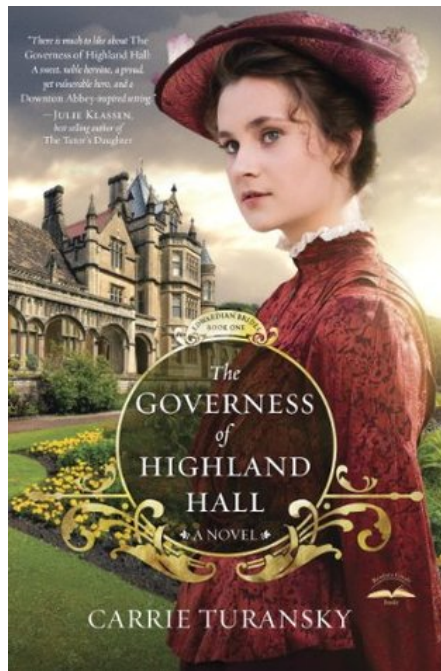




The Governess of Highland Hall

Carrie Turansky

Download now

Read Online ➔

The Governess of Highland Hall

Carrie Turansky

The Governess of Highland Hall Carrie Turansky

Worlds lie between the marketplaces of India and the halls of a magnificent country estate like Highland Hall. Will Julia be able to find her place when a governess is neither upstairs family nor downstairs help?

Missionary Julia Foster loves working alongside her parents, ministering and caring for young girls in India. But when the family must return to England due to illness, she readily accepts the burden for her parents' financial support. Taking on a job at Highland Hall as governess, she quickly finds that teaching her four privileged, ill-mannered charges at a grand estate is more challenging than expected, and she isn't sure what to make of the estate's preoccupied master, Sir William Ramsey.

Widowed and left to care for his two young children and his deceased cousin Randolph's two teenage girls, William is consumed with saving the estate from the financial ruin. The last thing he needs is any distraction coming from the kindhearted-yet-determined governess who seems to be quietly transforming his household with her persuasive personality, vibrant prayer life, and strong faith.

While both are tending past wounds and guarding fragile secrets, Julia and William are determined to do what it takes to save their families—common ground that proves fertile for unexpected feelings. But will William choose Julia's steadfast heart and faith over the wealth and power he needs to secure Highland Hall's future?

The Governess of Highland Hall Details

Date : Published October 15th 2013 by Multnomah Books (first published January 1st 2013)

ISBN :

Author : Carrie Turansky

Format : Kindle Edition 336 pages

Genre : Historical, Historical Fiction, Romance, Christian Fiction, Christian, Historical Romance, Fiction

 [Download The Governess of Highland Hall ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Governess of Highland Hall ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online The Governess of Highland Hall Carrie Turansky

From Reader Review The Governess of Highland Hall for online ebook

Terri Gillespie says

PACK UP YOUR BAGS, DOWNTON ABBEY FANS! YOU'LL LOVE RELOCATING TO HIGHLAND HALL!

Set in the same time period as Downton Abbey, *The Governess of Highland Hall* (Book one of the Edwardian Brides Series) by Carrie Turansky, opens with Julia Foster seeking employment as a governess. In 1900's England, there is little else a former missionary to India can do to help support her mother and sick father.

She is hired by the handsome, temperamental Sir William Ramsey who has also experienced a significant change in his life. A widower with two precocious children, he has recently inherited Highland Hall as well as his deceased cousin's two teenage girls, and an immense death tax bill. He is distracted by the demands placed upon him—both financially and emotionally—and has sorely neglected his children.

The governess quickly gains favor with those she serves, especially the children. Understandably, some of the current staff becomes jealous, providing readers with interesting and realistic conflict. Especially when Sir William—so badly wounded in his past—is drawn to the wholesome, bright, and godly young governess.

Despite Julia's admirable experience rescuing and working with young women in India, she is unaccustomed to the undercurrents and sometimes duplicitous behaviors of Highland's residents.

Readers will be quickly drawn into the lives of these believable characters and won't be able to put down *The Governess of Highland Hall*. The faith messages of forgiveness and hope are organically woven into the story.

