

# Mary Balogh The Proposal

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## JOHN LYONS

*Beyond the Sunrise* Dell

David, Major Lord Tavistock, has survived the Crimean War. But he knows he will always be haunted by memories of the brutal fighting, the wounds he sustained—and the death in battle of Julian, the foster brother he had loved and protected all his life. Now he is coming home to England, burdened with dark secrets he can never divulge, to face Julian's widow—and to persuade her to marry him. Rebecca has never liked David, and she is convinced she has good reason for her feelings. She does try her best, however, not to resent the fact that he has survived the war while her beloved husband has not. At first she is horrified by his proposal of marriage and believes that nothing could ever persuade her to accept. Circumstances cause her to change her mind, but she does not expect ever to fall in love with him. How, after all, can she forget the perfect love she shared with Julian? How can she overlook all the negative things she knows about David? How is she to ignore her growing suspicion that he was somehow responsible for Julian's death? How can she possibly be falling in love with him anyway?

**Someone to Wed** Random House Digital, Inc.

"This is Mary Balogh at her riveting best."—#1 New York Times bestselling author Debbie Macomber Gwendoline, Lady Muir, has seen her share of tragedy. Content in a quiet life with friends and family, the young widow has no desire to marry again. But when Hugo, Lord Trentham, scoops her up in his arms after a fall, she feels a sensation that both shocks and emboldens her. Hugo is a gentleman in name only: a war hero whose bravery earned him a title, a merchant's son who inherited his wealth. He is happiest when working the land, but duty and title now demand that he finds a wife. Hugo doesn't wish to court Gwen, yet he cannot resist her guileless manner, infectious laugh, and lovely face. He wants her, but will she have him? The dour ex-military officer who so gallantly carried Gwen to safety is a man who needs a lesson in winning a woman's heart. But through courtship and seduction, Gwen soon finds that with each kiss, and with every caress, Hugo captivates her more—with his desire, with his love, and with the promise of forever. "[Mary Balogh] writes with wit and wisdom. . . . The Proposal is both moving and entertaining and the beginning of what promises to be an outstanding series."—Romance Reviews Today "A historical romance of unusual thoughtfulness and depth."—Publishers Weekly Includes a preview of Mary Balogh's *The Arrangement*

**The Escape** Penguin

In the fourth novel of New York Times bestselling author Mary Balogh's *Survivors' Club* series, Flavian, Viscount Ponsoby, finds

salvation in the love of a most unsuspecting woman... Flavian was devastated by his fiancée's desertion after his return home from the Napoleonic Wars. Now the woman who broke his heart is back—and everyone is eager to revive their engagement. Except Flavian, who, in a panic, runs straight into the arms of a most sensible yet enchanting young woman. Agnes Keeping has never been in love—and never wishes to be. But then she meets the charismatic Flavian, and suddenly Agnes falls so foolishly and so deeply that she agrees to his impetuous proposal of marriage. When Agnes discovers that the proposal is only to avenge his former love, she's determined to flee. But Flavian has no intention of letting his new bride go, especially now that he too has fallen so passionately and so unexpectedly in love.

**The Legacy** Penguin

Lady Gwendoline Muir has experienced her fair share of tragedies in her short life: she lost her husband to a freak accident and developed a limp after falling from horseback. Still young, Gwen is sure that she's done with love and that she will never be married again. Gwen tries to be content with her life as it is and to live through the happy marriages of her brother and her best friend, Viscountess Ravensberg. She's happy for them and for years that is enough for her. . . . until she meets Lord Trentham - a man who returned from the Peninsula Wars a hero but is unable to escape the bite of his survivor's guilt. For he might just be the man who can convince her to believe in second chances.

