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Prince Of Hearts (Elders And Welders Chronicles Book 1)



Synopsis

Prince of Hearts: A Victorian Steampunk RomanceBook One in The Elders and Welders

ChroniclesLondon: 1896. Airships rule the skies, and automatons run the tracks at Ascot. Since the Great Exhibition of 1851, Her Majesty's Empire has been powered by the Steam Revolution and Welding science. It is a time of glorious innovation and dangerous civil unrest. But Miss Aline Finch, prim, plain career girl, has more important things on her mind than the state of the Empire. After her employer, the handsome but insufferable criminologist, Professor Romanov, hares off for parts unknown in a slightly-illegal dirigible, stranding her in France, she has finally had enough. In a fit of pique, she decides to marry her long-time and very proper suitor, quitting Romanov for good. The last thing the Professor expects to come home to is his secretary's mutiny. Finch's timing couldn't be any more inconvenient, for a serial murderer from Romanov's past has set his sights on her. Romanov must keep her close if he has any chance of protecting her life - and the dangerous secrets the murderer threatens to expose. For the Professor is much, much more than he seems, and the secrets that he keeps are centuries old - and hidden deep in his heart. When the Professor discovers Finch is to wed, however, he is forced to confront the truth of the matter: he doesn't just want his secretary back to protect her. He wants her in his bed. Forever. Aline fights Romanov's seduction, but she's no match for her own unruly desires, or the truth of her own heart. But when the Professor's true identity is exposed, destroying the very foundations of Aline's conception of reality, will the Professor lose her forever? Or will the murderer succeed in his evil plot to destroy them both before they can find their happy ending? Warning: this sensual romance will put the steam in steampunk. Contains sexual situations. Recommended for readers 18+.

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Customer Reviews

I really enjoyed the steampunk world the author developed. The world felt alive and vibrant and had some interesting futuristic tech tossed in. There was enough going on in the plot to keep the story going. I also loved her characters and while some may not like the slower character development of the heroine, it seemed to fit her personality as well as match the time period. The supernatural element was interesting and not just a simple rehash and it fit in with the steampunk tech in the world which I appreciated. Finally, I also liked that the romance was slow to develop. I know it can be frustrating when people are in denial but it's more fun to watch than instant love. This author does a great job of tortured protagonists who have to be beaten over the head before they realize they are in love which is something I really enjoy, so all her stories are right up my alley. Sadly, I'm stuck waiting on more now.

No blurb this time around because the official one does a good job of laying out the story. I really liked Prince of Hearts the first book in the Elders and Welders series which has a nice steam punk Victorian era backdrop and a world that includes some paranormal-ish elements. Plus the writing had a nice fun energy to it. I liked both the great quirky leading lady, and the gorgeous immortal leading man with a tormented past that makes him feel he's a monster. There was good tension building and payoff in the romantic steam department for this pair and an interesting set up for the next one. I did have a couple nits with the world building in that I'd have liked to have had a teeny explanation about the 'why' of the Elder/Welder technology and how it worked - a sentence or two would have done it - but that was really a minor nit since I was able to just 'go with it.' I was lucky enough to have snagged Prince of Hearts as a kindle freebie, but I'd have still liked it if I'd paid for it and would have bought the next book right now if it were already out. Prince of Hearts was a pleasant surprise.

Enjoyed fantasy of heart transplant that makes superhumans & brings immortality, thought addition of vampires was too much at first but entire story came together Action scenes were terrific & exciting! I didn't mind that Heroine was a bit of a harridan Didn't like it that Heroine was 36, that was middle aged at that time & Prefer tall heroines The dukes holiday by the same author was my favorite, 5 star but this was readable & ok

I was attracted to this novel because of the Steampunk genre. I wanted to learn more about this concept. Instead, I got a good dose of romance. Then I noticed the author is a novelist in the Romance Genre. Hence, this story is well peppered with those very kinds of events. The sexual tension between the two main characters leads to a great deal of suggestive and amusing banter. I believe that the creative personalities of the characters are so deeply drawn as to their passions and the views of their musing about what is happening to them, whether it be wrong or right, is insightful into the sort of behavior of humans rather than the super, immortal kind of beings that they are. I enjoyed the entire story, even including the explicit parts which seemed to fit into the plot quite well and without that tension, would probably not have been so amusing.

Prince of Hearts was awesome! Steampunk Victorian Romance at it's best, it was completely fun while giving us a mystery that slowly unfolded, multiple characters to love and some really fantastic world building/mythology. When Aline quits her job as Romanov's secretary, he doesn't take it to well and attempts to get her to come back and work for him, from there the sexual tension explodes. The romance plot is great but it isn't just romance, there is a nice mystery happening and a murderer running amok killing people while trying to frame Romanov for the crime. When the murderer turns his attention to Aline things get very interesting. Aline is really awesome and has a spunky quirkiness that I loved. I also genuinely enjoyed all of her verbal sparring with Romanov. Romanov is yummy, interesting, dark, tormented and absolutely wonderful with Aline. The relationship between them was so much fun, filled with humor and sexy steam. I loved them together, their banter was fantastically funny and the chemistry laced scenes were great. The world building and mythology was unique and interesting. While some of the secrets of this world were revealed, it will be very interesting to learn more as the series goes on. I don't want to give spoilers but the secrets that Romanov hides were really cool and a nice change up from some of the current novels. A fantastic addition to the genre, I am really looking forward to this series and where Margaret Foxe takes it. Can't wait to find out more about some of the awesome characters that were introduced in this

book. If you like steampunk, victorian romance novels or you are just looking for a really fun, interesting and sexy read then this is the book for you.Originally posted on Me, Myself & Books Blog

I picked up this book because of my recent participation in Steampunk Day at a local museum. I was a bit wary of this, because I don't typically like historicals. I was relieved to discover that this was far from historical!This book starts off with adventure. I really loved Finch. She's a perfect, mousy, mess! She has no sense of fashion, she's sassy, wears her glasses like armor, she's bookish and smart. I just loved the endearing messiness of her.And Sasha...he's something. Gotta swoon for a tortured hero! He thinks he's a villain, but he's really a good guy...if a little messed up. I was not always a fan of the way he treats Finch, like she's really a fragile little bird, but he gets it together by the end.The mystery and action are incredible, and the sexual tension is thick through the whole story. Not just for Finch and Sasha, but also for Christiana and Drexler. The world building is wonderfully done, and I really love Finch's penny-dreadful.Ending with a neat HEA and a teaser for the next book.

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