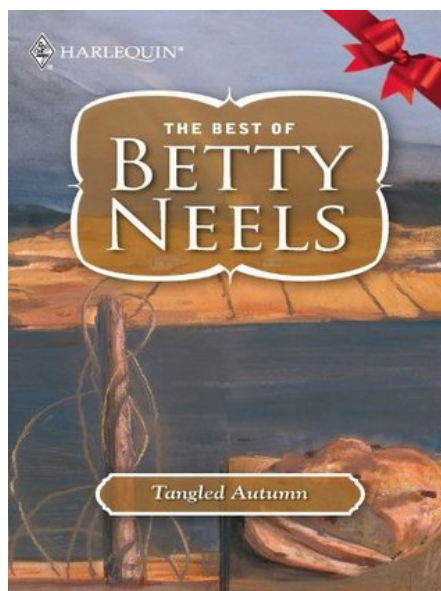




Tangled Autumn (The Best of Betty Neels)

Betty Neels

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Tangled Autumn (The Best of Betty Neels) Betty Neels

She wanted a complete break

Sappha Devenish jumped at the chance of a job in Scotland after her romance with Andrew went wrong.

The change in scenery took Sappha's mind off her heartbreak, and the presence of the often infuriating but very attractive Dr. van Duyren was also a nice distraction....

But with Andrew's unexpected return, Sappha found herself entangled in the past once more!

Tangled Autumn (The Best of Betty Neels) Details

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From Reader Review Tangled Autumn (The Best of Betty Neels) for online ebook

Christy Olesen says

London nurse Sappha takes a private-patient job in Scotland to get away from her ex fiancé, and meets her patient's son, Dr. van Duyren. When it's time for her patient to return to Holland, Sappha accompanies her. I love Betty Neels' sweet romances, but I found this one a little too slow. I love the descriptions of the different locals.

Kay says

4 Stars ~ On her uncle's recommendation, Sappha travels to Scotland to take on a temporary private nursing position to an elderly woman. The Baroness had surgery and shortly into her recovery had taken a nasty fall fracturing her left arm and leg. The job is a godsend to Sappha who is anxious to leave London very far behind, and her cheating ex-fiance. She decides to drive herself and she takes extra time to enjoy the trip, only a few kilometers from her destination she runs out of fuel. An arrogant but handsome man stops to assist her and ruffles Sappha's temper. Arriving at her destination, she discovers that the object of her annoyance is none other than the son of her patient, a doctor and a baron to boot. Rolf rather enjoys teasing Sappha if only to raise her temper. He's aware of her reason for leaving London and in a fit of his own temper throws it in her face quite cruelly. Seeing Sappha turn white, he's immediately remorseful and Sappha suggests that they come to an understanding that it's not essential that they like one another, that it's the Baroness that matters. It's with great surprise when her ex-fiance, Andrew shows up, seeking to reconcile. It doesn't take long for Sappha to resent Andrew and his positive assumptions that she'll be happy to fall in his arms. When he leaves, she's quite relieved and admits to herself that she no longer loves him. Rolf however is unaware that she's changed her mind about Andrew and thinks she's still pining. Of course, it's not long for Sappha to realize she's fallen in love with Rolf.

Sappha's determined not to let Rolf intimidate her. He's the eldest of six siblings who have all come to follow his lead since he'd become the head of the family at 25. Sappha admires and respects him but often finds him tyrannical in getting his own way, and she's determined he'll not push her around. Rolf is obviously enchanted with her though he hides it from her very well. He often expresses regret that they'd gotten off on the wrong foot, but assumes Sappha is still very much in love with Andrew. These two spark the other's temper, which makes for a very enjoyable read.

Pamela Shropshire says

Sappha has taken a nursing job in the Scottish Highlands primarily to get away from a broken relationship. The ex-boyfriend is Andrew Glover, a real jerk. Sappha is a beautiful girl and I don't understand why she fell for him in the first place.

