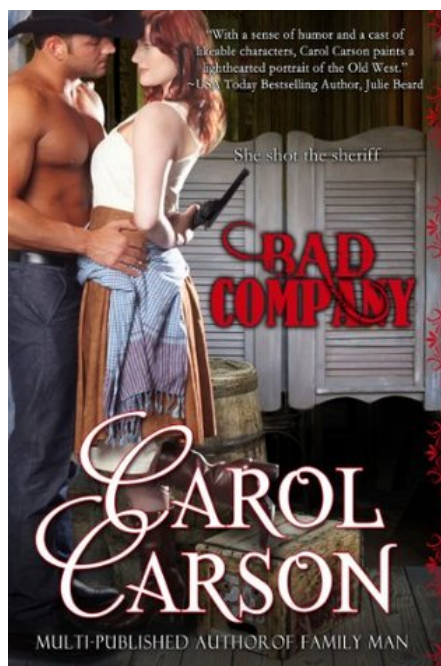




Bad Company

Carol Carson

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SHE SHOT THE SHERIFF!

Trixianna Lawless can't believe the man she's shot on her front porch is the sheriff. She thought he was an intruder. What was he doing scaring her to death before the sun even rose? She is a proper woman who bakes pies for the restaurant in Grand Fork, Kansas. She isn't dangerous; she's simply run to Grand Fork after a misunderstanding with her sister. And she certainly isn't Mad Maggie West, a notorious bank robber. Can she help it if she slightly resembles the woman on the wanted poster?

Sheriff Chance Magrane can't believe a woman has shot him. He has no choice but to arrest her for bank robbery. In the meantime he has to ignore the fact that she wears the fanciest underpinnings in town and has twinkling green eyes that remind him he is a man.

When Trixianna lands in Chance's house instead of jail, she finds herself in the middle of the biggest mess of her life. As the days pass, Trixianna wishes Chance would believe her. Even as Trixianna and Chance fall in love, he is suspicious. In addition to shooting him, she tries to poison him, stabs him and almost burns down his house. It takes a cast of memorable characters to bring this spirited heroine and stubborn hero together.

Bad Company Details

Date : Published December 3rd 2012 (first published November 1998)

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Author : Carol Carson

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Genre : Romance, Westerns, Historical, Historical Romance

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From Reader Review Bad Company for online ebook

Linda says

Cute book

There were a lot of parts that made me laugh out loud. It's a comical romance about a stubborn sheriff and a klutzy red head he's mistakenly identified as a bank robber.

Lia says

I really loved this book!!

Nicole Normand says

I received a free book on Amazon.ca. This is my honest review. 4 stars.

I love book covers so I make sure I see all the details. The funniest thing happened when I started reading about the description of the h: She's supposed to come up to about the H's chest, but when you take a look at the book cover, she's as tall as him!

You know right away how the story will evolve: the sheriff thinks the h robbed a bank...

The characters and the environment are well defined; it's like you know them already and you can feel yourself right there. The h gets into all kinds of problems and the H keeps thinking she's going to get away. I took off one star because I think the story could have been written with less pages, less repeating of situations, and more into seeing the truth right in front of you, especially when the h's twin comes to town with a nun alongside...

Gloria Albritton says

Sweetness and Funny

This is one fun read. There is so much hilarity from the beginning to the end. All the characters are trying to hide something or get someone arrested for mischief caused by themselves. There are couples going to be married but each in love with another person. It's just mayhem and madness that keeps you in stitches all the way to the end.

Barbara R. Cady says

ROFL!!!!!!

Oh my!!!! I love, love ,love this book!!! I snickered the entire way through. It is well written with delightful characters and a good story. You MUST read it!

Deb Diem says

Bad Company by Carol Carson is an entertaining read. Ms Carson has delivered a well written book. Trixianna and Chance's story is loaded with fabulous characters, suspense, sizzle and tons of humor. I enjoyed Bad Company and look forward to reading more from this author. This is a complete book, not a cliff-hanger.

Tracy Sylvester says

Trixianna Lawless has a bad string of luck and accidents. When she tries helping her brother in law it puts a rift between her sister and herself. That forces Trixianna to move on to Grand Fork , Kansas. There she begins to start a new life of baking and moving on. Until one day the Sheriff surprises her and he gets shot in the shoulder by her. Things only go down from there. Trixianna's character is clumsy, kind and lovable by most. Sheriff Chance is serious, loyal and tries to be tough as nails. This story has mistaken identity, unfortunate events, and romance.

darlene. wilson says

It Began With An Arrest

I really loved this book. A great love started with Sheriff Chance arresting Trixiana for a crime she didn't commit. In this old west town, the citizens wouldn't let him leave her in a jail cell. They made him let her stay in his home. He was engaged to a woman he didn't love. Being so drawn to her drove him crazy. She was drawn to him too. It was worked out in an interesting way.

