



Slightly Shady (Lavinia Lake / Tobias March Book 1)

By Amanda Quick

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Amanda Quick's bestselling trademark is a combination of suspense and passion in historical tales alight with sparkling wit and brimming with dangerous intrigue. Now she serves up the most tantalizing novel of her career as an enterprising woman allies herself with a mysterious spy, only to be caught in a seething brew of treachery — and temptation....

From the moment he burst into her antiquities shop in Rome, Lavinia Lake knew the stranger was nothing but trouble. He said he was in pursuit of a killer. He swore he was only trying to save her. Yet no matter what he claimed, Lavinia was convinced that Mr. Tobias March was bent instead on destroying her. And when the self-described spy hustled her and her niece out of the shop and back to England, Lavinia could only hope that one day she would find a way to repay Mr. March in full.

But Lavinia never imagined the shocking circumstances under which they would meet again ... or that soon he would become more deadly — and more compelling — with each passing day.

In the business of making private inquiries, Tobias March had been hired to trade down a powerful villain who even now was intent on assuming control of a vast criminal organization. Yet in his search he had found nothing but one dead end — and one dead body — after another.

And then, just as his investigation was heating up once more, he found his mission and his life complicated by the most ungovernable, unpredictable, exasperating woman he had ever met.

Faced with a tangled web of deceit and danger, Tobias had no choice but to form a partnership with Lavinia, a lady whose past could only be described as slightly shady. Yet when he persuaded her to become his associate, neither Tobias nor Lavinia realized that their heated disputes would spark a sizzling desire — or that the deeper they kept digging for the truth, the deeper they were digging their own graves....

From the Hardcover edition.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

There's something *Slightly Shady* about Lavinia Lake. First of all, no decent woman would go into trade, even when an unscrupulous employer leaves her stranded abroad with her young niece. But the capable Lavinia has landed on her feet, peddling dubious reproductions of ancient artifacts in Rome to earn passage home. When a madman ransacks her shop, accusing her of aiding and abetting a murderous gang of thieves, Lavinia and her niece Emeline return to London, where Lavinia once more takes lemons and makes lemonade, becoming a private investigator. In the course of her first discreet inquiry for a wealthy aristocrat with secrets to hide, Lavinia runs into her madman once more, standing over the recently deceased body of a blackmailer. Not exactly your usual beginning for a relationship, but Mr. Tobias March is hardly an ordinary man. In fact, he's quite extraordinary, Lavinia very reluctantly admits to herself. When threats to Lavinia's safety force her into an unlikely partnership with the mysterious Mr. March, the fur--and a petticoat or two--flies. A heady combination of passion and the shared thrill of the hunt for a depraved murderer may lead Lavinia and Tobias to form a partnership of a more permanent kind. Lively suspense with a healthy dose of passion, Amanda Quick's *Slightly Shady* is truly addictive storytelling. --Alison Trinkle

From Publishers Weekly

Spirited heroines and sardonic heroes populate this sexy Regency-era thriller by the ever reliable Quick, alter ego of Jayne Ann Krentz. This time out, Quick offers the parry and thrust of danger and romance, as embodied in resourceful Lavinia Lake and roguish Tobias March. Lavinia first encounters Tobias when he bursts into her antiques shop in Rome, trashing her wares, all the while claiming to be on the trail of a murderer and warning Lavinia that she is in danger. There's also talk of treason, a criminal organization known as the Blue Chamber and an evil mastermind named Azure. Despite her skepticism, Lavinia returns with her niece, Emeline, to London, where she is caught up in more intrigue. She sets herself up as a private detective and even though stubbornness on both sides leads to an oil-and-water pairing, she soon finds herself in business with Tobias, attempting to foil a blackmail scheme, locate the culprit in a series of murders and identify the surviving member of Azure's organization. Arch humor and the expert removal of bodices are Quick's stock in trade, and the old formula still works splendidly. As usual, the novel's outcome is visible a mile off, but familiarity, after all, is golden in literary franchise land. Major ad/promo. (Apr. 10) Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From School Library Journal

Adult/High School-Another humorous, romantic mystery of Regency England. To save herself and her niece from embarrassment and financial ruin, Lavinia becomes a discreet, but paid, sleuth to determine who is blackmailing her client-and her. Unhappily, she is compelled to join forces with Tobias, a professional investigator chasing a wicked villain who leaves bodies behind for the pair to discover. In typical Quick style, after much repartee they become partners in more ways than one. This easy read is sure to please the author's fans.

Claudia Moore, W. T. Woodson High School, Fairfax, VA

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Beverly Brown:

The guide untitled Slightly Shady (Lavinia Lake / Tobias March Book 1) is the publication that recommended to you to read. You can see the quality of the reserve content that will be shown to anyone. The language that article author use to explained their ideas are easily to understand. The author was did a lot of exploration when write the book, therefore the information that they share to your account is absolutely accurate. You also might get the e-book of Slightly Shady (Lavinia Lake / Tobias March Book 1) from the publisher to make you a lot more enjoy free time.

Janice Saucier:

Can you one of the book lovers? If so, do you ever feeling doubt while you are in the book store? Make an effort to pick one book that you find out the inside because don't judge book by its handle may doesn't work at this point is difficult job because you are afraid that the inside maybe not seeing that fantastic as in the outside appear likes. Maybe you answer could be Slightly Shady (Lavinia Lake / Tobias March Book 1) why because the fantastic cover that make you consider in regards to the content will not disappoint you actually. The inside or content is definitely fantastic as the outside or perhaps cover. Your reading sixth sense will directly direct you to pick up this book.

Susan Woods:

As a scholar exactly feel bored for you to reading. If their teacher asked them to go to the library or to make summary for some e-book, they are complained. Just tiny students that has reading's spirit or real their pastime. They just do what the educator want, like asked to the library. They go to presently there but nothing reading really. Any students feel that studying is not important, boring and can't see colorful pictures on there. Yeah, it is being complicated. Book is very important for you. As we know that on this time, many ways to get whatever you want. Likewise word says, many ways to reach Chinese's country. So , this Slightly Shady (Lavinia Lake / Tobias March Book 1) can make you feel more interested to read.

Thomas Obrien:

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