I've been a longtime fan of Carrie Turansky's inspirational, romance books; however with *The Governess of Highland Hall*, she has truly found her voice! She excels in writing historical, especially the Edwardian period. New readers of Turansky's writing will be blessed with a story they can get lost in, and longtime fans will enjoy this novel immensely.

Misfit says

October 1911 Berkshire, England. Julia Foster has been living in India with her family doing missionary work, but her father's illness brings the family back to England and she takes the job as governess to Sir William Ramsey's two children. There's also a couple of older girls in the house (nieces I think), plus Sir William's on-the-shelf supposedly unmarried sister. William wasn't raised to be the lord of the manor, but a few inconvenient deaths in the family left it all in his hands, and he spends most of the time worrying over how to raise money for the death taxes. He worries and worries and worries and worries and worries and worries until you're sick to death hearing about those two words: **death taxes**.

My two cents? While I am not dead-set against the inspirational genre, I don't care for it to be so heavy-handed that it permeates every page as it does in this book. Tastes vary, and I know there are plenty of

readers who like it spread on this thick - but then again there are readers like me who don't want to be clubbed over the head.

“Very well. In light of the children’s illness, we will dispense with Scripture reading this morning. Let us pray.”

“I wrote you a letter, but as I prayed about it, I thought I should bring it myself.”

YMMV. As for the historical setting, I really didn't get a good feel for the period, this was more like the publisher realized they needed to jump onto the Downton Abbey train and get something going while the cash registers were still ringing. Worse yet, and my one of my biggest pet peeves is the lack of any barriers between the classes. None. Zip. Nada. The gardener and the baronet's sister want to marry. Of course the housekeeper would have a chat with the governess about the baronet's finances and why he needs to marry an American heiress.

It looks like there's at least one more book planned, but I don't plan on venturing further. Not my cuppa tea.

Carrie Turansky says

I am so excited to share this novel with all my reading friends! I hope you enjoy the story!

The Governess of Highland Hall is a historical romance set in England in 1911-1912. During the Edwardian Era wealth and social standing ruled the day. But when Julia Foster, a spirited young governess and former missionary to India, arrives at Highland Hall to care for Sir William Ramsey’s two children and teenage cousins, everything changes. William has recently inherited his late cousin’s title and estate, but increasing financial pressure makes it seem as though he will lose it all. He must decide if he will follow his heart and marry for love or choose a wealthy bride whose fortune can save his family’s estate from ruin. Can Julia’s godly character and pure heart secure William’s affection, or will the pull toward wealth, power and position destroy their future happiness?

When I watched the English television series Downton Abbey I fell in love with the Edwardian time period. That inspired me to begin my research and plan a trip to England to learn more about it and see some of these beautiful places for myself. I think anyone who enjoys Downton Abbey or novels like Jane Eyre and Pride and Prejudice will be eager to read The Governess of Highland Hall. It will appeal to readers who enjoy romantic stories that carry them away to another time and place and include fascinating characters who face dramatic, emotional choices. The spiritual themes of trusting God and following Him in spite of hardships along with a focus on abiding love for family will give the story added meaning and make a memorable impact on readers’ hearts.m

Marian Baay says

Carrie Turansky takes her readers back to 1911, England, where we will meet some fascinating characters between the walls of Highland Hall.

Julia Foster spent twelve years in India, helping her parents with missionary work among young girls. Her father’s health declined and they had to return to England. Now it is Julia’s task to financially care for her parents. She finds a job as governess at Highland Hall—a beautiful estate with Sir William Ramsey as the

new master.

Sir William is a widower with two young children. He inherited Highland Hall from his cousin who has left the estate in a very difficult financial situation. Besides the estate, his cousin also left two teenage girls in William's care. William is intrigued by the new governess, but after his deceased wife's betrayal he has decided not to trust women anymore.

Julia has her hands full with Sir William's children, but soon enough she starts to care for them. The teenage girls are not happy with Julia—or with a governess in general. They think they don't need a governess, but the oldest, Katherine, will turn 18 soon and she must be prepared for her first season in London.

