

➡ [Ebook] ↪ The Ugly Duchess By Eloisa James ➡ – Soccerjerseys-wholesale.co

Posted on 27 April 2018 By Eloisa James

This book broke my heart, in ways than one I wanted, so badly, to love it In fact, up until a certain part, I was certain I d be rating it 4.5 5 stars Unfortunately, there s so much infidelity that I just couldn t get past it Yes, he had pretty excuses, but queasy I LOVED Daisy Theo Loved her And in some ways, I loved James as well The betrayal early on was absolutely delicious, and up until the point where he dipped his wick in some foreign widow, I was hooked But the very blatant infidelity, AND the fact he didn t seem to be ashamed about it when recounting it to his wife made me want to vomit, especially when combined with a seven year estrangement To be fair, it s very well written, with well rounded characters and an intense amount of emotion, but I personally couldn t get past the cheating, even though I easily admit that James did grovel rather prettily there in the end.Fans of cheating heroes and fairly long estrangements will eat this one up with a spoon, but for me, 3 5. Well, this one was a swing and a miss for me, which is a shame, because Eloisa James is usually a ton of fun.To be fair, second chance romances are always hard for me to get behind I have to see some serious change in the characters in order to really buy that it would work out otherwise, it just feels like they re signing up to be hurt all over again down the road, never having learned their lesson They re like addicts deciding to try the pipe one last time.I liked Theo Daisy a lot I liked that, when she discovered that James only married her for her money that s not a spoiler, it says it on the cover of the book view spoiler that he caved to pressure from his father to marry her, against his wishes, in order to cover up

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the fact that his father was not just broke, but had embezzled her money as well hide spoiler How Can She Dare To Imagine He Loves Her When All London Calls Her The Ugly Duchess Theodora Saxby Is The Last Woman Anyone Expects The Gorgeous James Ryburn, Heir To The Duchy Of Ashbrook, To Marry But After A Romantic Proposal Before The Prince Himself, Even Practical Theo Finds Herself Convinced Of Her Soon To Be Duke S Passion Still, The Tabloids Give The Marriage Six Months Theo Would Have Given It A Lifetime Until She Discovers That James Desired Not Her Heart, And Certainly Not Her Countenance, But Her Dowry Society Was Shocked By Their Wedding It S Scandalized By Their Separation Now James Faces The Battle Of His Lifetime, Convincing Theo That He Loved The Duckling Who Blossomed Into The Swan And Theo Will Quickly Find That For A Man With The Soul Of A Pirate, All S Fair In Love Or War Rating 2.7 stars The misconception I had when I d just been one chapter into this book 5 stars I know I m going to give this 5 stars exhales loudly This review can also be read on The Dark, Delicious and Dreamtastic. When I started this book when I was still on the Before part out of nowhere I had this thought that startled me into stopping, and then smiling for no reason, before I resumed back to reading. BEFORE YOU CONTINUE, KNOW THAT THIS REVIEW IS CHOCK FULL OF SPOILERS SO PROCEED ONLY IF YOU RE OKAY WITH IT. A quiet certainty had snuggled it s way in my heart, that I would give this book a full 5 stars rating I was loving it, the characters were kickass and funny and so very cute, each page had something new so why not I felt warmed, all the awesomeness making me feel giddy and excited and I thought to myself that it d been days since I had as good a read as this so I promptly ditched all the stuff that I had to do and settled into my favorite seat by the window Sooner than I would ve liked, my expectations and happiness got shadowed by the shock and indignation of the change in story, slowly turning to disbelief and finally condensing on being incensed It s simply shocking how the rating fell from 5 stars to a mere 3, isn t it I wasn t even sure about the 3 As you can see, it s even less than that. I loved the young Daisy, the girl who was so colorful Colorful that s the description that I find her personality to be She was funny, smart, playful, loving, sarcastic, curious, open and so

