
Mail Order Bride: Half A Man Is Good Enough For Her

(A Clean Western Historical Romance)

By

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Synopsis: Two sisters escape an abusive home in England to seek love in Oregon with two brothers, as mail order brides to the men. What will the matches be, and will one sister be able to break through one brother's hard exterior to find any love within him?

When Elizabeth Warren was a child, she had dreamed of marrying a handsome lord and living a charmed life with her beautiful son and daughter who were well groomed and the apple of their father's eye.

As she looked to her eighteen year old, still unmarried twin daughters, Victoria and Veronica, mopping and Mail Order Bride: Half A Man Is Good Enough For Her (A Clean Western Historical Romance) dusting the small living space of their single room tenement, she regretted marrying for love instead of money. Her father had presented her to his business associate, Tobin Filmore, when she was sixteen years old but she had already given her heart to the handsome young carpenter, Roger Warren.

She refused betrothal and followed her childish fantasies as far as love would take them, which unfortunately was one half of a two room flat in the lower west side of the ever-growing, already overpopulated Mail Order Bride: Half A Man Is Good Enough For Her (A Clean Western

Historical Romance) city of London. Her father had disowned her due to her "...insolence and arrogance and I will not be party to you ruining your life and embarrassing this family with your foolishness." She could still hear her father's words in her ears as if he were standing behind her, screaming them into her mind at the top of his lungs.

She shook her head and poured herself another cup of homemade hooch from the bottle she'd bartered from her neighbor, Betsy Nash, for homemade soap. It wasn't the best in town but it quietened her father and helped her deal with the reality that had become a nightmare. She hated Roger Warren. Hated him for dying and leaving her with two daughters to raise.

Hated him for having so much debt that no matter how many hours she slaved cleaning the homes of the hoity-toity folk across town, trekking the crowded, smelly streets for what seemed to be hours, she would never be able to repay.

She walked to the twin bed in the corner and sat down, looking at the girls in the room with nothing but contempt. Victoria and Veronica, who called each other "Tori and Roni", had not had luck in love and she feared she would have to bear the burden of their births until she met her death.

If you were to ask Elizabeth, she would say that her daughters were "noticeably plain and boring to the senses. Nothing a Mail Order Bride: Half A Man Is Good Enough For Her (A Clean Western Historical Romance) man would find appealing." The twins both had wavy brown hair, though Veronica's was such a dark tone it was almost black. Both had green tint to their eyes but that's where the similarities stopped.

Victoria's eyes held more of a blue shade, like the reflection of a still pond in December whereas the Mail Order Bride: Half A Man Is Good Enough For Her (A Clean Western Historical Romance) Veronica had the eyes of springtime, green and vibrant. Veronica stood an inch taller than her sister and Victoria was ten pounds Mail Order Bride: Half A Man Is Good Enough For Her (A Clean Western Historical Romance) heavier. Victoria had joked once that she was the pigeon and her sister, having such long legs and thin frame, the stork.

Elizabeth lay back on her bed with the tattered sheets and torn quilt and closed her eyes. Soon she would be asleep. "Tori. Just imagine. If papa were still alive. She wouldn't be near this upset all the time." Victoria Warren just swept the pile of dust outside and off the small porch. Turning to her sister, she replied, "If papa were still alive he would still be doing the "you know" with Mrs. Thatcher and mum would still be miserable, knowing that she'd been played a fool.

At least now, she's not his fool." As fate would have it, young Roger Warren had been in love with the lovely Constance Thatcher when she was but Connie Lovejoy from down the lane. His father had been a wealthy landowner and had provided his son with many luxuries, but when he died the teenage boy lost everything to taxes and saw his chance for revival in the daughter of Henry Wallingford.

He wooed the young Elizabeth, though her looks had much to be desired, she was a kind girl

once. When he had Mail Order Bride: Half A Man Is Good Enough For Her (A Clean Western Historical Romance) asked her to marry him, he was sure his future would be secure but little did he know that the girl's father had no intention of allowing one pence of his to enter the pocket Mail Order Bride: Half A Man Is Good Enough For Her (A Clean Western Historical Romance) of a grubber like Warren. He Mail Order Bride: Half A Man Is Good Enough For Her (A Clean Western Historical Romance) was a proud man who would not stand for his name to be Mail Order Bride: Half A Man Is Good Enough For Her (A Clean Western Historical Romance) associated with someone of such stature. He would rather have no daughter at all than have one married to a man with no future.

He'd had sons to carry on his name and two other worthy, prettier daughters who had married good stock. His legacy would be secure in many fine grandchildren. He had no use for Elizabeth. She had regretted eloping with the dashing Warren and telling her father after the fact.

She had always been impetuous and no matter how many strict lashings had been delivered, her spirit was never Mail Order Bride: Half A Man Is Good Enough For Her (A Clean Western Historical Romance) broken. She had always lived by her own rules, a trait that had led to her ruin. She didn't tell Roger Mail Order Bride: Half A Man Is Good Enough For Her (A Clean Western Historical Romance) when her womanly flow had ceased, for she thought if she ignored Mail Order Bride: Half A Man Is Good Enough For Her (A Clean Western Historical Romance) it, then it would return.

If she told herself that her nausea each morning came from the sight of Roger's face, the face that had ripped her from her father's care and security. The beautiful face that now was nothing but a reminder of a time that once was. She had tried to squeeze her belly in a corset for days on end, only to feel a faint flutter when she removed it.

She had tried to drink castor oil by the bottle, only to remain fertilized. Her youthful crush and giddy romantic notions had been replaced by hatred for the man with whom only less than a year ago she had become so enamored. Imagine her sheer disappointment when not one, but two children arrived that warm July afternoon. She had often thought of leaving her children at a nunnery, but she could never bring herself to do it. She had stood over them once when they were three, Mail Order Bride: Half A Man Is Good Enough For Her (A Clean Western Historical Romance) holding the down pillow from her bed, smiling as tears rolled down her face. They looked so angelic and sweet, but still she hated them so much.

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