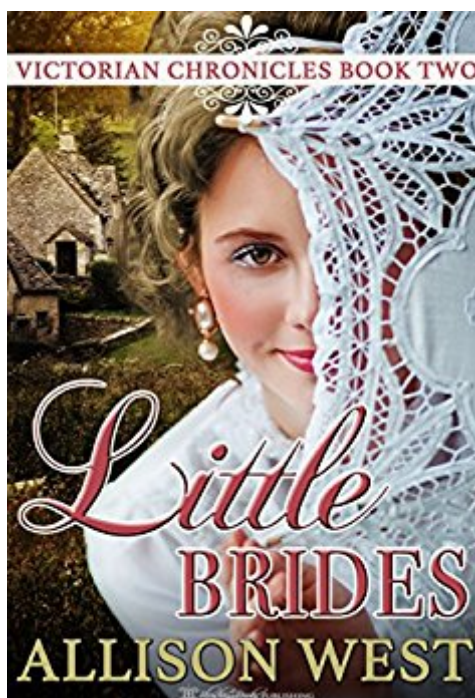


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Little Brides (Victorian Chronicles Book 2)



Synopsis

Eager young Clara is looking forward to her arranged marriage. She has been waiting all her life for the day when she will meet her husband. Her father has spent many months searching for the man worthy of his daughter's hand. Clara learns that her future husband, Francis, requires the young woman to undergo a medical examination to ensure that she has remained pure and that she is as intact as her reputation. Clara has never felt more disgraced as she is forced to bare all of herself to the doctor, where she undergoes far more than she ever anticipated. Silently, she swears to herself that she will move past the humiliation and never speak of what happened with the physician. When Francis pays a visit to Clara's father to propose additional terms to the marriage, wanting to bring along one of her maids so he will have a nanny in the house for Clara, the young bride-to-be is shocked to realize that he was the man giving her an examination. Was he really a doctor, or was he playing the part to ruin her reputation? Little Brides is the second book in the Victorian Chronicles. It can be read as a stand-alone story but it does follow the first book in the series: A Proper Punishment.

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Customer Reviews

This is a short book about two people who become husband and wife without knowing each other, and the wife doesn't realize what are her husband's intentions. The marriage of Clara and Francis, arranged by her parents, is a strange one. She only meets him by accident the day before the wedding and because they don't know each other well, there isn't a lot of warmth between them. His desire to make her into a Little, from the first day of the marriage, is difficult for her although she begins to accept it although she hates the maid that has been brought from her parent's home as her nanny. She runs away, and the resolution of these various issues provides some understanding of each other for both Clara and Francis, but the ending is not really complete and one doesn't see a real conclusion to the development of their relationship.

The story will read as a standalone but does have William and Lena from A Proper Punishment. The story has some mystery and suspense, plenty of angst, shock, anger, disbelief, and eventually dubious consent. Clara Marie Carter, twenty-one, is the daughter of wealthy, but not titled parents. She has been well provided for, and her father has arranged a marriage for her. She has not met the groom, and the plan is that she will meet him at the altar for their marriage. Her intended insists on an examination from a physician to verify her virginity. Francis Benton, a physician, has made arrangements with Mr. Carter to marry his daughter, Clara. He is friends with William Mason, and his little wife, Lena. It is a lifestyle he wants for himself, but not something you can go around advertising or discuss openly. The plot will have Francis requesting a physical examination of Clara to verify her virginity, sending a carriage for her, and examining her himself, after all, he is a physician. Not only does Francis exam her, but he spansks her when she questions him. When he pays a visit to Clara's father, she eavesdrops on their conversation and barges into the room. When some information comes to light, Mr. Carter will insist on a wedding the next day rather than the following week. What a shock Clara is in for, thinking she will be mistress of her household to learn that not only does Francis desire to have her act and be treated like a little girl instead of a grown woman, but he has hired Janie to be her Nanny. There is plenty of angst and dislike between Clara and Janie that will set this tale into a downward spiral of trouble. A play-date between Clara and Lena will help her with a better understanding of the lifestyle that Francis wants for them. Can Clara accept the role of a little girl and allow Francis to be her Papa? But what about Janie

becoming her Nanny, what does that hold for their future? The story has some medical play, a few spankings, and one sex scene.

This book was about Clara and her experiences with her betrothed and later her husband. I felt that Francis acted inappropriately at times, but his heart was always in the right place. There was no exciting crime drama in this book, like there was in book one, although there is drama, and closure to book one was subtly provided. William and Lena appear in this book as a friend of Francis and his little wife. The medical play, erotic scenes and punishments were well done and were a fundamental part of the story, filling Clara with angst that had her questioning her desire to be with Francis. Overall it was an enjoyable read and I was happy with the ending. I voluntarily reviewed an advanced reader copy of this book.

This is the second in a series and like the first it took place over a short period of time. The characters from the first book showed up in this book. I liked the characters. Although I found Francis frustrating at times, I didn't mind that because that gave opportunities for angst between the characters (which I love) and him room for growth. Shorter books can feel complete but some characters and relationships need longer to develop. There was a crisis of sorts and once that was concluded, there needed to be more story for the relationship to have time build more. It felt more like a HFN than HEA. (Which maybe was the author's intent but felt less satisfying to a greedy reader like me.) I voluntarily reviewed an advance reader copy of this book.

Clara Carter is to be married to Mr. Francis, an arranged marriage that she has readily agreed to. However, it turns out that Mr. Francis has a deep desire to have Clara be his "little" wife, and submit to him in all things. While this is unknown territory to Clara, she is willing to give it a try, albeit reluctantly. Unfortunately a rather nasty maid/nanny almost ruins it for Clara. Clara runs away but Francis searches her out and, after a good heart to heart talk, they agree to re-try the relationship with support from Lena, another little, and her husband William (the protagonists from a previous book "A Proper Punishment"). This is quite an enjoyable little tale that includes lots of spankings and sex, but I would really like to read more of how their relationship develops and matures. That really goes for both Clara & Francis as well as Lena & William. Perhaps there are a couple of follow up books in the works? I sure hope so. 4 stars for this fun little adventure, and looking for more. I voluntarily reviewed an advance reader copy of this book.

This is the second book in this series. I did think the first book was better with a better story but I did enjoy this one. Clara and Francis marry only knowing each other one day. She finds out that afternoon what he wants his marriage to be like. She didn't have a lot of problems with this type of marriage but she did have a problem with him wanting her maid, Janie, to be her nanny. She strongly disliked Janie and kept telling Francis but he would not listen. This caused problems and had Clara running away. This book had several spankings, one sex scene, William and Lena from the first book, a little medical play and a little age play. This was a short read and you did not have to have read the first book to read this one. I did not like how Francis gave permission for Janie to spank Clara and especially on her wedding day. 3.5 stars

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