



The Last Di Sione Claims His Prize

Maisey Yates

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"I want that painting. It is my last Lost Mistress. My Lost Love."

Alessandro Di Sione is renowned for being cold and unsentimental, but even he can't deny his grandfather's dream of retrieving a painting steeped in royal scandal. Yet the key to its return is the outspoken Princess Gabriella.

While traveling together to Isola D'Oro to locate the mysterious painting, Gabby is drawn to the man tortured by guilt from his past. Her innocence makes her untouchable, as Alex is convinced his Di Sione blood is tainted. But could their passion be his salvation?

The Last Di Sione Claims His Prize Details

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From Reader Review The Last Di Sione Claims His Prize for online ebook

Fran says

Out of all the books in this series, this one was the only one I truly enjoyed. Alex & Gabriella sparkled together and the story flowed nicely, but what I loved the best was finding out the meaning of the "mistresses".

Akansha says

Book was too quick for me. In-fact the quickest of the Harlequin Presents i have read. And too slow too. It sounded more like a Harlequin Romance series book than Harlequin Presents book with no angst.

Biggaletta Day says

Please read a top five star review to balance this one!

I'm totally disappointed because I was so excited when I picked this because Maisie Yates is one of my favourite and top HQN writers.

To be fair to Maisie Yates this was a commissioned story so she was probably given a tight brief/storyline to run with. This is why I tend avoid commissioned series with the same characters by different writers. If you are reading her for the first time, don't judge her on this.

StMargarets says

"Now our conversation circles back" That is a paraphrase of one bit of dialogue, but it captures the essence of the story. Throughout the story the H/h talk and talk about their own failings and why they aren't suitable for each other. They have the same conversation over and over again. I could go on, but then I would repeating myself because there is not much left to say about this story. *sigh*

Hero is the grandson of the 97 year-old billionaire who wants all of his "Lost Mistresses" together before he dies. He has been commanded to find the last object - a painting. In his own words and thoughts hero is a fearsome dragon, a rake, a sinner.

Virgin heroine is an exiled princess, the granddaughter of the exiled queen of a Mediterranean country. She is a wallflower, a bookish sensualist, a small owl.

The cliches keep coming and the H/h talking heads eventually go to bed after *stealing* the painting from the public castle gallery of the now independent Mediterranean country. Apparently, that country doesn't believe in security cameras or guards or archivists. (No one knew there was a painting behind a painting)

spoilers for the end of the series (view spoiler)

After the business of the series is done, the author arranges a transparent black moment for the H/h. The hero tells the h he can't be with her because he is like his selfish father. Unlike her grandmother, this heroine is not going to waste a lifetime of love. Heroine fights her pride at being rejected and goes to her man. He inexplicably stops believing everything he has believed for his whole life and during the entirety of this long, tedious story and decides to marry her.

I enjoyed other stories in this series and I wanted to see what the mystery of the Lost Mistresses was all about, but this was a disappointment. So two stars for the end of the series - one star for the repetitive writing and cliched romance.

Debbie DiFiore says

A Perfect ending

This was a great ending to the DiSione series. I loved Gabby and Alex. Their relationship was wonderful. I loved Lucia and Bartolo and the story of the Lost Mistresses. I want to read the whole series again now that I have them all. It was that good. There were a couple of weak books in the series but overall it was amazing. There was more good than bad. I can't believe it's over. Now what am I going to do!!???? Lol

Helen says

What a fabulous end to this series and Maisie Yates has put the icing on the cake with this one, it is now Alessandro's turn to get his beloved grandfathers last lost mistress back his lost love and to do this he must visit the exiled Queen Lucia of D'oro in the small country of Aceena where Alex's life is about to be turned upside down in such a good way.

When Alex arrives he is greeted by a young woman who appears to be owl like but there is something about her that draws him in she is a little feisty and stands up to Alex by saying that her grandmother is not available but of course Alex is nothing if not business like and determined to please his grandfather and the meeting goes ahead.

Gabriella D'oro has lived with her grandmother most of her life does not travel she is a complete blue stocking and wallflower and she loves it that way she studies history and art but the minute that this tall dark handsome stranger walks into her home Gabriella starts to feel sparks that are very new to her.

This really is a fabulous story it is sensual and moving there is drama a mystery and of course we finally get the full story of Giovanni's Lost Mistresses and what a very enchanting story that one is but of course this one is about Alex and Gabby and they travel a very sensual and magical path as Alex the monster (so he says) becomes Alex the lover and Gabby the wallflower becomes Gabby the beautiful. This one is sure to leave you smiling absolutely fabulous thank you MS Yates for a keeper it really does tick all of the boxes for a great romance.