Shirlene says

Trixiana Lawless left her home in Abilene where she lived with her twin sister and her new husband due to a misunderstanding. Her brother-in-law, Jonathan, had gone into her bedroom to show her a gift he had purchased for his wife. They tried to hide it under her bed when her sister suddenly showed up. They got tangled up in their rush and he fell on top of Trixiana. Her sister got the wrong idea about what was going on even after their explanation so Trixiana left and stopped in Grand Fork, Kansas, which was the train's first stopping place.

She was in her house when Sheriff Chance Magrane entered with his gun drawn, without knocking. Trixiana shot him in the shoulder. She tried to apologize but he told her that she was under arrest because her picture matched a wanted poster for a bank robber by the name of Mad Maggie West. She denied it but he refused to accept this. She made money by baking desserts for the local diner.

She spent the day in jail and his aunt told him that she couldn't stay there so she went to stay in his house where he could keep an eye on her. She made some pies and she chose to make a cranberry pie for the sheriff. He found out that he was allergic to cranberries when he broke out in hives and threw up. He accused her of poisoning him and would have believed it except for his fiancée was eating the same pie when he got home. Nothing happened to either Fanny Fairfax or Trixiana.

Everyone in town liked Trixiana. The owner of the diner came by and she made pies while staying at the sheriff's house. The bar maids came by for cooking lessons and decided to teach her how to play poker in exchange for the cooking lessons. Their apple pandowdy's caught fire and Chance thought that she might be trying to burn down his house when he saw the smoke. They laughed it off and he ended up kissing her as they were cleaning up. Chance was surprised and found himself very attracted to her. He didn't want to be because of his engagement. Trixiana was surprised that he was engaged to Fanny because she was so different than he was. She was chubby, had buck teeth and it was obvious they weren't in love with each other.

She had made a friend of an English man, Burnsey, who was in the other cell for being drunk when she was brought in. He came to the sheriff's one day where she was teaching him how to filet a fish. Chance came in very quietly to see what was going on. He surprised them and she threw the knife and hit him in the thigh. She told Chance that her father had taught her how to shoot and how to use a knife for protection. Burnsey, Alistair Burns laughed at Chance and asked him he was going to faint again like he had done when Trixiana had shot him. Chance was embarrassed and said he was fine.

Trixiana was out walking one day to deliver items to the diner when the mayor stopped her. His wife didn't like his comments about a dress she had picked out for the wedding. Trixiana agreed with him and used different wording to convince his wife to choose a different dress. Chance was out looking for her when it took her longer to get back than he expected. The mayor told him that he had stopped her and also told Chance that he was the only one in town who thought Trixiana was a bank robber. Trixiana continued to the sheriff's house when she heard laughter. She was surprised to see Fanny walking with Burnsey. From the look on her face, Trixiana could see that she was in love with him.

Trixiana went to spend some time near the creek on a hot day and left a note for Chance. He went to find her and heard her cat screeching. He was on a log floating down the creek. Trixiana asked him to help the cat and he dove in the freezing water to rescue Angel. Trixiana followed him and they ended up bumping heads and Chance fell backwards and hit his head on a rock. She had to drag him out of the water. He came to and she thanked him for rescuing her cat and kissed him. He was mad for having been knocked out again.

The next day, he was mad at himself because he knew he was falling for the bank robber. Trixiana knew that she was falling for him too. He went out drinking and took a drunk Mayor Fairfax home and had dinner with Fanny and her mother. He kissed Fanny and asked her if she still wanted to marry him and she said that she did. He wondered why because she obviously didn't enjoy kissing him.

It was 3 days before the wedding and Trixiana wondered what was keeping Chance when a visitor arrived. It was Chance's little brother. He wasn't expected and Rider wondered what Chance would think when he got home and found out that his little brother had gotten out of prison. He set up to sleep on front room floor when Trixiana went to bed.

Sam Smith, a bounty hunter who knew Chance, rode into town. He stopped by the saloon when Chance came in. Sam ducked his head and heard a comment about Mad Maggie being at the sheriff's place. He had been planning on getting a room for the night but decided to try and get Mad Maggie for the \$500 reward on her while the sheriff wasn't at home. He overheard that her cooking set the place apart so he followed the smell to the sheriff's place.

Sam took Trixiana and she punched him in the face. She then waited for a chance to escape. She told Sam that she needed to go the the bathroom when they stopped. He turned away and she hit him over the head with a rock. She kicked him in the groin and took off running.

It took Chance a bit to remember who Sam was when they passed each other in the saloon. When he did, he ran home to find Trixiana had been taken. He followed their tracks and found Sam. He had a bruised cheek and a cut on his forehead. Chance told Sam that the marshall from where the bank robbery occurred would be coming into town in 2 days time. He started searching the area and found Trixiana crying. They made out for a while and he took her home. He told Trixiana that he wasn't so sure that she was a bank robber anymore and offered her the opportunity to escape. They went back to his place and entered using the back door. Chance went out front to find Rider talking to Fanny. Rider told Trixiana that he had been in prison for 5 years and that Chance had put him there.