Money is a big issue for William. Besides the difficult financial situation his deceased cousin left him in, he must also pay death duties for inheriting the estate. It seems to be impossible to get the money in time...unless he marries someone with big money. Then Lady Gatewood—Katherine's aunt—takes a wealthy American young lady to Highland Hall. She hopes William and Alice will marry to solve William's financial problems.

Julia wonders why Sir William is always brooding and one day she asks him what troubles him. He decides to take her in his confidence and tells her about the financial situation. Julia has a good idea to save some money by changing the menus. It will not be enough to pay the death duties, but it should help a bit. Julia's wisdom will bring more changes to Highland Hall. Some servants do not understand nor like the changes, but they also do not know about the financial difficulties.

The longer Julia works at Highland Hall the more her feelings grow for Sir William. William returns those feelings, but he cannot possibly marry the governess. Obviously the wealthy American is a better choice to save Highland Hall.

What choice will William make? Will he choose for wealth or rather for love?

I really enjoyed this new book by Carrie Turansky. The characters are very enjoyable and easy to love. There are also some very interesting secondary characters in this novel, which I didn't mention in my review, but I loved them all! This book is certainly worth the read if you love historical novels. I'm already looking forward to Carrie's next book!

Brittany says

The Governess of Highland Hall is a beautiful romance set in England in the early 1900's. Fans of Downton Abbey will appreciate the wonderful descriptions of the estate, as well as the many people who live and work there. I truly enjoyed the descriptions of both the wealthy family members living in Highland Hall and the servants working there.

The story begins as Julia Foster, who has returned to England after serving as a missionary in India, is hired to be the governess of Sir William Ramsey's two young children. William has a lot on his plate after inheriting this large estate and all of the debts and taxes due on it. He is highly concerned with trying to raise the money needed to pay the "death duties" and keep Highland in the family.

Julia is governess not only to William's two young children, but also must help guide his two teenage nieces. Katherine is the older niece and will be going to London soon for her season. She is quite a handful and very resentful that William is in charge of Highland and her life. Penelope is the younger niece and is not as resentful, but does follow the lead of her older sister.

Fans of Christian romance will enjoy discovering if a governess and the master of a large estate could ever bridge the societal gap that lies between them and find true love. This is just an all around good read. The characters are interesting, with a sweet side story about William's sister, Sarah. Some good old-fashioned scheming by some of the servants add some tense moments to the story, as well.

I received an Advance Reading Copy of this book for free from the author in exchange for an honest review, which I have written. All opinions expressed are my own.

You can connect with Carrie and order her books on her website at <http://carrieturansky.com/index.php/b...>

Vickie McDonough says

Julia Foster's life takes a drastic turn when she and her parents leave India, where they were missionaries, and return to England. Julia takes a position as a governess, but her misbehaving wards challenge her as she never expected. So does their handsome but preoccupied father, William Ramsey, who seems too caught up in his business affairs to pay any attention to his needy children. Through kindness and prayers, Julia slowly breaks down the walls of prejudice and pride. But just when she feels she's losing her heart to her staid employer, a beautiful American arrives—a woman with the means to solve William's desperate financial problems. Will tradition and prestige prove to be a great obstacle for William to overcome, even for the sake of true love?

I'll be the first to admit that Edwardian England is not my favorite setting for a book, but *The Governess of Highland Hall* held my interest from the first page and all the way through. In fact, I read this book in less than two days, setting aside work I should have done to find out what happened next. You can't help admiring Julia's kind heart and her desire to help others—even those who have mistreated her. She is a wonderful heroine that you'll be happy to cheer for. William is a troubled man with a haunting past, and I enjoyed seeing him thaw under Julia's wise and compassionate counsel.

A large cast of well-developed secondary characters add mayhem, conflict, and trouble, and the beautiful setting and inner workings of a massive English estate is fascinating to read about. Add *The Governess of Highland Hall* to your TBA list. You'll be glad you did.

Anne says

This was a beautiful book. It was rich, deep, and inspiring. I thoroughly enjoyed it and gobbled it up in a few days, unable to put it down.

