

NEW YORK TIMES  
BESTSELLING AUTHOR



**SABRINA JEFFRIES**

unveils Book 3 in her  
Sizzling New Series:

**THE HELLIONS  
OF HALSTEAD HALL**

# Sabrina Jeffries

## *How to Woo a Reluctant Lady*

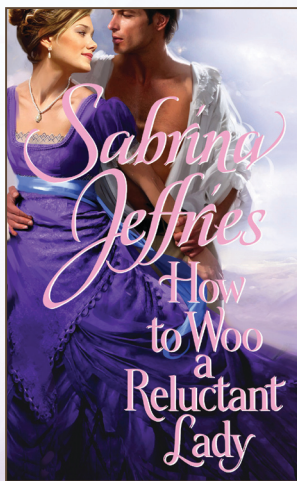
Lady Minerva Sharpe has the perfect plan to thwart her grandmother's demand that she marry by year's end: become engaged to a rogue! Surely Gran would rather release her inheritance than see her wed a scoundrel.

And who better to play the part of Minerva's would-be husband than wild barrister Giles Masters, the very inspiration for the handsome spy in the popular gothic novels she writes? The memory of his passionate kiss on her nineteenth birthday has lingered with Minerva, though she has no intention of falling for such a rakehell, much less marrying him!

Little does she know, Giles really is a covert government operative. When the two team up to investigate the mystery behind her parents' deaths, their fake betrothal leads to red-hot desire. Then Minerva discovers Giles's secret double life, and he must use all the cunning tricks of his trade to find his way back to her heart.

*"A grand mistress of storytelling."*

— **Romantic Times**



## *How to Woo a Reluctant Lady*

The Hellions of Halstead Hall / Book 3

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\$7.99 U.S. / \$9.99 CAN.

*Can engaging herself  
to a rogue save a  
pretty hellion  
from marriage?*



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# The Parasol Papers

Vol. II, No. 1

*"All the Regency News Fit to Print"*

January 18, 2011

## Five Reasons I Don't Wish to Marry

*By Lady Minerva Sharpe*

- Husbands tend to kiss first and ask questions later.
- Writers make terrible wives—their heads are full of other people.
- I don't want to give Gran the satisfaction.
- Men are just so demanding—how is a woman to keep up?
- The only man I would consider marrying is . . . oh, never mind. You would *not* understand.



## Letter to the Editor . . .

Dear Lady Minerva,

We have known each other for some time, and not always as casual acquaintances . . . (I am sure you remember the evening to which I refer.)

Recently, I had the disconcerting experience of reading your gothic novels, and now I am forced to ask why you persist in basing a villain on me in three of those works. To my knowledge, I have never wronged you. I certainly never behaved villainously toward you.

Granted, I apparently wounded your pride during the aforementioned evening—both by my actions and by

my refusal to answer your typically impertinent questions. Surely though, it's not possible you could be still holding a grudge over that. It's been nearly nine years, for God's sake!

So I respectfully request that you cease and desist in this attempt to blacken my name in the guise of fiction. We both know why I cannot sue you for libel over the matter, but if you do not do as I ask, I will be forced to repeat the request in person. And I suspect that's something that neither of us would want.

Sincerely,  
Giles Masters  
Barrister-at-Law