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sweet She was everything, the 24 year old Daisy or Theo as she liked to be called, was not. I'm not begrudging Theo her success or even her svelte, but the brittle, narrow minded lady was a far cry from the young, curious Daisy. And James, that jackass, don't even get me started on him. He was adorable in the beginning. I loved his uncertainties, his smile and his wit. His love for Theo, him I loved him. And then he turned into an idiot and broke my heart. How is it not stupid to LEAVE BLOODY ENGLAND FOR 7 YEARS, GIVING NEITHER HIDE NOR HAIR ABOUT HIS WHEREABOUTS TO HIS WIFE WHO HE SUPPOSEDLY BLOODY LOVED FOR GODS SAKES AND FAMILY AND THEN RETURN EXPECTING YOUR MARRIAGE TO BE ALRIGHT AGAIN HOW AND DID I MENTION HOW AFTER MAYBE 2 YEARS OR WAS IT 9 MONTHS PLEASE EXCUSE MY FAULTY MEMORY, I'M A LITTLE HAZY HERE HE STARTED SLEEPING AROUND BECAUSE IN HIS EYES THE MARRIAGE WAS OVER. DAISY HAD SAID THE MARRIAGE WAS OVER SO IT WAS OKAY TO SLEEP AROUND. I MEAN I'M JUST I don't think the how I asked earlier expressed my frustrations, so I ask again HOW WAS IT NOT STUPID AND SELFISH AND STUPID A COUPLE OF MORE TIMES BLOODY FUCKING HOW. Also of course, when James came back his explanation was Because you said it was over. Yes He literally said that, and no that wasn't the moment I threw the book on the floor and screamed like an angry banshee. I stopped thinking of you as my spouse some years ago, as I'm sure you did of me. And, also Two days of marriage failed to impress itself upon me. I am fairly certain most men would understand my lapse. I believe my reaction was somewhere along the lines sputtering OH NO, YOU DIDN'T JUST SAY THAT ASSHOLE. In my mind I'd stabbed him a hundred times, alternating between kicking and punching and sometimes, just yelling unintelligibly. When Theo proposed divorce, when she firmly or tried to, man, there were so many things that were wrong with her too. She said that she wanted a divorce, his reply was The marriage was over. But now I'm back. But now I'm back. The utter bastard. By God, that was the moment I wished I could slap the living daylights out of him. This was the moment when I threw the book on the floor and screamed like an angry banshee. I just never imagined Eloisa James would disappoint me as much as she did with this book.

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I know that not all her books end up being my favorites, they're not all awesome but still there's something in them that just makes it okay. Even if it ends up being just a nice read, it's still all okay. But this, this was the kind of disappointment that if I were an overly emotional person, I would say just broke my heart. Maybe I'm being too harsh, too judgmental, but I'd grown too attached to the young, completely AWESOME Daisy and James, grown too in love with their characters of *Before*, that when they separated and turned into idiots, it actually, totally crushed me. I knew there were going to be complications coming up, since James had married Daisy untruthfully, even though he did very much love her. But the way it exploded into smithereens of convoluted logic just threw me off my balance. And of course, the loss of the awesomeness of the characters just grated A LOT. By the time that the ending rolled out, it was pretty much that James helped dissolve Daisy's repressed anger worth of 7 years by seducing her and continuing the whole hot, torrid seduction for a few pages until later it was time for Epilogue and we finally got a decent ending. If I ever feel anything like the roiling emotions of despair and heartbreak that I felt through this book after a breakup, I'd probably be sitting in some bar, staring into my half full glass of Jack Daniels and indulging myself in a depressed drunken wonder. How did it When did it Why did it all go so wrong. Despite having read many historical romances, Eloisa James was an author I had avoided because none of her synopses appealed to me. This one, though, was one I'd been dallying over for some time and finally decided to give it a read. The *Before* part of this novel was wonderful. I wanted to yank James out of the first scene and stop him from doing something dumb, and I felt bad for Theo. I liked them both individually and I loved them together because of how well they played off one another. I was interested to see where it was going. I read the synopsis, so I knew there was going to be a separation. I was confident in James's character and that he wouldn't stray, especially after he not only harped at his father that he wouldn't take any mistresses that he couldn't do that to Daisy and this view spoiler: He ran his hands through her hair and then said, quietly, "You were the second, Daisy." And the last hide spoiler: Theodora Saxby is not beautiful. But she does possess a fortune. James Ryburn, Earl of Islay, heir to the Duchy of