Veena says

The two main characters in the book are the usual too. A curt, emotionally vacuumed businessman and a young woman who falls for him. The only thing different here are the words. As Yates writes it:

It was rumoured that Alessandro Di Sione had once fired an employee for bringing his coffee back two minutes later than commanded and five degrees cooler than ordered. It was rumoured that he had once released a long-term mistress with a wave of his hand and an order to collect a parting gift from his assistant in the following weeks. There were also rumors that he breathed fire, slept in a dungeon and derived sustenance from the souls of the damned.

And the woman is a bespectacled shy young woman who is hiding away in her library from the world outside.

Even though they are two usual characters of any Mills and Boon book, the characters are divine. You will want to read more about them. Yates has a way of inventing new characters with just her descriptions of them.

There are seven other books in the series, this being the last one. An old man has a dying wish. Even though he has pretty much recovered in this book he demands his grandson to abide. He wants his grandson to secure the last thing that was always close to his heart. A painting. This painting is out there somewhere and he wants it.

Alessandro being the perfect grandson goes out to claim it. On the way he meets an owl faced princess, a banished queen and a lot of tension in the air.

The first clue to the painting resides in the island of Isola D'Oro. Alessandro drives right up to witch to ask for the potion. But it turns out a great adventure when he meets Gabrielle, the princess who would help him in finding the painting.

As it happens, the rich man falls in love with a princess but is too scared to admit it. There is a lot of tension between them and finally they get together. Happy ending.

Mills and Boon has never been too creative in their story. They all follow on straight line, change the characters and ta-da!

Xai Xai says

This is the last of the Di Sione series, a fitting end to the saga with the churning mystery as it draws to the end of the long list of finding love, mending broke ties and strengthening bonds. Alessandro is a name I adore for a hero, he was mature and tormented whilst the heroine, Gabby, was pure, naive and spirited. There were a contradictions within themselves and to each other yet perfectly matched.

Maria Rose says

The The Last Di Sione Claims his Prize by Maisey Yates is the 8th and final book in the Billionaire's Legacy

series, told by several different authors. The series revolves around an elderly gentleman, Giovanni di Sione retrieving treasures from his past that he calls his Lost Mistresses. His grandchildren have all been tasked with finding one of these items and have found true love in the bargain – and now it's Alessandro (Alex) di Sione's turn.

Alex's mission is to track down a painting, called The Lost Love. There are rumors of its existence but no firm proof – except his grandfather says it is very real and he wants it back. It's linked to a scandal involving the exiled royal family of Isolo D'oro. The subject of the mythical painting is thought to be Queen Lucia, an elderly woman who lives with her granddaughter Gabrielle on the Mediterranean isle of Aceena. Alex's grandfather believes the painting is hidden in a secret place on Isolo D'oro, and that the queen knows where to find it. Believing himself to be on a fool's errand but never one to say no to the family patriarch, Alex embarks on a mission to find the Lost Love – and discovers a woman who captures his heart.

I loved this story. In fact, I'd go so far as to name it one of my top 5 Harlequin Presents that I've ever read. Everything about the story appealed to me. There is an arrogant yet charming hero, a studious and somewhat sheltered heroine discovering her courage, and a beautiful Mediterranean setting. The banter between the hero and heroine is witty and humorous. There are family secrets to unearth. There's the mystery surrounding the painting – who is the woman in it? Who painted it? Why does Alex's grandfather want it so badly? This mystery unfolds over the course of the story, while Alex and Gabrielle who start out at odds with each other find themselves unable to deny their attraction. The conflict comes from neither Alex nor Gabrielle wanting to admit that they are falling for each other and trying to guard their hearts from each other (to no avail). There are sexy scenes, romantic ones too, and the requisite 'Hero makes a big mistake and must grovel to fix things' plot that leads to a sweet happy ending and an epilogue to melt the heart. I couldn't ask for a better story.

This review also appears at Harlequin Junkie: <http://harlequinjunkie.com/review-the...>

Note: a copy of this story was provided by the publisher for review

TashNz says

A fantastic ending to a wonderful series which I absolutely adored and couldn't get enough of. The mystery of the Lost Mistresses was solved and I am very happy with how that all panned out.