**A Counterfeit Betrothal/The Notorious Rake** Hachette UK

*A Masked Deception* is the digital reissue of a previously published and long out-of-print novel by New York Times Bestselling author Mary Balogh. Margaret Wells has been deeply, hopelessly in love with the handsome, dashing Richard Adair, Earl of Brampton, since she met him at a masquerade ball six years ago. Passion had flared between them then, but she had fled before the time for unmasking. Now Richard merely needs a wife to give him an heir, and the quiet, demure Miss Wells seems as suitable as anyone else. Margaret, longing to ignite some sort of passion in her dull marriage, wonders what would happen if she were to become that masked enchantress once more and met her husband by chance in some secluded, romantic setting. Little does Margaret suspect that Richard has never forgotten the nameless charmer for whom he had searched in vain for weeks and months after the masquerade ball. And little does she suspect that he is falling in love with his wife.

**Slightly Dangerous** Dell

A very proper aristocrat, who always does his duty and never sets a foot wrong, the young Duke of Mitford is on his way into the country to propose marriage, sight unseen, to a young lady of equal virtue and propriety chosen for him by his grandfather and hers. For once in his life, Paul decides to have a little adventure

by traveling there incognito and without his usual ducal entourage. He finds the experience disappointing until at an inn one evening he rescues a female from certain ravishment and then learns that she is fleeing from the dreadful fate of having to marry the Duke of Mitford. Before Josephine Middleton discovers the true identity of her rescuer, the two of them are embroiled in a very big, mad adventure after she finds that her would-be abductor has stolen her jewels.

**The Proposal** Class Ebook Editions Ltd

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER While Lady Angeline Dudley's pedigree dictates that she must land a titled gentleman, the irrepressible beauty longs for a simple, ordinary suitor. So when Edward Ailsbury, the new Earl of Heyward, defends her honor with unmatched civility, Angeline thinks that she has found true love. Persuading the earl is another matter entirely. From her unconventional fashion sense to her hoydenish antics, Angeline is the last woman on earth for Edward. And yet a stolen kiss awakens something primal within him. Naturally, being a gentleman, he does the right thing after compromising a lady: He offers marriage. The proposal is born of duty, but will Angeline cause Edward to forget about decorum behind closed doors, where sensuality and seduction play wicked games? For a proper wife by day can become a husband's secret mistress by night, when delicious desire rules. Includes Mary Balogh's "Now a Bride," featuring extra scenes from her *Mistress* series.

**Indiscreet** Penguin

From the legendary New York Times bestselling author of *Only a Kiss* and *Only a Promise* comes the final book in the rapturous *Survivor's Club* series—as the future of one man lies within the heart of a lost but never-forgotten love... For the first time since the death of his wife, the Duke of Stanbrook is considering remarrying and finally embracing happiness for himself. With that thought comes the treasured image of a woman he met briefly a year ago and never saw again. Dora Debbs relinquished all hope to marry when a family scandal left her in charge of her younger sister. Earning a modest living as a music teacher, she's left with only an unfulfilled dream. Then one afternoon, an unexpected visitor makes it come true. For both George and Dora that brief first encounter was as fleeting as it was unforgettable. Now is the time for a second chance. And while even true love comes with a risk, who are two dreamers to argue with destiny?

**Lord Carew's Bride** Dell

Mary Balogh's charming and warm-hearted eBook original short story is a testament to the steadfast devotion of true love, as a young miss on the marriage mart cleverly plots to claim her one and only. If circumstances were different, Philippa Dean would be happy to fall in love with Viscount Darleigh. He is certainly the perfect gentleman and everything her parents want: titled,

handsome, respectable. His blindness only reinforces his quiet power and strength. But Philippa does not love him. Her heart is already taken and there is only one thing she can do: Thwart the matchmaking plans. Julian Crabbe is desperate to rescue the woman he fell in love with two years ago. Then, he was a reckless cub, justly earning Philippa's parents' scorn. Now, he is every inch a respectable suitor and determined to prove it before it is too late. Intrude on the viscount's house party? Gladly. Interrupt the match of the season? Happily. For nothing can stop the power of a love that will not be denied. Includes a preview of Mary Balogh's delicious new novel, *The Arrangement!* Praise for *The Proposal* "This is Mary Balogh at her riveting best. Everyone loves a wounded hero, and Balogh introduces us to an unforgettable one who discovers the healing power of love."—Debbie Macomber "[Mary Balogh] writes with wit and wisdom. . . . *The Proposal* is both moving and entertaining and the beginning of what promises to be an outstanding series."—Romance Reviews Today "A historical romance of unusual thoughtfulness and depth."—Publishers Weekly