Rider and Chance had lunch together and Chance was late for thinking about what to do. He was engaged to Fanny but in love with Trixiana. Fanny went by to see Trixiana and told her that she wasn't in love with

Chance. She had been to one to ask if he wanted to marry her and she was afraid to break off their engagement. Trixiana was in love with Chance and was a bit angry that Fanny wouldn't say anything to Chance. Chance went drinking and met up with Burnsey. After putting Burnsey in jail for the night he went home. He stopped in to check on Trixiana and ended up staying the night. He went back to the jail to check on Burnsey and listened to him ramble on about Fanny and this being their wedding day. Chance realized that Burnsey was in love with Fanny. He went to find Fanny to talk to her. He asked Fanny if she still wanted to call off the wedding and she said she didn't.

Georgette and Jonathan arrived in town to find Trixiana so Georgette could apologize. One of the boys in town came to find Trixiana and tell her. Georgette had arrived by train and was accompanied by a nun. That nun just happened to be the real Mad Maggie. She had come to free the woman she heard was arrested for being her and to rob the town's bank.

Chance saw the three women at the train station and decided to lock them all up until after the wedding when he had time to decide what to do with them. He went to the church but Trixiana had a key to the cell in her coat pocket that she had picked up at his house. She let them all out and headed for the church. The minister got to the part where he asked if any objected to the marriage when Trixiana and Georgette arrived soaking wet from walking through the rain. Alistair stepped up and said he objected. Chance's aunt was next, followed by Annie V who owned the saloon. Rider said he objected to because of Chance being in love with Trixiana. Burnsey said he was in love with Fanny. Fanny said she was in love with Burnsey. Trixiana admitted to being in love with the sheriff when she was asked. They were interrupted by the announcement that the bank was being robbed. Fanny and Burnsey stayed behind to get married.

Mad Maggie considered herself lucky. The bank was easy to rob with everyone busy at the church. Jonathan saw her standing by the bank and she told him that everyone was at the church. Jonathan headed over when he ran into another man with a badge. They talked and Jonathan told him that the nun by the bank had told him that everyone was at the church. The marshal took Jonathan with him to stop the bank robbery. The real Mad Maggie West had been caught.

Chance arrived home to find Trixiana getting ready to wash herself and start packing to return to Abilene. Georgette had told her that she was pregnant. Chance stopped her by telling her he loved her and asked her to marry him.

They were married a month later. Chance tripped on her wedding dress and knocked himself out when he hit his head on one of the pews on his way down.

Sieravonne says

Only **1 star**. Why?

Chapter 4: Trixianna didn't have to apologize for anything. It was Chance who was being an ass.

Chapter 6: It wasn't necessary for Trixianna to share her whole background to Chance. She could simply tell the reason why she was in Grand Fork. Plus, she didn't need to apologize for slapping him hard because he had shamed her, insulted her, even laughed in her face. As part of his plan to get to the truth, he'd goaded her all right. Clearly, Chance deserved it.

Chapter 7: I find the fire in the kitchen scene exaggerating. Burning when cooking happens but Trixianna and company were *near* the kitchen when it occurred, hence, they should be able to mitigate the damage; Annie V's dress didn't have to get burned.

Chapter 8: I also find the "dagger scenario" a bit amplified. If Trixianna was startled, I think she would drop the dagger, not throw it. Either that or I'm just not good in Psychology and Physics.

It was *very, very ridiculous*, as well, that Trixianna could keep a kitchen neat and tidy but her bedroom looks like a bordello bedroom after a hard night of lusty bed play. If she was a true orderly person, it should reflect her entirety because how you do anything, is how you do everything; there is a domino effect. If she only keeps one place well-arranged while the other messy, then it means she was a plastic or an inconsistent individual or hiding a dirty secret but pretending to be clean.

Additionally, she didn't have any backbone. Falling in love with a jerk?? **A woman with pride will not tolerate anyone disrespecting her much less falling in love.**

Chapter 11: For an *experienced* man who availed the services of the "working women," Chance and Sam Smith sure blushed easily and I find it *really, really* stupid.

Chapter 12: Chance was a blasted asshole for taking advantage of Trixianna's vulnerability.

Chapter 15: For a notorious criminal, Mad Maggie West sure didn't feel right about anyone else taking the blame for her own misdeeds. Duh!?! Hardened outlaws *do not* feel any guilt much less remorse.

Chapter 16: What kind of a banker would leave the vault unlocked and stood open especially if the bank will be temporarily closed? Either a stupid one or an irresponsible one.

Pat Christie says

Ebook

Adorable story with unexpected sub stories. The heroine just about does the sheriff in with accidents. Love wins in the end!

Steve Bender says

Great Read. Hilarious Western romance that keeps you going. Highly recommended.

Ann Knutson says

Great book. Couldn't put it down. I Love the characters, made me laugh, a must read.

Great book. Couldn't put it down. I Love the characters, made me laugh, a must read. Hours of fun reading.

Anette De Villiers says

Fun read - Poor Chance - misfortune and romance what a way to muddle a man's plans. He is definitely in for a eventful happily ever after.

Merry says

A delightful story

I enjoyed this elightful story. I loved the characters. I was cheering for Trixianna from the beginning. I hope to revisit Chase and brother in the future..