Ashbrook is handsome And in need of a fortune When James is told by his father that he has gambled away the family s wealth, embezzled from Theo s fortune and that James must marry Theo for her money, James is adamantly against the idea After all, he and Theo have grown up together He loves her certainly, but in a brotherly fashion When Theo finds out that James was forced to marry her, she is hurt and disillusioned Her fragile confidence in her looks takes a beating And as far as she s concerned the marriage which has barely begun, is over James leaves, takes to the high seas for seven years before eventually returning to England. Overall I really enjoyed this story Ms James is an accomplished and experienced writer and there s not too much I can add to what s already been said about her writing However, I did feel the pacing was a little uneven And there were some events in the story that tested my overall enjoyment Which is why I said the Eloisa James is accomplished She did manage through sheer skill to turn this book around for me and have me ending up liking it. James and Theo he calls her Daisy marry young Their few days of marriage together are sweet as they begin to turn from childhood friends to lovers and the promise of sweethearts Their first love making scenes were really lovely Then the story just imploded a little when Theo realises James s true reasons for marrying her Both act impulsively, dramatically with Theo declaring the marriage over and James leaving Admittedly they were both young, but their actions were excessive For readers who dislike long separations this could be a problem as they are apart for seven long years Although it didn t particularly bother me, there is another issue that some readers may find offensive in a romance view spoiler During the separation, James takes a few lovers, although he is not in love with them hide spoiler 3.5 STARSThis is my first book by EJ, but I m intrigued and will be definitely checking out her other work Of course this follows HCA s The Ugly Duckling Theodora Theo, as she liked to be called and Daisy, as James liked to call her , was seen as an unattractive woman or at least according to society s standards of that time Growing up with James Ryburn, heir to the Duchy of Ashbrook, Theo learned to accept her lot in life but never let it truly get to her. But marrying her best friend James under false pretenses changes everything Theo thought James loved her and

because they were best friends she trusted him Although I think James should have told Theo and quite possibly avoided several years of heartache, not telling her that he HAD to marry her destroyed all his chances at forgiveness I do believe James loved Theo but why the man didn't try and fight for her after she found out the truth is beyond me I get he was ashamed and felt he could never be good enough for Theo, but leaving for 7 years wasn't exactly a point in his favor. Theo became very rigid and bitter, refusing to take pleasure in anything in life other than dressing well She was such a different girl at 17 and in love with James, then to be betrayed and left to deal with the cruelty of what people were saying about her, calling her an ugly duckling and inferring the future Duke has escaped because of her utter lack of beauty Such abhorrent talk would destroy anyone I've read that people had a hard time with James view spoiler committing adultery while away at sea for 7 years I never took issue with that Theo kicked James out of their home, proclaimed the marriage to be over and told him she never wanted to see him again James for his part, felt unworthy of Theo and felt he didn't deserve forgiveness for his behavior He never loved any of the women, didn't plan on returning to London and truly felt his marriage was history hide spoiler DNF 50% 40% Not sure, I'll check it later. I should have read the reviews before starting this one in my defense, I was picking between lots of historical romance books and the fairy tale name plus the blurb made me think I'd like this one BIG MISTAKE. What the blurb doesn't tell you and I am not even bothering with spoiler tags here because I want everyone to know how bad this is is that our dashing James is gone for seven years SEVEN YEARS During which he conveniently forgets about his marriage vows, while Theo stays in London and works her ass off to get his state out of debt and has zero, ZERO lovers And then he comes back and boom Happy Ending I don't even care about them ending up together But if the author already gave us a seven year gap, couldn't she write that Theodora divorces James, goes away for a few years, has a couple of lovers and makes James work on getting her back Of course not Fudge this. James Ryburn, Earl of Islay, is informed by his father a duke that he has to marry Theodora Saxby, his best friend since they were children Long ago, Theo's dying father asked the duke to look after Theo and

her mother, and she and James have been like siblings ever since. Seems the duke has the IQ of a radish, and he blew through the entire wealth of the duchy, then embezzled as much of Theo's inheritance as he could lay his hands on. If James isn't the man who marries her, not only will the estates fail, but the duke's crimes will be exposed and the family name and titles will be blackened beyond redemption. James has two problems with this. First, the idea of boinking his Daisy that's what he calls her feels a bit incestuous. And second, well, he is attracted to her in a creepy older brother sorta way, but she's kinda ugly. From Theo's own perspective, we're told that she looks like a boy. A boy whose mother unfortunately insists on dressing her in pastel frills and pearls. Reading her self description, I envisioned this. Anyway, James gets drunk and slobbers all over her at a ball and gets caught in the act. The betrothal is announced and before you know it she gets the appellation The Ugly Duchess. While the kiss that got them in this fix was nice, the wedding night was kind of. To be fair, James the hero was only 20 years old and probably too stupid inexperienced to make the bridal night pleasant or at least less unpleasant for Theo. But they get past it, and even start to discover at least until James's dad strolls in to find Theo's head in James's lap. A flustered Theo excuses herself but stays just outside the door to eavesdrop as the plonker duke congratulates James for going through with the plan. And yes, even tho both parties to the conversation know what plan he refers to, the duke does lay it all out again in excruciating detail. By wedding the ugly duchess, James has A protected his father's misuse of Theo's funds, B gained access to Theo's entire inheritance, and the added bonus is C the ugly girl is so grateful that she'll freely provide the special attention most gentlemen must pay whores for. As long as the lights are out, who cares what she looks like. That moment changes everything. Theo's all. And she tells James the hero and his dad to So everybody goes their separate ways to reinvent themselves. James reinvents himself as a. Theo sulks awhile, but eventually reinvents herself as a. Turns out that she actually looks like her, not him. Meanwhile the duke reinvents himself as a. Just when I thought I'd be stuck reading 300 pages of loves me loves me not angst, James serves up a little side order of. And hey, since his wife told him to go eff himself, he might as