"Giving your heart away before you are certain of a man's character and commitment is dangerous. You must discern his true intentions or you'll pay a high price."

Religious, principled and courageous missionary Julia Foster arrives at Highland Hall in the hopes of securing the post of governess to Sir William's two children and two cousins. Sir William is a widower, who has just inherited Highland and is faced with difficulties on all sides; financial troubles, resentment on his cousins' parts, haunting memories of his late unfaithful wife, and now a new governess who reproaches him on his approach with his children. No wonder the poor man is exhausted and doesn't know where to turn his head!

I loved William from the moment we meet him at the beginning, trying to repair his car and being uncivil to Julia. He gave the impression of a haughty, brooding and serious man, and that is just what he was. As much as he had reason to brood considering all his troubles, the way he always wanted what was best for his family was really touching, and underneath his stern and serious façade he was very vulnerable and in much need of love and affection.

Julia was kind, thoughtful, responsible and always, *always* did the right thing. She was practically a saint, always listening to and accepting the will of God without question. Although highly admirable, she lacked vitality and joie-de-vivre to make her really loveable. She was a good model and I loved her decision-making skills, but she so rarely laughed or smiled that she gave the impression of being unhappy all the time.

The other characters were mostly annoying, superfluous and two-dimensional, but I loved William's sister Sarah and wished she had had her own book. She was so sweet, friendly and generous, and was as good and saintly as Julia, but lacked a boldness and confidence that somehow made her very endearing. I was so happy that she got her own HEA, and in fact I really enjoyed all the secondary romances woven into the story, as well as the upstairs/downstairs relationship. It was really well done, and the events and adventures that happened were believable. There was a decided *Jane Eyre* feel to this book that I particularly loved, too. It was decidedly my kind of book!

What failed to bump *The Governess of Highland Hall* to a five-star rating (as I admit I had been hoping it would be), was the lack of passion and chemistry in the romance. Yes, I like to keep my reads clean, and no I didn't want an Edwardian bodice-ripper, but when I read a romance, I like to feel the chemistry and the sexual tension between the two leads. It is often said that in order to have a good, lasting relationship, a couple must not only have passion. They must have understanding, trust, mutual respect and a solid friendship. William and Julia had all that...but no passion. As much as I don't believe a relationship can succeed if based only on passion, I don't believe it can well succeed either if passion is lacking, especially in marriage. They had a beautiful, touching love story, but there was so little physical contact between the two, and so little mention of awareness of the other as a man/woman, that I did not really feel their chemistry. They were superbly well-matched on every other point, but I feel like their wedding night will be very tame. I think I was probably expecting them to resemble Mr. Rochester and Jane in terms of passionate dispositions and they fell flat in comparison, although William had the potential of being very passionate, but Julia remained calmed and poised throughout, and as I said before, lacked spark and vitality.

I also would have loved if a little more detail about the Edwardian era had been incorporated into the story, as it is not an era I have read a lot about, but I am curious about it and want to read more books set in that time now. The next book in this series, *The Daughter of Highland Hall*, sounds really good although Katherine will be the heroine and I did not particularly like her in this novel, but I am still very willing to give it a try. I had never read Carrie Turansky before, but I really like her style, and strongly recommend this book to Christian fiction fans. This was one of the more "preachy" Christian books though, so if you don't often read Inspirational books, I would consider this one carefully before picking it up. There was constant talk and thoughts and about the Lord, and many Bible references and verses. I liked the message, but sometimes I wish Christian authors did not put so much spiritual content into their stories. I loved Julia's values and principles, but I wish she'd have had a few conversations with William that revolved around other things than God's will and following the Lord. Add to that numerous questions into the narrative such as "can she really trust the Lord again to lead her back to India?" or "what if God had abandoned him?" or "What do you want me to do, Lord?" etc, etc., and it became a little redundant. I like Christian content, but I prefer when it is shown through the character's actions, and not discussed in the narrative or each time the characters have conversations.

