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## Merrywood Hall (English Edition)

*Von James Ryder*

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**Von James Ryder : Merrywood Hall (English Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Merrywood Hall (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Rounded up to 4 stars.Von LenaRibkaI have to confess that at the end I was surprised myself how much I actually enjoyed this

novel, because it hadn't started very promising, but the author managed to draw my utmost attention as the story went on. The decision to bound all 4 very short sequels to one novel was the right one, though I prefer the original cover that suited better to a MM Romance book. (Considering the amount of detailed sex scenes on the pages, maybe it was not though totally wrong.) Merrywood Hall falls in the category 'historical romance', but I would be careful in using this terminology: there is historical gay fiction and there is a MM romance, that takes place in a certain historical setting, where the main focus is set on a LOVE STORY. This book is a clear representative of the last genre. If you look for the realistic and accurate description of historical facts - I mean in the first place angst, guilt, shame, insecurity and danger that gay men, regardless their social status, had to confront with at that period of time, then probably this book will leave you unsatisfied. Because, in spite of the fact, that Jack and Tom needed to overcome many obstacles and difficulties before they would get their HEA, they gained understanding for their feelings and support from many people they met. It wasn't homophobia, discrimination and hatred of the society they fought, it wasn't even the WAR, that was one of the serious tests for their love, it were not circumstances of time and place, but pure evil in the form of a single person, Edward Merrywood, spoiled and arrogant heir of Merrywood estate, who did everything in his power to bring them apart. He failed of course. (Did I give too much away?!) But let me remind you again, we are talking about a MM Romance book, and a different ending would be out of place here. I have also to admit, that I don't belong to a regular reader of a mainstream MM Romance, and I can't explain why one book works fine for me while many other do not. Maybe it is a matter of timing or a matter of a proper mood. Maybe it is a simple harmony of a way of telling and the story itself, that just suit me well. A lovely entertaining tale that takes place in the time before and during the WW 1. \*\*\* ARC provided to Gay Book Reviews by the publisher in exchange for an honest review. \*\*\*

Kurzbeschreibung A gay historical romance novel. Tom Archer has only known the quiet life of a footman at Merrywood Hall. He has certainly never known true love. Jack Curtis is rough and rugged, a streetwise lad from the workhouse who's too guarded to let anyone in. Tom doesn't know how to handle Jack and his complete lack of deference to the noble Merrywood family. But their intense attraction to each other can't be denied and spills over one night in the hay barn during a tempestuous rainstorm. Yet as servants at the Hall, pursuing their love is forbidden and made especially difficult by the Honourable Edward Merrywood, son and heir to the vast estate. Edward is a bitter and arrogant man possessed by an unyielding desire for Tom, and he won't watch him belong to anyone else. Edward is willing to go to any lengths, including murder, to make sure he can keep Tom to himself. It's an obsession that haunts all three men for years, from the aristocratic world of an English country mansion to the muddy trenches of the Great War. From the author of Dream Lover and Carvers Cove comes a gay historical romance novel about the battles fought in the name of love. Merrywood Hall is a heartwrenching story of desire and jealousy, of obsession and survival.

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