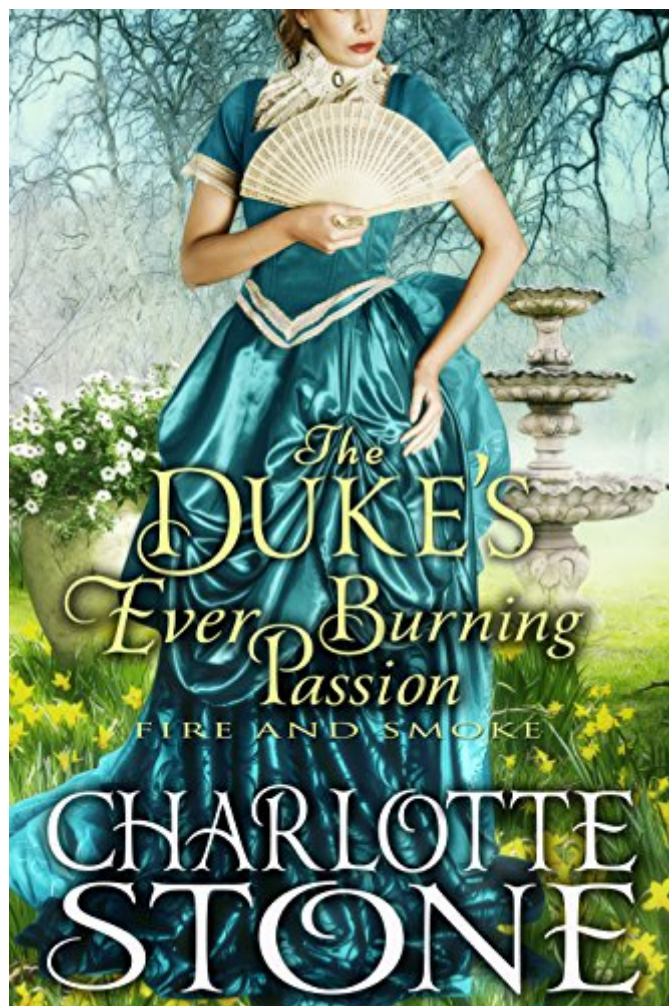


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The Duke's Ever Burning Passion: Fire And Smoke



Synopsis

Are second chances truly possible? The Duke of Sermont, Shep, has spent every summer since childhood at Pritchford Place... with his best friend's sister, Lady Julia Frederickson. As they grew, their relationship grew into something else... Love. Writing letters back and forth to one another and making plans has been a part of them... That is ... until Shep did something that broke her heart - he married someone else. Since then... She has spent her life wearing a mask. She vows to never let anyone know how much Shep meant to her. When Shep is widowed and comes to stay at Pritchford Place, just like old times, they antagonize one another as usual. Is it because they hate one another? Or... because they cannot stay away from one another? Who cares if he thinks she is the Ice Queen- cold, cruel and unfeeling? Julia knows who she is really is, even if Shep continually misunderstands her. Can Julia forgive Shep for breaking her heart? What about another suitor who will get in his way?

Book Information

File Size: 4786 KB

Print Length: 252 pages

Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited

Publisher: ShermanBrooks Publishers; 1 edition (October 25, 2016)

Publication Date: October 25, 2016

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B01M71T1YF

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #2,305 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #7 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Short Stories #10 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Literature & Fiction > British > Historical #16 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Literature & Fiction > Religious & Inspirational Fiction > Christian > Romance > Historical

Customer Reviews

The Duke's Ever Burning Passion by Charlotte Stone is another beautifully woven masterpiece. I can't believe how fast and well this writer puts books out...but I am truly thankful for her talent. I love historical novels that lure me into their worlds. Getting lost within the book, is a sure sign that the writer achieved success. I couldn't stop reading it. The tale within was about two former friends. Friends who attraction turned into a bit more...then suddenly lost everything. No longer friends nor lovers. Both went separate int heir ways. Now, fate has a funny way of reuniting them. One is now, a widower who comes knocking in like it's old times again. The other friend holds a smile, but deep within she's angry, hurt, and disappointed. A friend who betrayed her love. Went off to another woman...her heart is aching like the wound has become fresh again. Seeing him does crazy things to her heart. She intends to push him away, letting him think the worst of her. But will that simply be the last of them together? Charlotte Stone writes captivating pieces that intrigues, bates, and holds readers hostage until the very ending. The characters are realistic. Their actions and attitudes become three-dimensional as the plot unfolds. And with it comes one of the most intense plot lines ever. Clean, well-written, and romantic. The Duke's Ever Burning Passion has lured me in forever. I loved this new tale. Charlotte Stone has once again won my heart with her latest novel. Overall, I highly recommend it to readers everywhere.

