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Mission: Improper (London Steampunk: The Blue Blood Conspiracy Book 1)



Synopsis

Standing between London and a deadly plot against the throne, are the dangerous spies and femme fatales that form the Company of Rogues... that's if they don't kill each other first. Entire families have gone missing in the East End. When Caleb Byrnes receives an invitation to join the Company of Rogues as an undercover agent pledged to protect the crown, he jumps at the chance to find out who, or what, is behind the disappearances. Hunting criminals is what the darkly driven blue blood does best, and though he prefers to work alone, the opportunity is too good to resist. The problem? He's partnered with Ingrid Miller, the fiery and passionate verwulven woman who won a private bet against him a year ago. Byrnes has a score to settle, but one stolen kiss and suddenly the killer is not the only thing Byrnes is interested in hunting. Soon they're chasing whispered rumours of a secret project gone wrong, and a monster that just might be more dangerous than either of them combined. The only way to find out more is to go undercover among the blue blood elite... But when their hunt uncovers a mysterious conspiracy, Byrnes and Ingrid must set aside their age-old rivalry if they have any chance at surviving a treacherous plot.

MISSION: IMPROPER is the first book in the spin-off to Bec McMaster's award-winning London Steampunk series. If you like sexy paranormal romances, an enemies-to-lovers pairing, and plenty of action-adventure (suave spies, dirigible flights, and monster hunting), then you'll love sharing the journey with Byrnes and Ingrid. Don't miss any of the London Steampunk: The Blue Blood Conspiracy books! Book 1: Mission: Improper. Featuring Byrnes and Ingrid. Book 2: The Mech Who Loved Me. Featuring Ava and Kincaid. Book 3: You Only Love Twice. Featuring Gemma and Obsidian (coming soon!)

What everyone is saying about Bec McMaster: "a must read for paranormal fans and steampunk fans alike. 5/5 Stars, Reviewer Top Pick" *Night Owl Reviews* "richly imagined, gritty and dark, and full of hot heroes and hot sex...utterly delicious." *Smart Bitches, Trashy Books* "Action, adventure, steampunk, and blazing hot seduction...Bec McMaster offers it all." *Eve Silver*, author of *Sins of the Flesh*

The Blue Blood Conspiracy London Steampunk series:- Gaslight Fantasy Romance- Historical Romance- Steampunk Romance- Fantasy Romance- Paranormal Romance- Action Adventure Romance

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Customer Reviews

I read this book with relatively low expectations, given that it has the same publisher as McMaster's two new series (Lochaber Press), both of which represent a distinct drop in quality from her London Steampunk series. I was particularly worried when I saw the cover, which is definitely a departure from the wonderful Gene Mollica covers of old. However, my main concern was the editing, which was downright atrocious in her 'Burned Lands' and 'Dark Arts' series. That said, I breathed a sigh of relief once I started the book. While there are still a few editing issues around punctuation (especially the use of question marks and possessive apostrophes), "Mission: Improper" is definitely on par with McMaster's London Steampunk series in terms of the writing and the plot (not the best of this series, mind you, but still a good story in its own right). Caleb and Ingrid were both introduced during the series and it's nice to see them get to star in their own plot in this book, although I agree with a prior reviewer that it felt like we were missing a bit of their backstory. This book picks up a couple of years after the last London Steampunk book ends and remains relatively true to the world McMaster has developed, while adding interesting new dimensions (although I was a bit confused about the transmission of the verwolfen virus, which was a big plot point in Will's book but doesn't really rate a mention at all in this one, although presumably Ingrid would be at the same risk of transmitting the virus in any sexual encounters). I will definitely read more in this series, although I still remain on the fence about McMaster's new ventures in the fantasy and scifi realms.

I liked Caleb and Ingrid but they do come with very dark pasts. My frustration was the mystery- nothing really got solved. It felt way too much like a part 1. Except worse because it relied heavily on the previous series.

After the London Steampunk series I fell into limbo. I tried other authors in the Steampunk genre but I kept making comparisons between their work and McMaster's - and they weren't making the grade. In retrospect it wasn't fair on those writers. Then I discovered *The Blue Blood Conspiracy*. Suddenly my finger couldn't 1-click fast enough. I even pulled out my little notebook with scribbles about characters and unfinished plots. There were so many unanswered questions and blossoming romances that I needed tying up. But Caleb Byrnes and Ingrid Miller? I didn't really see that one coming which eventually revealed itself as a fantastic surprise. Admittedly it had taken a while to get into it. I found that the whole romancing topic deviated from what I initially wanted. Then there were the introductions of all the potential couplings which became a bit too much. Except in the case of the delightful and still too young, Charlie Todd. McMaster managed to capture my attention in a world of espionage, corsets, gadgetry and Victorian colloquialism. A world teeming with infinite dangers and equally limitless possibilities. This is definitely a place that I love to lose a few hours in.

I'm so glad I finally got into the world of steampunk, and I'm there with Ms. McMaster I love her wonderful rogues, even if at times the slow burn of these relationships are maddeningly slow I love these characters and I'm grateful for the chance to be apart of their world, Thank you ... If you love some action and adventure with your romance along strong heroines who aren't perfect p, know it and aren't pushovers that are easily won? You should enjoy this too ;)

We are taken to three years after the revolution that ends the first series. While the disgruntled formerly-in-power is pretty standard, the recognition that the new government is feeling it's way and making missteps is refreshing as is the acknowledgement that change takes time. Meanwhile the fast paced paranormal/steampunk romance/adventure we've come to expect is reliably delivered.

Another good read

Mission: Improper is an excellent addition to Bec McMaster's London Steampunk series. In fact, I think I enjoyed this book even more than those of the previous story arc. This novel introduces a new and terrifying blue blood conspiracy while exploring the implications of the revolution depicted

in *Of Silk and Steam*. I really appreciate how McMaster delves into the challenges of radical social change instead of implying that after revolution everything is sunshine and roses. This new story arc also expands the world of London Steampunk, paving the way for even more growth in future installments (please, please let us learn more about the Russian blue bloods!). The plot is action packed, McMaster's writing has an addictive quality that left me unable to put this book down! However, my favorite part of *Mission: Improper* has to be the characters. Byrnes and Ingrid are a great couple, and I am obsessed with the supporting characters. I can't wait to read about Ava and Kincaid, Gemma and Obsidian, Malloryn and Adele! The next book can't come out soon enough. Grade: A-

I have loved McMaster's work right from the start, but the original London Steampunk series held my heart until I read this one and realized - she's back! I love the characters and the intrigue, but love it best when those characters are down in the trenches with the rest of us. Cannot wait until the next!

Fantastic follow up to the London Steampunk series. Same world, same characters and twice as hot. Can't wait for the next book.

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