero chasing after her. I also enjoyed and found great comfort seeing him being distraught, pleading, and helplessly watching her packing her things. I enjoyed his grovel and how he was drown in buckets of booze and self-pity when Ellie left him.

I just really like this kind of book! I thought it was well written and flowed pretty smoothly. The story itself was romantic, passionate, and swoon-worthy!

Melody Cox says

I read a lot of books, over 400 this past year. This book had the absolute best groveling scene I have ever read. He had mistrusted the heroine and treated her terribly and she deserved the major govel fest that he presented her. It was great, one of the very best.

Safety: For those of you who like safely info...this is a safe book and neither one was with anyone else during the whole book. There is what I would loosely call the 'other woman' who brought about a new level of evil and unfortunately our hero believed her continuously over his new bride. It was almost the death of their marriage and was quite frustrating that he thought so highly of the OW. Men can really be dense when it comes to conniving women and he certainly was.

Ellie Morgan and Dio Alexakis are the main characters. Ellie Morgan dreams of buying the bookshop where she works, so her evenings were spent moonlighting as a cleaner at Alexakis International in hopes of saving enough money for a down payment on the bookstore. It was working out beautifully until she accidentally overheard Dio Alexakis discussing a top-secret deal. Dio saw her and was certain she was an industrial spy and basically held her captive, not letting her out of his sight. He was afraid she would somehow pass along the information to which he was certain she would be paid handsomely for. He accused her of so many things I won't take the time to list them but let me tell if a man had done that to me he would've been missing a manly part of his anatomy. He was pretty bad...you know those alpha types and they are never wrong in their own opinion. It turned out to be a great book that I highly recommend!

Leona says

This is actually my favorite Lynne Graham. I loved the hero, the heroine, the friction with OW...the intensity of their passion, and the "big misunderstanding". Unlike her other books, this heroine is quite feisty, gives as good as she gets, and can stand up and walk out when she says she is.

The grovel was great. I would just change one thing.

At one point the hero, says.. ***No you listen to me! You don't own me, You don't tell me what I can do,***

where I can go or who I can be with. It that understood? And when you've got this jealousy jag under control, call me. But don't leave it too long. After all Helena is a lot of things you're not.

I don't know about you, but it would take me at least a century to forgive that line. He should have had to wait a few more months for a HEA!

RomanceLover99 says

Ellie is probably the strongest heroine Lynne Graham has ever written. Life has taught her some hard lessons, yet she is not bitter. She's beautiful, a hard worker (holding down 2 jobs) and could easily have used her beauty to make life easier for herself. She's not some unaware heroine who doesn't know she's beautiful; she knows she is and plays down her looks. She's saving money to purchase a bookstore and is fully prepared to take care of her unborn child herself, after Dio, the hero of this book, falsely accused her of corporate espionage literally right after taking her virginity and telling her he essentially went "slumming" when he slept with her.

Dio is the type of super alpha hero that I love however, he jumps to conclusions way too quickly regarding Ellie and he has this horrible belief in the goodness of the evil OW and she was evil. Yes, Ellie was pregnant with his child however, why marry her if he couldn't trust her!?!? Yes, Dio actually tells Ellie that he doesn't believe her when it comes to the evil OW and that he believes the OW over her!....WTF!?!? As strong as Ellie was I was kind of surprised she still married him yet, I understood her reasons for doing so. Her pregnancy wasn't the easiest of one's, thus making work difficult and her plans for the bookstore went belly-up, so she did what was best for her baby and she did really love Dio.

I applaud Ellie for taking a stand and finally leaving Dio. Yes she loved him, but she wasn't going to be his doormat. Did Dio grovel? You bet he did. He also spent 2 weeks in hell unable to find his missing wife. I appreciate Lynne Graham for making Dio go through some of the torment Ellie had to go through.

What saved this book for me was Ellie's strength and the fact that Dio had to suffer and then really grovel to win his wife back. Instead of titling this book "Expectant Bride" Lynne Graham should have named it "The Heroine with a Backbone." I took away 1 Star simply because I'm still bitter Dio said he trusted the word of the evil OW over Ellie's and for that comment about him going "slumming." When Dio is upset he strikes to hurt and he indeed hurt Ellie. Overall great read!