#### **One Night for Love** Penguin

Now a Bride is what fans of New York Times bestselling author Mary Balogh's *Mistress* series have been clamoring for: more passion and more drama featuring the Dudley siblings. In anticipation of the enticing third book in the *Mistress* trilogy, *The Secret Mistress*, here are never-before-published scenes from More than a *Mistress* and *No Man's Mistress*—plus Mary Balogh's new epilogue for the series. • **JOCELYN AND JANE:** Three new scenes—"The Proposal," "The Wedding," and "Return to Acton Park"—spark more fiery passion from charmingly arrogant Jocelyn and spirited Jane. • **FERDINAND AND VIOLA:** Two unpublished scenes—"The Wedding" and "Home to Pinewood Manor"—prove once again that this unlikely but perfect couple is made for each other. • **THE REUNION: FIVE YEARS LATER:** Enjoy a brand-new chapter that reunites readers with all three Dudley couples and their children and answers every fan's biggest question: What happened after the last page was turned? **NEW:** The enchanting prequel to the *Mistress* series! Readers got to know madcap Angeline and straitlaced Edward through the romantic adventures of the Dudley brothers. But Angeline and Edward have their own story of passion to tell in *The Secret Mistress*. **BONUS:** This eBook includes an excerpt from Mary Balogh's *The Secret Mistress*.

#### **Remember Love** Class Ebook Editions Ltd

A love that cannot be bought or sold proves to be the greatest gift of all, in this heartwarming classic that demonstrates once again why New York Times bestselling author Mary Balogh is among the most celebrated authors of historical romance. Weddings are supposed to be joyous occasions—especially when a couple seems as well matched as Randolph Pierce, Earl of Falloden, and his bride-to-be, Eleanor Transome. Ellie brings to the marriage a vast dowry, while Falloden, though distant, is handsome, tremendously desirable, and possessed of a title most young ladies can only dream of sharing. Yet Ellie is not most young ladies. She knows that she must honor her dear father's dying wish for her to wed the proud earl, but she dreads a lifetime in a union without love—and how can Falloden claim to love her when he married her only for her fortune? As Christmas descends upon the Falloden manor, the warmth of the season may yet melt away the trappings of duty and wealth, leaving behind only a man and a woman destined for each other's arms.

#### **Tangled Dell**

**NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER** In this poignant novel of longing and salvation, a hopeful widow and a resilient war hero discover the promise of love's magic and new beginnings. After surviving the Napoleonic Wars, Sir Benedict Harper is struggling to move on, his body and spirit in need of a healing touch. Never does Ben imagine that hope will come in the form of a beautiful woman who has seen her own share of suffering. After the lingering death of her husband, Samantha McKay is at the mercy of her oppressive in-laws—until she plots an escape to distant Wales to claim a house she has inherited. Being a gentleman, Ben insists that he escort her on the fateful journey. Ben wants Samantha as much as she wants him, but he is cautious. What can a wounded soul offer any woman? Samantha is ready to go where fate takes her, to leave behind polite society and even propriety in her desire for this handsome, honorable soldier. But dare she offer her bruised heart as well as her body? The answers to both their questions may be found in an unlikely place: in each other's arms. Includes Mary Balogh's charming short story, "The Suitor." Praise for *The Escape* "Bestseller [Mary] Balogh delivers an outstanding third installment of her *Survivors' Club* series. . . . This exquisitely written Regency will appeal to Balogh's legions of fans."—Publishers Weekly (starred review) "A heroine who has

