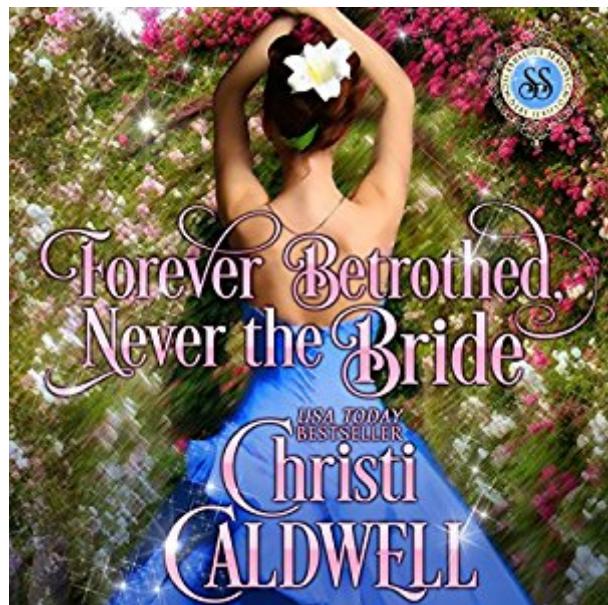


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Forever Betrothed, Never The Bride: Scandalous Seasons, Book 1



Synopsis

Lady Emmaline Fitzhugh, a hopeless romantic, is tired of sitting with the wallflowers, waiting for her betrothed to come to his senses and marry her. When Emmaline reads one too many reports of his scandalous liaisons in the gossip rags, she takes matters into her own hands. War-torn veteran Lord Drake devotes himself to forgetting his days on the Peninsula through an endless round of meaningless associations. He no longer wants to feel anything, but Lady Emmaline is making it hard to maintain a state of numbness. With her zest for life, she awakens his passion and desire for love. The one woman Drake has spent the better part of his life avoiding is now the only woman he needs, but he is no longer a man worthy of his Emmaline. It is up to her to show him the healing power of love.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Each chapter begins with a random note from Lady Emmaline written to her betrothed while he's serving in the war. She wrote him a note every day from age 13 to 17 but never sent them. Lord Drake returns to England when she's 17 and spends the next three years completely ignoring her! Now at age 20, Lady Emmaline is getting tired of waiting for a betrothal that was agreed upon 15 years ago, when she was five and he was thirteen. The notes provide a clever way for the reader to get to know Emmaline, her likes, dislikes and her nature. She's forthright, a little mischievous and extremely caring about other people, especially those who are less fortunate. The story opens with a chance meeting between Emmaline and Drake when she's protecting an old woman pushing a

vegetable cart from the threats of a popinjay Lord. Drake is impressed and intrigued by her and begins to take notice of Emmaline for the first time. With the help of Drake's friend Sinclair, she continues to put herself in his path over the next month and their relationship takes on many new developments. This is a moving story as we see Drake struggling with PTSD and his attempts to find normalcy in his life. On the outside, he's handsome, strong and confident so nobody would ever guess the battle within himself. The author seems to handle this with great sensitivity, but always with a great level of optimism too. My eyes might tear up on one page, and the very next page I was laughing at one of Emmaline's escapades or a witty repartee with her brother or Drake. The secondary characters of Sinclair, Emmaline's brother Sebastien and her best friend all add additional interest to this story. How will Drake react to another suitor courting Emmaline?

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