



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 antiques 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:

Steven Richardson:

Nowadays reading books be than want or need but also be a life style. This reading behavior give you lot of advantages. Associate programs you got of course the knowledge your information inside the book that improve your knowledge and information. The details you get based on what kind of guide you read, if you want send more knowledge just go with training books but if you want feel happy read one having theme for entertaining like comic or novel. Typically the Slightly Shady (Lavinia Lake / Tobias March Book 1) is kind of reserve which is giving the reader unforeseen experience.

Charles Malone:

Would you one of the book lovers? If yes, do you ever feeling doubt when you are in the book store? Try to pick one book that you never know the inside because don't judge book by its include may doesn't work at this point is difficult job because you are scared that the inside maybe not seeing that fantastic as in the outside look likes. Maybe you answer might be Slightly Shady (Lavinia Lake / Tobias March Book 1) why because the amazing cover that make you consider with regards to the content will not disappoint anyone. The inside or content will be fantastic as the outside or cover. Your reading 6th sense will directly show you to pick up this book.

Deborah Browning:

This Slightly Shady (Lavinia Lake / Tobias March Book 1) is brand new way for you who has fascination to look for some information since it relief your hunger info. Getting deeper you on it getting knowledge more you know otherwise you who still having small amount of digest in reading this Slightly Shady (Lavinia Lake / Tobias March Book 1) can be the light food for you personally because the information inside this book is easy to get by means of anyone. These books acquire itself in the form and that is reachable by anyone, that's why I mean in the e-book web form. People who think that in book form make them feel drowsy even dizzy this publication is the answer. So you cannot find any in reading a book especially this one. You can find what you are looking for. It should be here for you actually. So , don't miss it! Just read this e-book style for your better life as well as knowledge.

Joan Stump:

In this era which is the greater particular person or who has ability in doing something more are more special than other. Do you want to become one of it? It is just simple strategy to have that. What you need to do is just spending your time not very much but quite enough to possess a look at some books. On the list of books in the top record in your reading list is definitely Slightly Shady (Lavinia Lake / Tobias March Book 1). This book and that is qualified as The Hungry Hillside can get you closer in turning out to be precious person. By looking way up and review this reserve you can get many advantages.

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