



Otherwise Engaged

By Amanda Quick

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Miss Amity Doncaster, world traveler, is accustomed to adventure and risk. Benedict Stanbridge, a man of science and a spy for the Crown, has faced danger in the darker corners of foreign lands.

But they are about to face a threat that is shockingly close to home . . .

One does not expect to be kidnapped on a London street in broad daylight. But Amity Doncaster barely escapes with her life after she is trapped in a carriage with a blade-wielding man in a black silk mask who whispers the most vile taunts and threats into her ear. Her quick thinking, and her secret weapon, save her . . . for now.

But the monster known in the press as the Bridegroom, who has left a trail of female victims in his wake, has survived the wounds she inflicts and will soon be on his feet again. He is unwholesomely obsessed by her scandalous connection to Benedict Stanbridge—gossip about their hours alone in a ship's stateroom seems to have crossed the Atlantic faster than any sailing vessel could. Benedict refuses to let this resourceful, daring woman suffer for her romantic link to him—as tenuous as it may be.

For a man and woman so skilled at disappearing, so at home in the exotic reaches of the globe, escape is always an option. But each intends to end the Bridegroom's reign of terror in London, and will join forces to do so. And as they prepare to confront an unbalanced criminal in the heart of the city they love, they must also face feelings that neither of them can run away from. . . .

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Editorial Review

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Starred Review There is nothing Londoners love more than a good scandal, and Amity Doncaster has given the city's residents plenty to talk about. While en route home to London, Amity's Good-Samaritan efforts to take care of Benedict Stanbridge, a wounded fellow passenger on the Northern Star, are transformed into a tawdry shipboard tryst by scandalmongers. When Amity finally arrives in London, she has the misfortune to be abducted by the serial killer known as the Bridegroom for his attacks on women. Thanks to her cool head and a cleverly weaponized lady's fan, Amity escapes the killer's clutches, only to find herself once again fodder for gossip. Fortunately, Benedict has the perfect solution. If they pretend to become engaged, not only will it diffuse any of the rumors about their shipboard relationship, it will also allow Benedict to stick close to Amity's side until the Bridegroom can be stopped once and for all. Neatly complemented by equal measures of smoldering chemistry and lively banter, the action-packed plot is served up with plenty of dramatic flair and just the right dash of dry wit, making this a first-rate addition to Quick's canon of classic historical romances. --John Charles

Review

"...Equal measures of smoldering chemistry and lively banter, the action-packed plot is served up with plenty of dramatic flair and just the right dash of dry wit..." - John Charles, *Booklist*, starred review

"...Stellar plotting, exquisite dialogue and impeccable characterization. Benedict and Amity are a perfect pair." - *Kirkus*, starred review

"...Quick... has outdone herself. ...Sustains the suspense in a novel that never loses its sense of humor." - *Seattle Times*

“Amanda Quick is an exceptional storyteller.” —*Los Angeles Daily News*

“One of the most creative, inventive storytellers in the field, Quick infuses her own addictive brand of breathless, sexy adventure with dashes of vengeance, greed, and violence and a hefty splash of delectable, offbeat humor.” —*Library Journal*

— eloquence quotes

About the Author

Amanda Quick is a pseudonym for Jayne Ann Krentz, the author, under various pen names, of more than fifty *New York Times* bestsellers; there are more than thirty-five million copies of her books in print. She lives in Seattle.

Users Review

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