never felt valued and a hero in search of a new purpose learn to take life as it comes and live each moment to the fullest. This tender, deeply insightful, and beautifully plotted romance shimmers with hope, possibility, and love."—Library Journal (starred review) "Regency romance star Balogh continues her poignant *Survivors' Club* series with a quietly intense love story that speaks to open-heartedness, courage and faith in new beginnings."—Kirkus Reviews "A beautifully rendered love story of two wounded and lost souls who find each other and together discover strength and love. Tender, touching and mature, Balogh's story slowly unfolds, reaching deep into the characters' emotions demonstrating how love empowers, heals and redeems. Everything about this story is lovely and near perfect."—RT Book Reviews (4-1/2 stars, Top Pick) "The *Escape* is such an apt title—two people escape from unhappy pasts, finding love in their mutual journey. Their capacity for happiness astonishes and delights them and the reader, as they both so deserve their hard-won happily-ever-after."—Heroes and Heartbreakers "The *Escape* is full of excitement, adventure, and enchanting romance. The main characters are so well-developed, and Mary Balogh does such a wonderful job giving the reader a window into their thoughts, that by the end of the book you feel as though you know them intimately."—Fresh Fiction

#### **An Unlikely Duchess** Dell

Jane Matthews has been secretly in love with the charming, very handsome Viscount Fairfax for a long time—since well before his marriage, in fact. Now he is widowed and, after a suitable mourning period, is back in London in search of a new wife and a mother for his two infant daughters. He chooses Jane, whom he finds likable and quiet and sensible and surely the ideal choice to suit his needs. When he proposes marriage to her, however, she surprises them both by saying no. Instead, she accepts the offer of his best friend. Too late—or so it seems—the viscount falls deeply in love with Jane as he comes to value her for herself.

#### **Neo-Victorian Madness** Penguin

Believing her romantic prospects are over after losing her husband in an accident and suffering a fall that leaves her with a limp, young Lady Gwendoline strives to be happy for others and finds an unexpected second chance at love. By the best-selling author of the *Huxtable* series. 60,000 first printing.

#### **The Arrangement** Class Ebook Editions Ltd

**THE INSTANT NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER FROM THE #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF PEOPLE WE MEET ON VACATION!** "Original, sparkling bright, and layered with feeling."--Sally Thorne, author of *The Hating Game* A romance writer who no longer believes in love and a literary writer stuck in a rut engage in a summer-long challenge that may just upend everything they believe about happily ever afters. Augustus Everett is an acclaimed author of literary fiction. January Andrews writes bestselling romance. When she pens a happily ever after, he kills off his entire cast. They're polar opposites. In fact, the only thing they have in common is that for the next three months, they're living in neighboring beach houses, broke, and bogged down with writer's block. Until, one hazy evening, one thing leads to another and they strike a deal designed to force them out of their creative ruts: Augustus will spend the summer writing something happy, and January will pen the next Great American Novel. She'll take him on field trips worthy of any rom-com montage, and he'll take her to interview surviving members of a backwoods death cult (obviously). Everyone will finish a book and no one will fall in love. Really.

#### **Only Enchanting** National Geographic Books

**THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER** A very practical marriage makes Alexander Westcott question his heart in this Regency romance from the New York Times bestselling author of *Someone to Honor*. When Alexander Westcott becomes the new Earl of Riverdale, he inherits a title he never wanted and a failing country estate he can't afford. But he fully intends to do everything in his power to undo years of neglect and give the people who depend on him a better life... A recluse for more than twenty years, Wren Heyden wants one thing out of life: marriage. With her vast fortune, she sets her sights on buying a husband. But when she makes the desperate—and oh-so-dashing—earl a startlingly unexpected proposal, Alex will only agree to a proper courtship, hoping for at least friendship and respect to develop between them. He is totally unprepared for the desire that overwhelms him when Wren finally lifts the veils that hide the secrets of her past...