well James, unfortunately, doesn't gain any brain cells while he's away playing pirate and man candy, so when he decides it's time to sort things out with his Daisy there was a time or two I wanted to tell him to But the denouement is sweet and pleasing, and the story as a whole was satisfying a couple tears, and some decent grins This one gets three stars. My rating system One star Blows skip it Two stars Didn't stink if it sounds interesting, buy it used Three stars Liked it recommended pick it up next time you're looking for a good read Four stars Loved it make a special trip Five stars

Grrrrrowr Nuff said The Ugly Duchess is yet another wonderful story in Eloisa James Fairy Tales series In all that it is charming, romantic, witty and sweetly sexy, it's also heartwarming, poignant and a truly beautiful love story How can she dare to imagine he loves her when all London calls her The Ugly Duchess Theodora Saxby is the last woman anyone expects the gorgeous James Ryburn, heir to the Duchy of Ashbrook, to marry But after a romantic proposal before the prince himself, even practical Theo finds herself convinced of her soon to be duke's passion. Still, the tabloids give the marriage six months. Theo would have given it a lifetime until she discovers that James desired not her heart, and certainly not her countenance, but her dowry Society was shocked by their wedding it's scandalized by their separation. Now James faces the battle of his lifetime, convincing Theo that he loved the duckling who blossomed into the swan. And Theo will quickly find that for a man with the soul of a pirate, All's Fair in Love or War. There's something so special about Ms James retelling of these classic stories We read the originals as children and learned valuable lessons, and now, as adults, we can read them and learn those lessons again while being entertained and seduced by the magic and power of love I cannot even begin to tell you how much I adored James who had loved Theo, his Daisy, since childhood Best friends, companions, confidantes these are the things enduring relationships are built on, and James and Daisy had that, and, from the start. Of course this tale is about recognizing where real beauty is found, and in this scene, one of my favorites of the story, that lesson was beautifully delivered If you ever utter a word about my wife that is less than complimentary, I will not slam you against the wall again I will instead send you through

a window And not on the ground floor, either James didn't wait for an answer who expects garbage to answer back Instead, he held out his arm to his wife. When they turned, they saw that the gallery was now crammed with people My duchess, James stated, his eyes sweeping the crowd with the air of a man who has ruled the waves She is not a swan, because that would imply she had once been an ugly duckling He glanced down at Theo Her eyes were painted with an exotic tilt at the corners Her cheekbones were regal and her bottom lip was colored a perfect red that made it kissable than it already was Small but lush breasts, skin the color of clear moonlight, rose above a waist the size of a man's hand. But none of that mattered compared to the innate kindness in her eyes, the joyful turn of her lip, the wild intelligence with which she greeted every day That was beautiful. And so is this story Though their relationship had its rocky moments, I laughed, sighed and even got weepy a few times And now, as I sit here thinking back on this charming tale, I can't help but smile for all the Daisies and their James throughout history who understood that beauty truly is in the eye of the beholder, and as Confucius so insightfully told us, Everything has beauty, but not everyone sees it And how sad are their lives for all that they miss. Update I'm editing this review because I feel I should make note of something that I know can be an issue for some readers, including myself There is what some might consider adultery in this book, but only in the technical sense of the word. Minor spoiler view spoiler There's part of the story where James and Daisy have been apart for years, at Daisy's demand Through their years apart, James never stopped loving and missing her It wasn't his choice to leave, Daisy gave him no choice He believed in his heart that she would never allow him to come home, and that after the required 7 years of absence, she'd have him declared dead so she could remarry All their time apart, this is what James believed was going to happen, and why I say the adultery occurred only in the technical sense as they were still married hide spoiler