Wonderful book about how dreams that have been dashed always have a banked ember of hope smoldering under the surface to catch again with just the right set of circumstances. This is a continuation of the Fire and Smoke series by Ms Stone, however, it can be read as a stand alone as well. We knew from book one that Lady Julia Frederickson and the Duke of Surmont had a longstanding history. They were childhood playmates, but there seemed to be a hidden hurt that prevented both of them from being friends as adults. With the marriage of the Duke, Lady Julia seemed to continually live behind her icy mask and even the happiness of her brother's marriage and young son couldn't penetrate her stoic resolve. Could there be happiness in Julia's future? I hate spoilers, so I will go no further, but I really encourage readers to give this book a try. Ms Stone has crafted a wonderful set of characters and I have enjoyed this series so much. We now wait to see if there is a book about dear Jane.

I was delighted when I found out that The Duke's Ever Burning Passion was the second in the Fire and Smoke series that began with Cat and Ben's tale. It was wonderful to see how Catherine and Ben were doing. They had such a tender and painful story. Once again Ms. Stone has written a beautiful heart-wrenching story that will keep you reading and waiting for the happy ever after that

you and Julia dreamed of. When Shep married another woman, he might have had his reasons, but he had no idea that he genuinely broke Julia's heart. He changed her and he never realized. Shep could write beautiful letters to Julia as he had since they were children, but he was trapped in the memories of an unhappy home. I cried while reading this story because Julia's heart was so broken and so fragile, yet she loved Ben and Catherine and George so deeply. I cringed when Shep made condescending comments and hurt her. But still, I hoped for them to find a way to reconnect. With clues about the fire coming to light, I look forward to seeing what actually happened that night. Charlotte Stone has such a powerful way of making damaged characters lovely. I hope there is a book about Jane. I hope she continues to share the lives of these wonderful couples in many books to come. I am so happy I was able to read this second of the series. It is a great historical romance.

Ben and Cat (from *The Earl's Unforgettable Flame*) are now happily married, and have a son. Ben's sister, Julia, lives with them. Shep has been Ben's lifelong friend, and a frequent visitor at their home. This book tells Shep and Julia's story. These two have grown up together, and have argued with each other all the time. But somewhere along the way, they grew up, and feelings changed. This is a very emotional book about two people who love each other deeply, but both lack the courage to be honest with the other about their feelings, for fear of being rejected. The author has skillfully used letters Shep wrote to Julia through the years and her feelings about those letters, to relate their past history. We witness insecurities on both parts, miscommunication, and many missed chances to be honest and sincere with one another. We also see lots of unhappiness, indecision and heartache for each. Ms. Stone guides this story to a beautiful, perfect ending, although there are a few loose ends to hopefully be tied up in future books. Ms. Stone has a gift for letting us get to know her characters in a very deep and personal way. Excellent book and excellent series. Very highly recommended.

Once in a while, a book comes along that really makes you fall in love with the characters and you feel that you really care about what happens to them. This is the second such book by this author. You are welcome to read this as a stand alone. If you do, please go back and read *The Earl's Unforgettable Flame*. The same characters are in both books. This is Jules and Shep's story, which starts very early in their lives. It is told through letters to each other as well as narrative. Letter writing is a lost art today. Charlotte Stone has each of the characters writing heartfelt words that make the reader feel the pain, the passion, the heartache, the love that they have for each other. It

made me want to get out pen and paper and write my husband a love letter. This book was so well written. I wanted to get to the end to see how it would work out for Jules and Shep, but I didn't want the story to end. I want to know what happens next. I hope the series continues for a long time!

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