In Scotland, she meets a big, rough-looking man on the road when she runs out of petrol. He turns out to be the son of her patient. He is a Dutch Baron and a doctor as well, Rolf van Duyren.

Her patient, the Baroness van Duyren, has a broken arm and leg and complications. In her off duty, Sappha

makes friends with the local nurse, Gloria, who is engaged to the local doctor, Hamish.

The best scene in the book is when Sappha has to assist Rolf at a breech birth in a croft that can only be reached by boat, or in bad weather, by foot over a causeway in bad repair. The weather is too bad so she goes across on the causeway. During the procedure, Sappha drops the vacoliter of blood and Rolf performs a person-to-person blood transfusion (obviously, this was pre-AIDS). This is when she falls in love with Rolf.

After the Baroness improves enough to return home, of course Sappha goes to Dokkum with them. She had already met the Baroness's youngest child, Antonia, who visited her in Scotland. Now she meets the rest of the family.

Rolf has, by this time, kissed her several times and generally made known his admiration. Sappha is very prickly and inconsistent although she has admitted to herself that she loves him.

Sappha begins to suspect that Antonia is up to something - and she is. Antonia has written to Andrew and persuaded him to come see her. Sappha confronts her and Antonia begs her not to tell Rolf. Of course she promises.

Then early one morning, Sappha catches Antonia coming in at 3 am, having been out with Andrew. Rolf also arrives about the same time, but thinks it is Sappha who was with him. He has already told Sappha he loves her. Now he becomes furious with Sappha and tells her it's best if she goes home.

Sappha prepares to leave and is waiting for the boat train; meanwhile, Antonia's conscience has forced her to confess all to Rolf. He comes and finds Sappha, they get engaged and kisses follow.

The things I liked:

The parts in Scotland

The food

The scenery/travelogue bits

What I didn't like:

Sappha's wishy-washy treatment of Rolf. Rolf was pretty clear about his feelings for her, but she was very inconsistent and never did tell Rolf she no longer had any feelings for Andrew. I'm not quite sure why Rolf fell in love with her.

3 1/2 stars.

Fiona Marsden says

On the scale of why I give a book five stars this warrants them because it made me all misty and I don't really know why. It is a fairly typical story with the rich Dutch Doctor Rolf van Duyren who also happens to be a Baron.

He's not a standard hero having a more obvious temper and looking like a Demon King with his slanty eye brows. Sappha is recovering from a cheating fiance so she's probably not in a good headspace to meet the new man in her life.

Rolf certainly puts Andrew in the shade really quickly but with the usual stubborn miscommunication from the heroine and the lordly assumptions from the hero we manage to hold off until the end when his sister

throws a spanner in the works just as things looked like sorting out.

Quietype1123 says

Closer to 3 1/2 stars. Reviewed at the blog thing

Leona says

All I can say is these two really knew how to push each other's buttons. They went back and forth so much, I felt like I was at a tennis match. Yet, in spite of all the miscommunications, arguing and silliness, I actually enjoyed the chemistry between these two.

My only regret was the ending. In typical Betty Neel's fashion, she concludes a terrible misunderstanding with a simple kiss and an "I love you". For me, that just didn't work here. The hero really needed to make serious amends for some terrible accusations he hurled at the heroine. I love you, just didn't cut it for me.

Barb in Maryland says

Meh! I really disliked the plot device that fueled the conflict in this one. If only Sappha (what sort of heroine name is that?) had told the Bold Baron Rolf at the get go that she was through with Andrew the Rotter. But she didn't, because she was in a snit. She seemed to spend a good deal of the book in a snit, tiresome girl. Rich Dutch Doctor Baron Rolf wasn't a whole lot better--

Betty has done much better!

This one took me ages to get through--pick it up, put it down, read 2 more books, pick it up again, put it down and so on.