#### **An Unacceptable Offer** Dell

From the legendary New York Times bestselling author of *Heartless* comes an exquisite Georgian romance of a transcendent love, "without doubt, one of the most romantic novels ever written."\* Lady Emily Marlowe is beautiful,

independent, and unspoiled. Deaf since childhood, she appreciates her family's efforts to nurture her spirit, but the man they've chosen for her betrothal can never fulfill her. The only one Emily has ever desired is bold and reckless Lord Ashley Kendrick. Her childhood amour inspired her fantasies and vowed never to forget her—even as he left her for a new life in India and a new love. Seven years and countless dreams later, Ashley has returned a desolate widower to Bowden Abbey and, true to his promise, to Emily. Yet his heedless proposal of marriage has left her unexpectedly conflicted. Though the heat of passion still burns, Emily fears that it's only a sense of duty—not love—that has brought him to bended knee. And what is she to make of those seven lost years clouded in secrets too dark for Ashley to share? For Emily, her greatest and only love now becomes one worth fighting for, one of startling revelations and second chances, and one, like a melody, too beautiful for words....

#### **A Christmas Promise** Penguin

New York Times bestselling author Mary Balogh presents the first historical romance in the *Westcott* series, where the death of an earl reveals a most scandalous secret. Humphrey Westcott, Earl of Riverdale, has died, leaving behind a fortune and a scandalous secret that will forever alter the lives of everyone in his family—including the daughter no one knew he had... Anna Snow grew up in an orphanage in Bath knowing nothing of the family she came from. Now she discovers that the late Earl of Riverdale was her father and that she has inherited his fortune. She is also overjoyed to learn she has siblings. However, they want nothing to do with her or her attempts to share her new wealth. But the new earl's guardian is interested in Anna... Avery Archer, Duke of Netherby, keeps others at a distance. Yet something prompts him to aid Anna in her transition from orphan to lady. As London society and her newfound relatives threaten to overwhelm Anna, Avery steps in to rescue her and finds himself vulnerable to feelings and desires he has hidden so well and for so long.

#### **First Comes Marriage** Dell

**BONUS:** This edition contains an excerpt from Mary Balogh's *The Secret Mistress*. In a time unlike any other, a family you'll never forget . . . Meet the *Huxtables*—three headstrong sisters and their dashing brother—each searching for love that's always a shocking indiscretion away. . . . In her magnificent new novel, New York Times bestselling author Mary Balogh sweeps us into a world of scandal and intrigue—glittering Regency England—and introduces the youngest *Huxtable*: Stephen, the only son. Here Stephen will risk his reputation and his heart as he enters a scandalous liaison with the infamous beauty intent on seduction. But when passion turns the tables on them both, who can say who has seduced whom? He must be wealthy, wellborn, and want her more than he wants any other woman. Those are the conditions that must be met by the man Cassandra Belmont chooses for her lover.

Marriage is out of the question for the destitute widow who stands accused of murdering her husband and must now barter her beauty in order to survive. With seduction in mind, she sets her sights on Stephen Huxtable, the irresistibly attractive Earl of Merton and London's most eligible bachelor. But Stephen's first intriguing glimpse of the mysterious, alluring Lady Paget convinces him that he has found the ideal woman to share his bed. There is only one caveat. This relationship fueled by mutual pleasure must be on his terms. As the two warily circle each other in a sensual dance of attack and retreat, a single night of passion alters all the rules. Cassandra, whose reputation is already in tatters, is now in danger of losing the one thing she vowed never to give. And Stephen, who wants Cassandra more than he has ever wanted any woman, won't rest until she has surrendered everything—not as his mistress—but as his lover and wife. . . .

#### **Simply Magic** Penguin

Giles Fairhaven, Viscount Kincade, does not believe his life can get much worse after his purse is stolen at an inn before he has paid his bill and then he is set upon by three ruffians in the inn yard before he can leave. But it does grow worse when a little slip of a lady clad only in a flannel nightgown and wielding a large black man's umbrella comes to his rescue and puts his assailants to rout and then—after he has left—pays his reckoning at the inn plus the money he lost the evening before in a card game with a fellow guest plus what he owed the barmaid with whom he spent the night. The ensuing gossip is almost too much humiliation for Giles to bear. Yet when he finds and confronts Daisy Morrison in London, far from being cowed by his displeasure, she declares with sunny good nature that if he insists upon repaying the slight favour she was able to do for him, then he can recommend a lady sponsor to her so that she may find a husband for her younger sister among the gentlemen of the ton. Inexplicably, Giles finds himself agreeing. His troubles are only just beginning.

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