Maisey Yates has done a fine job of delivering what might be one of the most anticipated books of the series. I love the mystery behind locating the last mistress, the drama and the intrigue. I loved the way the last mistress was bought back home and I loved the little surprise appearance by a special character. I really liked Alex's portrayal, it was true to his reputation and I really liked Gabby as a character and her outlook on life.

Thank you to Maisey for concluding the series in such fine fashion and to each and every author who contributed to the Di Sione series, it was absolutely wonderful and I devoured each story!

Fanniny Moreno Zavaleta says

At moments I was bored, at moments I wasn't.

Here is Esther's review for more info.

Edit: Forgot to add that I learned three words (weevil, tatting, doily).

Esther says

Maisey Yates is one of my favorite HP authors and this was not my favorite of hers though.

This story was too slow for me and seemed to never pick up any steam.

The story line continued of the lost The Lost Mistresses pieces, and this one was a painting that needed to be located and returned. Giovanni Di Sione, the grandfather asks Alessandro his last grandchild, to find a missing art piece and have it returned. Alessandro is a successful business man who owes a lot to his grandfather and will do whatever it takes to make him happy. Alessandro is known to be cold and heartless, he doesn't do love or relationships.

He's told by his grandfather he needs to travel to Aceena for more information about the painting. That is where the royal family, The D'Oro live. The queen and her granddaughter Gabriella reside there and they are a key to finding some answers to the missing painting.

Gabriella's life has not been picture perfect for a princess. She hasn't had the greatest parents, in fact she lives a life trying to make up for their selfishness, their mistakes and terrible lifestyle.

When Gabriella and Alessandro meet sparks fly. They are paired together by her grandmother and are told they need to travel Isolo D'Oro to find the painting.

This was an okay ending to the series. But sadly no Maisey Yates best story telling.

Jenny says

Cute love story with some funny moments. But it was terribly slow in parts and the ending felt abrupt. I was disappointed there was no pregnancy or babies in the epilogue.

Rgreader says

The di Sione series ends like it began...awful.

The Last di Sione Claims his Prize began with promise. Ruthless hero sent on a journey. Meets heroine & they have chemistry. Unfortunately it all went downhill. Problem- too much psychoanalyzing the past. That bored me. It didn't create a bond between the heroine and hero.

Next problem- the hero pushed the heroine away! Just when he should have been ruthless in getting the heroine & being possessive of the heroine....he isn't.

This type of storytelling doesn't create romance.

The Last chapters is the hero rejecting the heroine and the heroine chasing the hero then declaring love...its not believable because sex was the foundation. No emotional bond formed where the hero was possessive or

jealous about the heroine!

I hoped this series would have more than one keeper in it. Instead every book had the same plot structure of the hero pushing away the heroine and too much psychoanalyzing.

Karen says

I received an ARC from NetGalley for this unbiased review.

I've read all the Di Sione books in the series, and to get the story wrapped up by Maisey Yates was the whipped cream and cherry on top of the sundae. The books in the series were hit or miss for me, but this one was by far the best.

Giovanni Di Sione has asked his last Grandchild, Alex, to obtain the last of his "Lost Mistresses." This one being a somewhat infamous painting that led to the downfall of the Monarchy in Isolo D'Oro. They were banished from their kingdom because of the debauchery it revealed, and then it seemingly disappeared.

Alex is dispatched to Aceena, where what remains of the Royal Family reside - in order to get clues to the painting's whereabouts, where he meets the deposed Queen and her granddaughter.

Princess Gabriella knows how to play at being a royal because even though they don't rule their kingdom, they still have the D'Oro blood flowing through their veins. Her parents aren't living up to their lineage, so she feels obligated to carry on the duties of which her name entails. However, when Alessandro Di Sione shows up to meet with her grandmother, she's not pulled together and ready for visitors, and he exudes confidence and charm. The Princess barely manages to rebuff him, only to be told by the Queen that she would like to see Alex.

The decision is made for Alex and Gabriella to go to Isolo D'Oro to find the painting, and since the royal family is still persona non-grata, she is travelling under the guise of Alex's assistant. But how long can Alex deny that beneath the mouse lies the heart of a lioness?

Will they find the painting? What happens when Alex's grandfather has all of his mistresses back? You'll just have to read the book in order to find out!

Again, what a joy it was to get the finale from Maisey. She knows how to write a HQ Presents, and it couldn't be more evident here. I see nothing but versatility and unicorns - and maybe even a fish statue, and I love every single thing about them.