So, yes I was a little disappointed because I was hoping *The Governess of Highland Hall* would end up on the favourite list, but it was still a really great book, with an inspiring message and strong, Christian-model characters. I'm glad I finally read it!

Zoe McCarthy says

The Governess of Highland Hall invited me to a 1911 English country estate and introduced me to Julia Foster at the moment she's forced on an uncertain life-path. After twelve years of missionary work in India, her father's illness has returned her family to England with insufficient income.

Although lacking some needed skills, Julia secures a governess position in a grand house. Her added responsibility for the master's two teenaged nieces, who itch to enter society and abhor authority, make this governess story delightfully unique. Julia wants to fit in among family members and servants, and hopes to soon return to the girls she taught in India.

Often obstinate Sir William Ramsey has recently inherited Highland Hall, a financial millstone. He wants to overcome social disrespect occurring from a past embarrassment, restore the hall to its former glory, and do the right things as master and father. In his growing friendship and feelings for Julia, he realizes she can help him with these goals...except one.

The story moves along with challenges, solutions, and new challenges. Many of the conflicts birth naturally from harsh and gentle characters, who are focused on their own wants and fears and are inclined to saddle themselves with troubles and sad consequences. Julia's faith and trust in God make her a good example for those open to improvement. This weaving in of human nature is what made this engaging tale colorful and real for me. Beyond Historical Romance lovers, I recommend Ms. Turansky's novel for those who enjoy intriguing interaction among diverse characters.

I received an Advanced Reading Copy from the author in exchange for an unbiased review. All opinions expressed are my own.

Sally Witt says

I am honored to be an advanced copy reader of Carrie Turansky's new novel, The Governess of Highland Hall.

The story carries us to a wonderful time in the country side of England and brings you to the middle of the characters and their full lives. It is truly an experience to read this book as if we were able to travel in space and time to be at Highland Hall in Edwardian England.

Carrie has an amazing talent to weave her own Christian faith into the stories, without preaching to the reader in the least. Her book shows many sides to each character and the ways that they deal with the ups and downs in their lives.

I highly recommend this book, and know that you will enjoy getting to know the variety of characters, experience the gardens, the period clothing, the lighting, and the food that they enjoy. Carrie brings all the senses into play in the story. Just the way I like it!

Hannah says

4.5 stars

This story was a delight! The plot kept turning in unexpected directions, which was delightful; the surprise directions kept me turning the pages. And, while I might have predicted the romance, I would not have guessed its exact form or scenes or its process of development. I will gladly be diving into the next book in the hopefully-near future.

Alice says

The Governess of Highland Hall is a sweet Edwardian romance filled with lovable characters, heartwarming sentiment, and valuable lessons of faith.

Julia was a different type of heroine; I'd never read a fiction book where the main character was a missionary. I appreciated the example she gave of keeping the faith through thick and thin- so often our heroines give up, or simply get worn thin in their spiritual life, and we are to learn from their mistakes; Julia was a nice break from the norm, proving that, if leaning on Jesus- trusting in Him- and making Him our focus, we CAN pull through and not waver so drastically in our walk with Him.

There were so many situations, scenes, or just paragraphs in this story that conveyed such profound word pictures and spiritual lessons, in an everyday setting. (i.e., relationships, trust, faith, patience, keeping our attitudes and emotions in check, etc.)

The side story of Sarah and Clark was so sweet and adorable! I really liked them. ;)

Alice and David made excellent antagonists. They did their jobs well. --

Carrie did a great job at portraying Millie and Andrew as the young children they were without making them ridiculously baby"ish". ;P

I loved Julia's parents; I loved their relationship with each other, and with Julia. I thought it was neat how, even at 27, Julia understood her parents roles as her protectors, encouragement givers ;), and spiritual leaders for as long as she remained unmarried ~ she didn't view them as a burden or inconvenience. <3

The Governess was an inspiring, uplifting, intricate, and amazingly clean novel- and I'm so glad I read it when I did- it really encouraged me in many ways.

I received this book for free from Blogging for Books for this review.

Heather Manning says

I really, really, really liked this book. I also did not expect to like it as much as I did.

