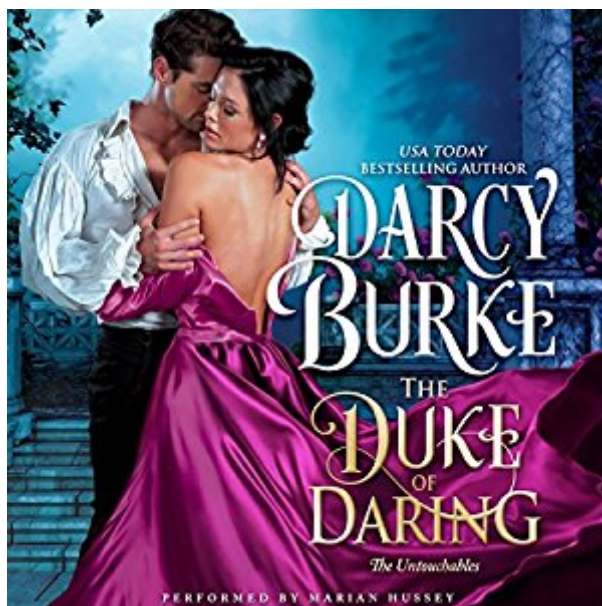


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# The Duke Of Daring: The Untouchables, Book 2



## Synopsis

Miss Lucinda Parnell is out of money. A dismal failure at the Marriage Mart, she'd just as soon leave Society far behind. Desperate to earn funds to retire with her grandmother to the country, Lucy disguises herself as a man to gamble in London's hells. But the Earl of Dartford, an Untouchable she never imagined speaking to let alone spending time with, is onto her in a trice. When he insists on acting as her protector, Lucy fears her chance to remain an independent woman is destined to go up in flames. After losing his entire family, Andrew Wentworth, Earl of Dartford, built a wall to keep attachments at bay. He believed he could keep Miss Parnell safe without compromising his defenses, but she's exciting and irresistible. Their deepening relationship makes him even more determined to push her away. Nothing will stop him from trying to avoid reliving the anguish of loss. Love is the one risk he doesn't have the heart to dare.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Andrew Wentworth, Earl of Dartford, was very young when he lost his entire family. Not wanting to feel that sense of helplessness and pain watching those he loved die, Andrew vowed never to fall in love nor marry. He spent the years since avoiding his family home, keeping everyone at arm's length, and pursuing dangerous activities (this last earning him the nickname "The Duke of Daring" by a trio of wallflowers). After the life she has been relegated to since the death of her gambler of a father, Lucinda "Lucy" Parnell vows to never marry, never trust a man and to rely only on herself. This latter is what has her involved in her latest

scheme "trying to make money so she can retire to the country with her grandmother. A scheme that is going along well until someone sees through her disguise. A partnership formed, for one it's the thrill of something different (not to mention the intrigue of his partner) and for the other it's a matter of making their own choice in their survival. What remains to be seen is if one can convince the other that it's okay to trust and okay to love. I thoroughly enjoyed this second story in The Untouchable series by Darcy Burke. Ms. Burke's writing draws the reader in where they can feel each character's emotion, from Lucy's dislike of the male species to Andrew's despair when memories come flooding in and everything in between. Be prepared to laugh at Lucy and Andrew's antics as she tries to gather the funds she needs to crying when Andrew can't keep the memories away. Andrew's moment of realization that what he's been fighting all these years has happened anyway will have the tears flowing.

The story is a very nice read. Lucy is a great character. She knows what she has to do, she does it and she does not regret anything. Andrew is a little harder to get to know and like. Unfortunately he blames himself for not being able to help his family and will not let himself get close to anyone (including his servants). Andrew is a nice guy (not a rake) and helps everyone but keeps them at a distance. I actually wanted to read more about his problems and a more in-depth view of how he was overcoming them (with the help of Lucy). I loved the interaction with Andrew and Lucy during their gaming hell excursions. A lovely and sweet story. I received a complimentary copy from the publisher through NetGalley.

Just fun reading all the way. In the early 1800's London, a woman in need of funds dresses as a man in order to gamble at the gaming "hells". Upon being discovered by another man, she is not given over to the authorities but is aided and abetted to accomplish her goals. Love the dialogue, love the women friends, love the slow development of relationship between H/h and appreciated the strong nod to PTSD symptoms (not to hide but to understand). Setting, characters, era details and plot seemed all spot on to me. Yep, some explicit sex scenes -- beware -- but were not the point of the story nor did they overwhelm the story. I now plan to check out other Darcy Burke stories.

I love regency romances! This is my first book by this author, and I liked it. The premise was what caught my eye - debutante dresses as a man and gambles in order to restore her family fortune, only to be discovered by a nobleman. The heroine, Miss Lucinda Parnell, was compelling - pretty,

forthright, and mature. The hero, Lord Andrew Dartford, was also compelling - handsome and aristocratic but scarred psychologically as a child. They had good chemistry and some sizzle. The storyline was simple but entertaining. I liked the author's writing style - plenty of action and dialogue and no contrived misunderstandings, although the ending wrapped up a little silly for me. Overall, a good book, and I look forward to reading the other books in the series.

Andrew, An Earl, but nicknamed by a group of Wallflowers as The Duke of Daring. When the truth is, he never wants to hurt again by love. Having lost everyone he loved at an early age, he has sworn never to fall into depth of despair ever again. Lucy Parnell is broke, thanks to her gambler of a father! Now, she needs to earn money to move her Grandmother, and herself to the countryside. The only way she knows how, is gambling, so she dresses herself up like a man, and off to the Hell's she goes! There is one problem, someone has seen through her disguise, what happens from there, is a laugh out loud, sometimes heartbreaking chain of events! Great Read! I highly recommend! Thanks! Enjoy! carolintallahassee

I thoroughly enjoyed this somewhat racy historical romance. The book description adequately summarizes the plot, so I won't rehash that here. What I loved best about this book is the characters. Both of the main characters had flaws that could be a little frustrating at times, and both made mistakes, but you could completely understand why they behaved the way they did. It was just enough to make these otherwise kind, intelligent, charming people well-rounded. Many of the secondary characters were also developed enough to feel real. The chemistry between all of the characters - lovers, friends, servants, and family - felt authentic, and it was a delight to watch these relationships develop. The book is well-written. I don't recall any editing or formatting problems. I thought the pacing was good; I was drawn into the story quite quickly and it never lost my attention. There are several sexually explicit scenes, but they were handled tastefully and didn't overwhelm the story. Although this is the second book in Darcy Burke's The Untouchables series, it works just fine as a stand-alone. However, now that I have met the characters, I want to read the rest of the series to discover what becomes of Lucy's friends. These are characters I look forward to spending more time with.

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