Monique E. Lacroix says

Lovely

Another great story by Betty Neels. So charming and sweet, delightful. Also easy to read and no violence or such. No descriptive sex scenes either

Mudpie says

3.75*

Sappha and Rolf bickered on for way too long! But I can definitely understand how she could not suddenly do a 180deg change from foe to lover...even though her dawning realisation came on so suddenly!

Rolf the Demon King haha! It's right up there with Haughty Harry and Ogre's Relish, my favourite nick names in the Betty Neels Canon!

It was quite clear Rolf liked Sappha after their bad meet cute but he was always provoking her. She, a normally sociable girl with both sexes, felt awkward with Rolf...but when she's relaxed enough she had a good time with him.

Now there's no drama mama Other Woman in this story, but Sappha's ex fiancé kept turning up like a bad penny! She had so many missed/interrupted opportunities to tell people, especially Rolf, that she'd dumped Asshole Andrew but being reticent, she did not feel right to just blurt it out. It might be construed as her telling Rolf she's free and easy now! She felt out of his league because he was rich, a baron, and a successful and an important doctor! That might be good enough excuse, but after the museum kiss and pancakes lunch, she could no longer be in doubt of Rolf's feelings for her!

The bit about not telling tales or breaking promises not to tell, is frustrating as hell but it's definitely a favourite trope of The Great Betty. At least Antonia redeemed herself by dumping the louse ASAP, and confessing to Rolf early enough!

Ooh it's so funny the slutty nurse carrying on with Asshole Andrew was called "Beatty"!

Spoilers spoilers spoilers

With a name like Sappha, I thought it was finally fitting that our heroine got the standard sapphire and diamond engagement ring...but no! TGB diabolically gave her a RUBY and diamond ring instead haha! Just as diabolical as Rolf?

I like Rolf, he was not the playboy hero we usually see squiring other ladies around even though they meant nothing. Here we only read others saying he's having a good time, but we never saw it or worse, have him say something like "I've brought all my girlfriends here before!" It's so sweet when eating pancakes, he told Sappha he'd one girlfriend and she's someone else's gf too and her name was...SAPPHA! Aww...

It was pointed out our heroine was very clumsy: she dropped the O+ blood (what if Sappha was not an O+ herself), the Baroness's make up sponge, the hymn book and the fork while eating pancake at the castle!

Teri-K says

[emergency C-section on an isolated island in the middle of a stormy night (hide spoiler)]

Marnie says

I always borrow Betty Neels books from my mother when she is done with them (Betty is her favourite author). The stories are typically the same - Dutch doctor meets English nurse and the two fall in love and live happily ever after.

This one was enjoyable because the characters seemed real. They weren't perfect, yet they were perfectly suited for each other and managed to find happiness with each other in the end.

Patricia Solla says

This author writes a very dry love story with very exciting settings and locations. The male is very dominant and the female is not willing to be dominated. But the story is about finding love under very unusual circumstances. There's enough going on to keep the reader interested.

Beth says

My all-time favorite Betty Neels.

Figlet says

Considering I started reading her when I was 19 years old, I thought I had read and re-read the entire Betty Neels library by now . Alas, I have never read "Tangled Autumn" until today. It's startling to me that 21 years and most of her library later, her writing still has the power to move me.

I even found myself laughing out loud and sighing wistfully and re-reading my favorite parts as soon as I finished. It's no use me summarizing the tale because I'll never do it justice, but I think Rolf and Sappha just edged out Radolf and Sarah in "Roses Have Thorns" as my new favorite Betty Supercouple (if such things exist outside of my wistful heart).

Cecilia says

I enjoyed this particular Betty Neels, partly because it doesn't feature a desperately destitute mousy heroine. Instead, the heroine is rather glamorous, and at the beginning is recovering from being cheated on by her fiancé.

The hero is a little angrier than the usual omniscient and placid Neels hero; he actually has a bit of a tantrum at one point, which was strangely delightful. However, despite a strong start, the heroine gets a little mousy in the personality department, and that definitely detracted from the overall impact. 3.5 stars
