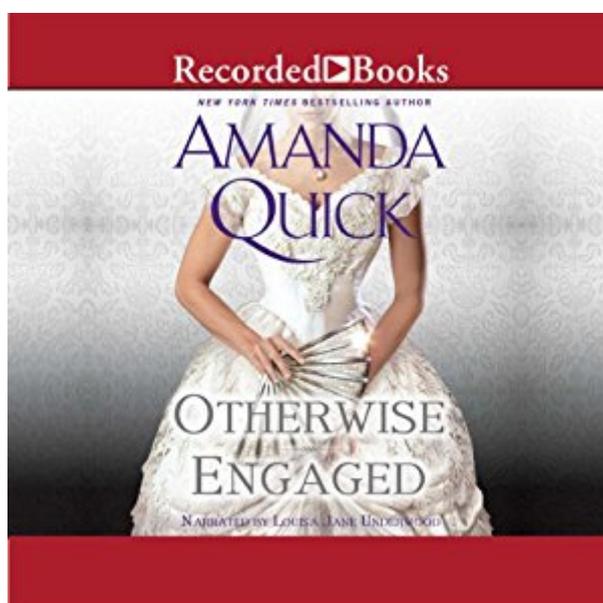


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# Otherwise Engaged



## Synopsis

Miss Amity Doncaster, world traveler, is accustomed to adventure and risk. Benedict Stanbridge, a man of science and a spy for the Crown, has faced danger in the darker corners of foreign lands. But they are about to face a threat that is shockingly close to home . . . One does not expect to be kidnapped on a London street in broad daylight. But Amity Doncaster barely escapes with her life after she is trapped in a carriage with a blade-wielding man in a black silk mask who whispers the most vile taunts and threats into her ear. Her quick thinking, and her secret weapon, save her ... for now. But the monster known in the press as the Bridegroom, who has left a trail of female victims in his wake, has survived the wounds she inflicts and will soon be on his feet again. He is unwholesomely obsessed by her scandalous connection to Benedict Stanbridge - gossip about their hours alone in a ship's stateroom seems to have crossed the Atlantic faster than any sailing vessel could. Benedict refuses to let this resourceful, daring woman suffer for her romantic link to him - as tenuous as it may be. For a man and woman so skilled at disappearing, so at home in the exotic reaches of the globe, escape is always an option. But each intends to end the Bridegroom's reign of terror in London, and will join forces to do so. And as they prepare to confront an unbalanced criminal in the heart of the city they love, they must also face feelings that neither of them can run away from...

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

OTHERWISE ENGAGED is the story of Amity Dorcaster who meets Benedict Stanbridge when she

encounters him as he has been shot and left for dead. She saves his life and the town get know one another while traveling on a ship to New York. When they part, Benedict promises to see her in London. Weeks later, Amity is in London and barely escapes from The Bridegroom, a serial killer who kills scandalous women. When Benedict arrives in London, he is determined to help save Amity from the killer. I really, really liked the beginning of this book. It was unique and Amity is such a strong heroine. Her fan that plays such an important part of the book is unique and the scene where Amity uses it to escape from the killer was dramatic and tension filled. I thought the beginning was so good but to me the remainder of the book just didn't fulfill that promise. I really wanted to love this book but in the end could only like it. I didn't feel any particular interest in the romance as we see it between the main characters. I wish we had seen more of their earlier time together because it seemed like the true romance story happens then. Once they are in London the two already have a connection and I felt somewhat cheated. Also, there really wasn't much tension in the mystery since the revelation is not one that the reader can figure out from reading the story but is just revealed as a complete unknown. The additional villains are easily figured out since there are few characters that could be the villain. It may seem like I didn't like the book, but I generally did. It had many of the hallmarks of the author's books that I like but it didn't have that extra that makes it a must read. I really enjoy Jayne Ann Krentz in all her pseudonyms and I have come to expect more. This is a nice book that I liked but is not one that I will turn back to and read again and again.

The latest Amanda Quick (JAK) is a Victorian murder mystery without the physic element of the recent previous titles. I did miss that aspect at first, but the story seemed as if it would hold up without it. For the most part it does but bogs down in the middle and soon becomes repetitious, even tedious. I love all of JAK's books, under any name, but this one is stale and predictable. Anyone who is a JAK regular will have this figured out long before the end. Sure there are twists and turns but very easily followed as there are not enough characters to provide an alternate ending, nor any red herrings to lead the reader astray. Also, the hero makes one huge leap in logic to figure things out that really comes out of nowhere, a sloppy mistake JAK does not normally make. I gave it three stars as it is still worth reading especially if you are new to Krentz's books.

I have been a pretty avid reader of AQ/JAK/JC. I get them as soon as I can after they are released and enjoy them immensely but this one just didn't cut it, for me. I found it kind of flat. The mystery to be solved flowed pretty well but the romance seemed to me choppy -- just stuck into the storyline, kind of contrived. Anyway, I was looking forward to it and then, well, I felt disappointed. I loved her

stories with characters with paranormal powers. I found those intriguing and fun but this one, for me, was really ho hum. Sorry to be such a downer. I hope this review helps someone. I recommend getting this from the library instead of buying it but that's just me giving advice based on my opinion of this book.

I have been a JAK (and all her aliases) fan for almost 20 years, and this was the first time I had to force myself to finish one of her books. It lacked excitement and mystery. It was just plain BORING. What a let down. I'd say don't waste your money on it, but if you're a JAK fan like me, I know you'll get it anyways. Just be prepared to be disappointed. Hope this is not a glimpse of future writings. I might of given 2 stars for story if I was new to author, but as I'm familiar with her work, I give only 1. This just seems like a lazy effort from a great writer such as JAK :-)

Rating 4 1/2 Stars Anyway, we get a chance to meet Aminty Doncaster who happens to stumble upon Benedict Stanbridge who happens to be in need of desperate help. Basically, nurses him back to help and they part. Once back in London Aminty ends up thrust into danger and manages to escape the Bridegroom Murderer. Shortly, after the incident Benedict returns and offers up protection to Aminty as they work together to solve two cases together with the help of Inspector Logan and Aminty's sister Penny. When I started reading, *Otherwise Engaged* I found myself getting sucked into the story. There is a lot going on in the book, but you realize it's all tied together. You start to connect the dots, but you don't see all the dots connecting to till the end. By the end you're like whoa what the heck just happen and you see the puzzle come together. *Otherwise Engaged* has more a mystery/suspense feel to it, than romance. Yes, there's a little romance, but Benedict and Aminty are kind of concern about catching the bad guys. Honestly, I loved the twist and turns in the plot. I thought I had it figured out, but then there's a curve ball. Honestly, blown away by *Otherwise Engaged*. I would never in a million years guess on the ending. Overall, a fantastic read. Yes, suspenseful and will keep you guessing. A dash of romance, but not overly done. I think the amount of romance was perfect for the story. So, if you are looking for a bit more suspense/mystery than romance, I would say *Otherwise Engaged* is your read. Copy provided by Penguin via First-to-Read program

I have read all her Amanda Quick books and love them, so I didn't hesitate to buy this one without reading any reviews. Sadly, this is a dud; It is not at the quality of her other AQ books and I am still wondering what happened. It had her normal plot & themes, but the magic & fun was missing. I felt

as though an outline by her was given to someone else to write the dialogue was so flat and the heroine was one-dimensional.

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