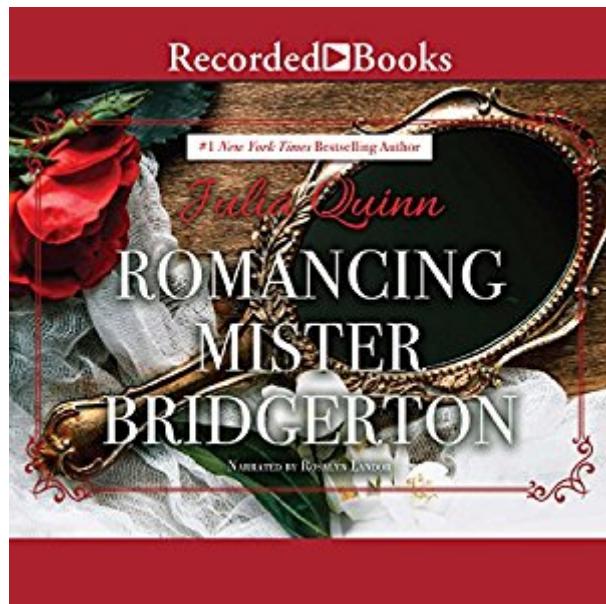


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Romancing Mister Bridgerton



Synopsis

Everyone knows that Colin Bridgerton is the most charming man in London. Penelope Featherington has secretly adored her best friend's brother for...well, it feels like forever. After half a lifetime of watching Colin Bridgerton from afar, she thinks she knows everything about him, until she stumbles across his deepest secret...and fears she doesn't know him at all. Colin Bridgerton is tired of being thought nothing but an empty-headed charmer, tired of everyone's preoccupation with the notorious gossip columnist Lady Whistledown, who can't seem to publish an edition without mentioning him in the first paragraph. But when Colin returns to London from a trip abroad he discovers nothing in his life is quite the same - especially Penelope Featherington! The girl haunting his dreams. But when he discovers that Penelope has secrets of her own, this elusive bachelor must decide...is she his biggest threat - or his promise of a happy ending?

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 13 hours and 17 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Recorded Books

Audible.com Release Date: April 6, 2017

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B06Y2DSFRJ

Best Sellers Rank: #57 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Romance > Historical #707 in Books > Romance > Historical > Regency #3498 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Fiction & Literature

Customer Reviews

This is the story of Colin and Penelope Featherington. As in many large families, individuals often get lost in the crowd, particularly middle children which Colin and Penelope happen to be. Penelope also happens to be the best friend of Colin's younger sister Eloise so that Penelope doesn't even have the advantage of age before she becomes acquainted with Colin. As a couple, they are the most unlikely of partners, yet each has a flaw/condition/obstacle that complements the other and is invisible to the world. The writer eludes to the plot line in Benedict's story when it is revealed that Benedict paints and only a veritable stranger, who later becomes his wife, is aware of that talent.

For Colin, he isn't aware that he even has a special talent thus he is unable to make use of it to establish his own place in the world outside the family name. And it is at this point in his life Penelope becomes the center of his universe. Because she IS aware of her special place in the world but she also knows she can never get the credit for her contribution; just knowing has become enough for her. Until the villainess of the piece decides to take the credit for Penelope's work and the couple find themselves at odds over the proper course to take. Its the struggle to determine life's priorities, what is important and how much importance to place on it. And exactly how much faith one has in themselves and those whom they interact with. This is one of my favorites, but it took three readings to get past the sadness I always remembered as the "Wall flower" growing up.

When I find an excellent story teller, I read all their books! For the last 2 months I have read Julia Quinn's! Quinn is amazing. Her characters are interesting, quirky, and often insightful. Wonderfully set in early 19th century England, the story unfolds through conversations and the funny thoughts of the very believable characters. I love that the books are stand alones. I can't believe that Lady Whistledown's identity is revealed in this book(4) since I've read the books out of order and continued to wonder who she was until now!

I think this particular installment in the Bridgerton Series is a gift for fans. I came to the series late, but I enjoyed all three first novels, though I immediately noticed the little bits here and there for Colin and Penelope, especially the infamous episode where he declares he won't be marrying her. It's a great little moment and the understated grief and her regality really play well there. So for me, the culmination is wonderful. We're not just told that Penelope and Colin missed each other for twelve years, the reader's actually experience it from the beginning. And so by the time this book begins, you know Penelope has a dry wit that not many are aware of, and that Colin is a little less of the shiftless third son. You know they're both running in the opposite directions. Penelope is too afraid to say anything, and Colin doesn't realize who she is. But in the end, when you run in the opposite direction, you end up meeting again in the same place, and maybe, finally, at the right time.

Romancing Mister Bridgerton is the forth book in Julia Quinn's series of the Bridgerton Family. Each book in the series is a stand alone but I would suggest you read all eight to get to know this remarkable family. This story centers on Colin Bridgerton, the third son, who is tired of being thought nothing but an empty-headed charmer, tired of everyone's preoccupation with the notorious gossip columnist Lady Whistledown, who can't seem to publish an edition without mentioning him in the

first paragraph. But when Colin returns to London from a trip aboard he discovers nothing in his life is quite the same. Penelope Featherington has loved Colin since she was sixteen, now at twenty-eight is one year away from being labeled a spinster. She has never been courted, never sent flowers and no young man has ever stolen a kiss. She is a wallflower who is a secret thorn. Penelope is the girl that has haunted Colin's dreams. But when he discovers that Penelope has secrets of her own, this elusive bachelor must decide what love is all about. The passion was ok but I personally would have liked Ms. Quinn to have stepped it up some. I read a review that gave it a sensual rating of 7. I would put it around a 5. I feel a good author can write steamy passionate love between the Hero and Heroine in a story that is hot after all this is a book that is for adults and not children. I have enjoyed reading the 4 books so far in the series and look forward to reading number 5.

Julia Quinn has an amazing ability to make her characters seem real. I am truly angry with her that I almost wish I knew the Bridgertons in real life. I actually feel disappointed that I don't. Each book in this series leaves me feeling like I really need to know what happened next. This book makes one believe in love. The novel did not contain the kind of fantastical impossible and improbable love one can normally find in romance novels. This kind of love is a small flame that turns into a slow and steady burn that can never die out.

Ms. Quinn delights! Colin and Penelope? Surely not! He is the darling of the ton and well, she is...not even noticed! Both characters are easy to connect with, maybe Penelope even more. You feel her angst when she and Colin struggle to come to an agreement. For any girl who has ever had a nemesis her feelings are so easy to identify. Ms. Quinn balances this nicely with laugh out loud moments and, of course, the Bridgerton family brood to move things along. Every once in a while you find a book you want to go back to. This is one.

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