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BARON OF GODSMERE: A Medieval Romance (The Feud Book 1)



Synopsis

THE FEUD England, 1308. Boursier, De Arell, Verdunâ”three noblemen who secretly gather to ally against their treacherous lord. But though each is elevated to a baron in his own right and given a portion of his lordâ”™s lands, jealousy and reprisal lead to a twenty-five year feud, pitting family against family, passing father to son.

THE DECREE England, 1333. The chink in Baron Boursierâ”™s armor is his fondness for a lovely face. When it costs him half his sight and brands him as one who abuses women, he vows to never again be âœblindedâ• by beauty. Thus, given the choice between forfeiting his lands and wedding one of his enemies to end their feud, he chooses as his betrothed the lady said to be plain of face, rejecting the lady rumored to be most fair.

THE ENEMY On the eve of the deadline to honor the kingâ”™s decree of marriage, the fair Elianor of Emberly takes matters into her own hands. Determined none will suffer marriage to the man better known as The Boursier, she sets in motion her plan to imprison him long enough to ensure his barony is forfeited. But when all goes awry and her wrathful enemy compels her to wed him to save his lands, she discovers he is either much changed or much maligned. And the real enemy is one who lurks in their midst. One bent on keeping the feud burning.

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Customer Reviews

4.5 Tamara Leigh has become my go-to author for medieval romance. She has a captivating way of writing that sucks you into the story and has you falling in love with her characters. I love her medieval because they feel so authentic, without being boring or feeling like a history lesson. Elianor suffered through a horrible first marriage. Although she was only married for two years, they were years filled with constant abuse. She is now a widow and learns she is to be wed to The Boursier (Bayard), who has a horrible reputation. Bayard also suffered from a bad first marriage and is not happy when the king orders him to marry, given the choice of two brides, either Elianor or Thomasin, to try and find peace between the three warring families. Elianor will do just about anything to avoid another abusive marriage. Without thinking through her actions she sets in motion a plan that will change all their lives and have outcomes she may soon regret. I liked Elianor. She had a horrible past and while it was a big part of the story, it was never overly detailed or felt too heavy. I actually liked seeing how strong she was and how all her abuse didn't break her. Bayard and Elianor's relationship is complex and has many layers. They both have preconceived notions and have to overcome their pasts before they can ever focus on a future. I loved how Bayard handled Elianor, he has an amazing amount of patience. I ended up really enjoying their story and watching their relationship unfold. They had great chemistry and while it was fun watching them butt heads, it was even better when it slowly turned to respect and love. They easily made it to my Favorite Couple shelf. There is a bit of a mystery throughout the story and one that will probably continue through the series.

5 solid stars!!! I loved this one...and am so, so glad it's the beginning of what I'm assuming will be a trilogy. Ms. Leigh has most definitely claimed the top spot on my favorites list when it comes to historical romance. And this book is just as good as all her others! I feel like every time I read a new one of her historicals, I have a new favorite...I don't know how she does it! Onto the story...Bayard...one word: LOVE! He's such a strong, well-developed character. His internal conflict between the feud, hate for Elianor's family and distrust for her after her deceit at the beginning was so real...and at the same time, he was fighting falling for her...and as he fell for her, he was so careful with her heart, knowing the past she came from. Trying to ease her into anything intimate, whether it be physical or emotional. I just loved him: Elianor--(of four notes, not three. *Sigh*) She was also a very strong character. That's the thing I love about Ms. Leigh's characters. Both male

and female characters are strong, neither are pushovers, but they bend to the others will and love eventually and a beautiful love story is told in the midst. I felt like theirs was a believable, beautiful love story. They didn't want to marry, definitely didn't foresee themselves falling in love, but they did and I for one thoroughly enjoyed their story. There's also a bit of mystery tied in that was partly wrapped up, but the rest will trickle into the next book(s). And I actually like that aspect. Nothing was left feeling like a cliffhanger, but I like that some of the mystery will still be there in the next book. I'm just secretly hoping one specific character isn't bad!!

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