For one, I honestly had not heard of the author before, but I can guarantee you that I will be looking for more

from her soon.

Anyway, on to the actual book. It's setting is amazing. I love that it is late enough in history to have automobiles, but early enough to still be set in the grand, opulent halls of an old English manor. The setting reminds me somewhat of Downton Abbey.

I loved the added touch of the love of mission work in India that the main character, Julia, has.

At first I did not really love either main character. I thought Julia was slightly annoying, but after a couple of more chapters, I grew to love her. Also, I disliked the hero, William, at first because of how he treated his children, but after I learned his reasons, and how he changed later on, I really liked him.

There are also some lovely side-stories, including a bit of a romance between Sarah, William's crippled sister, and the hall's head gardener. I loved these two!

Anyway, Julia is taken in as, you guessed it, the governess of Highland Hall. She is governess to William's two young children and his two cousins, who are in their teens.

William is struggling with paying death duties for the estate he inherited, and must try to think of new ways to save or earn money, or he will lose his home. Luckily, Julia is happy to help him.

I loved this story, and I recommend it.

Pre-order or order a copy when you can. It's for sale on October 15, 2013.

I was given this copy in exchange for my honest review.

C. says

Julia Foster returned from the missionary field in India with her parents after being there twelve years. The Fosters returned to England due to her father's declining health. Julia sets out to find work to help support her family while Mr. Foster recovers. She applies for the governess position and is accepted.

As governess, Miss Foster is responsible for Sir William Ramsey's two small children and his two teenage nieces. Julia exudes style and grace but is not afraid to speak her mind, which gets her into some heated discussions with Mr. Ramsey more than once.

Can Miss Foster and Mr. Ramsey get along or will they continually be at odds? Will this relationship work out for the children?

The author does a great job of transporting its reader to another place and time. Each character is well developed and believable. At times you can almost feel their emotions. The story flows smoothly and has a meaningful Christian message without being preachy.

One cannot help but feel a connection with Julia Foster, the Governess. The strength she receives from the Lord, through her faith, is so inspiring.

I didn't have a single favorite character. Besides Julia, I loved Sarah with her sweet and caring disposition. I even came to care for Mrs. Emmitt and her stiff, rigid, personality.

Overall, I truly enjoyed this book and would recommend it to anyone who likes historical romance that is not overdone.

I received an advanced reading copy of this book, directly from the author, in exchange for an honest review.

Olivia says

[not trusting Julia just because his wife was so deceitful (hide sp

Diana says

Historical Romance At Its Finest!

In *The Governess of Highland Hall*, author Carrie Turansky has crafted a wonderful Edwardian era novel set in England; replete with dashing lords and ladies, and opulent mansions with magnificent decor...nonetheless behind those ornate doors also lurk secrets, pain, and hidden passions.

A missionary in India, Julia Foster has returned to England because of her father's illness and procures a position as governess of Highland Hall, a wealthy estate owned by the handsome, brooding widower Sir William Ramsey. Julia's job is to care for William's children and his deceased cousin's two teenage girls. Doing so is quite a challenge as the baronet seems to be cold and withdrawn towards his own children and distrusts all women.

As Julia befriends William's lovely but crippled sister, Sarah, who is keeping a deep secret from her brother, she also begins to endear herself to the children. But what dark secret is William carrying inside and how can he save Highland Hall from financial ruin? Although his fondness towards Julia begins to turn to love...will he marry another with wealth to save not only Highland Hall but his reputation as well?...for to marry a governess is quite unacceptable for a man of his social standing.

This heartwarming novel, reminiscent of a cross between *Jane Eyre* and *Jane Austen*, will grab the reader from page one and not let go until the satisfying conclusion. This is one of those books where one falls so in love with the characters that it is SO hard to let them go! And this not only has one romantic plot, but two more romantic subplots which will break and also delight the reader's heart and cause several sighs (and tears!) to escape while reading. William is perfect as the brooding hero, but I couldn't stand this stuffed shirt at first until I got a chance to really see his heart. Beautifully written and researched, I highly recommend this wonderful novel!!
