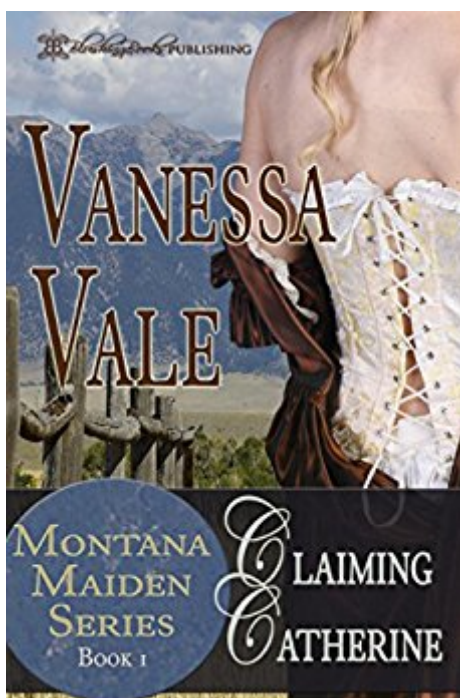


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Claiming Catherine (Montana Maiden Series Book 1)



Synopsis

Branded a harlot for undoing a confining button on her blouse, Catherine Langton's finds herself rejected by the man she is to marry, leaving her in a predicament: mail order bride or the poorhouse. Her decision is simple and she arrives in Liberty, Montana to marry a man she's never seen, her only desire to be a pleasing wife. Jake Bridger exceeds Catherine's expectations at first glance. He looks as if he stepped from the pages of the Western romances she knows she shouldn't read. But she's about to find out that the men of Liberty are not like other men. Here, a wife is expected to make all of herself available to her husband, even parts a good girl like Catherine never expected a man to plunder. It's not an easy adjustment, but Jake isn't a man to take "no" for an answer, and sets about training his new bride using techniques that soon have Catherine wantonly eager for his attentions. But can Catherine live with her new husband's explicit requirements when it opposes everything she's known? Publisher's Note: "Claiming Catherine" depicts women in situations of non-consent as well as strict explicit punishment in sexual situations. Do not purchase this book if these elements will offend you.

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Customer Reviews

Catherine lived in St. Louis and was supposed to marry Mr Beecham, not that he was any kind of a catch, but it was so hot at church one day that Catherine unbuttoned her top button. That set him off and from that point she was accused of being a wanton. He retracted his offer of marriage and she had no other prospects or opportunities in St Louis, especially with her father's debt hanging over her head. Her only viable solution was to become a mail order bride. Not only did she agree to become a mail order bride but she was married by proxy to someone she had never laid eyes on. Full of fear, she traveled to Montana, all the way wondering what it would be like to actually be with a man. Alert! This is not a book to read in a room full of people. I wouldn't read it in a restaurant or coffee shop because I'm sure that anyone watching would notice my flushed face or the fact that I wasn't exactly breathing regularly. Catherine's new husband Jake Bridger was big and beautiful. How lucky for her that Mr. Beecham retracted the offer of marriage. Catherine was thrilled to be married to this big, handsome man. A virgin, she was quite nervous at the anticipation of bedroom activities and perhaps it's best that she didn't know in advance about the culture and expectations of a wife in Bridgewater...expectations like 'corking' to follow the wedding ceremony. I would classify this as a bit of a Western Erotic Fantasy Romance and it was arousing indeed. Although her husband agreed to delay his consummation of the marriage he had many other sensual plans. The husband had the responsibility to train the wife to meet his needs and there are very specific expectations, strict rules in that regard. He in turn is responsible for meeting his wife's needs even those needs that are accelerated and enhanced by the use of an aphrodisiac discovered by the original settlers of Liberty, Montana. In addition to a new way of depicting the submissive and master relationship, there is casual voyeurism, sensual domination. If you are looking for a western/historical story in a 21st century b/d relationship, look no further. This is my first book by this author but I can tell that this will be the beginning of a very beautiful author / reader relationship.

I love this author's works - normally. I hate this series (I read the first two, starting with this one) - and I'm done with it. ****Spoiler alert**** (don't read further if you don't want to know how it ends) I want the sex to be consensual, even if it takes a bit for everyone to get on the same page. Catherine never has a chance to get there - she is kept in the dark about the aphrodisiac her husband

administers to her daily (he tells her it's medicine to prevent cramping from the water - dysentery without the runs). Her husband manipulates her into doing what he wants sexually and otherwise. What passes for a HEA is that Catherine becomes "trained" to her husband's desires - a sexual pet. She never has the opportunity to choose to submit - she's just played. The good news is that her husband comes to care for her - just not enough to give up the games and actually give her choice. If I didn't know different, I'd think someone else was writing under Vanessa Vale's name - because the wit, humor, and lightness in her other series is missing in this book.

OK, I've read a few of the other reviews for this story and I don't disagree. But, if you view it in the context of being non-consensual, it is a very erotic book. Also, let us not forget that women were viewed as property in those days and a man could do pretty much what he wanted. I really liked this book. It was sexy and very well written. Catherine is a mail order bride and Jake is the man who ordered her. Lol The community that Catherine has moved to does things differently. They make their wives sexually submissive by giving them an aphrodisiac that makes them needy all the time. In this story, we learn how Catherine is trained by Jake to become a wife in this community. When you read this story, look at it in the eyes of someone from this time and suspend your disbelief and outrage. It is after all, a story. I give this story 4 stars.

I have read many of this author's books and loved them but this book is all about the male. There is no kindness, no caring it is all about the male. He gets his way through trickery, lies and deceit. He enjoys making his wife suck by putting drugs in her food then blaming her for being sick because she didn't do what he said. He continuously humiliates his wife and laughs about it with everyone. He won't let her go to the bathroom without him or one of his brothers helping her. He also makes her let his brothers touch her and all of this is while she is made to walk around in front of everyone with her breasts out which he touches in front of everyone. This book is not romance. If you want to read a book about humiliating, degrading, exposing and using your wife like a whore then this book is for you.

SPOILERS. This book needs a trigger warning for anyone who's been drugged and raped. I'm a big fan of Vanessa Vale's other series, like Bridgewater and Montana Flowers, but this book, and I assume the rest of the series, is beyond the pale. The men in the town use drugs and humiliation to control and rape their wives, repeatedly extolling how "docile" and "biddable" the drugs make their women. (Don't come at me with some lame argument about it not being rape. There's no consent

here, just coercion and deception.) The men have few redeeming qualities. They are liars, manipulators, and rapists, and think nothing of subjecting their wives to serious discomfort and pain (and I'm not talking erotic pain) in order to bend them to their will. If Vanessa would like to turn this into a series in which the downtrodden wives rise up and take revenge on their cruel husbands, I'd be all over that.

There is nothing sexy about drugging your wife to make her sick or keep her horny so she bends to your will. Especially when she is a scared virgin to begin with whose in a new place, with no friends, and no other options. Oh, yea letting the entire family of brothers humiliate her also added to the exotic sexy of this story. Leave the series.... In fact I think I'm going to leave the writer! How do I get my money back.

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