

The Sicilians Banished Bride (Harlequin Presents) By Maya Blake It was a clever idea to make it look as if Mia had been running scared for 3 years fearful she'd be hauled off to court if she went anywhere near Rocco - but when we learned about the process that had resulted in that fear - it was hard not to laugh at the idiocy of it! The whole stalking plot was so utterly unbelievable as to make me want to throw the book away. The Sicilians Banished Bride (Harlequin Presents) I didn't care for these 2 and didn't like them !! The Sicilians Banished Bride (Harlequin Presents) Ivy H has as usual delivered a cracking review and in it she analyses all the plot holes brilliantly so I won't repeat them. As others have said if the Nonna hadn't seen the billboard Rocco would never have searched for Mia and would never have known about his son I was wondering how much more tribulation and angst the author was going to dump on the poor heroine! It just became utterly ridiculous to read about the amount of difficulty she had to deal with. How frustrating is that? I wanted a proper comeuppance scene where she was exposed humiliated and banished! We never discovered why Mia's communications about the pregnancy had never reached Rocco. The Sicilians Banished Bride (Harlequin Presents) Banished from his bed Bound by a scandalous secret! Believing she betrayed him Rocco thought he'd said goodbye to his ex-fiancée Mia for good. But that's easier said than done when their chemistry is more magnetic than ever before... The Sicilians Banished Bride (Harlequin Presents) Reread 2-13-2021 I loved it all over again for a second time. Evil doer that manipulates the as ever not-so-bright H I've realized the HP H's innate emotional intelligence is in inverse proportion of their testosterone levels and this is a good example. I recognize that court cases can sometimes happen in the physical absence of one party but I found it hard to believe that the press/tabloids/court reporters would have been remained unaware that a famous billionaire was taking his ex-fiancee/ex-employee to court and accusing her of stalking him after their break up. It also makes me wonder why the judge knowing that the case will unfold with an absentia claimant failed to bend over backwards to ensure that the H's signature on all court documents was genuine. So I ask again: how could she not have known that something was wrong when he not only failed to turn up in court but his signature on the documents also differed from what she's used to seeing ? 7. Finally and I don't mean to be petty but it's highly unlikely that a fresh young civil engineering graduate would interact with the boss of a huge architectural/engineering conglomerate within months of gaining employment there. New engineers are usually sent out to construction sites to do grunt/supervisory work and made to write numerous reports based on their observations while filling out lots and lots of timesheets. I found it hard to believe that the young heroine would've jumped over senior engineers to find herself a space right next to the top man ( the H ) at this infant stage in her career. If I'd been bored to death it would've definitely received 1 star but all the other ingredients fell into place smoothly and this novel is a lot more enjoyable than Maya Blake's previous HP. Basically this is a second chance/secret baby trope where the MC's ( who'd been engaged to be married ) vicious acrimonious break up had been instigated by the behind-the-scenes manipulations of the H's evil cousin Alessandro. This lady acts as the wannabe OW since she's moved herself and her kids into the H's mansion in an effort to leapfrog into his bed and earn herself a wedding ring from her late hubby's billionaire cousin. And like some ambitious vipers she overreaches by selling a bunch of lies to the tabloids; it backfires when the H gives a tell all interview that reveals the depth of her and her late husband's villainy. \*happy sigh\* The problem is that the story has so many plot holes (see Ivy's excellent review) that it was hard to believe both the H/h would have been taken in by the villain: There was never a sense that he had really loved her at all. His treatment of Mia was appalling both at the time of the supposed 'industrial espionage' and then after they met up again. We spent the first part of the book believing Rocco was a total villain as opposed to being simply a total jerk: It's a tribute to the author's writing that I continued reading! By the time I got halfway through.

4: 5 Stars Rocco was such an arrogant asshole! I loved it! Gah Secret Baby Marriage of Convenience Honestly the story wasn't very original. It followed the typical secret baby trope in Harlequin romance shouty exclamation points included, It held my full attention from start to finish

and these days that's a feat because it's hard finding a book that doesn't have some slow moving--or boring--parts: I read Harlequin because these books tend to deliver with its uber alpha heroes and satisfying angst: 'The Sicilian's Banished Bride' is another winner in my book: It includes a beautiful epilogue<3~Safety Gang~Cheating: Not at all. The Sicilians Banished Bride (Harlequin Presents) It could've been better but I was so annoyed I can't stand stupid heroes and TSTL heroines, The Sicilians Banished Bride (Harlequin Presents) H was not remorseful enough and I hated H had lots of flings after broke up but liked the angst very much: I read this book and was totally entertained but was incredibly frustrated and annoyed by the poor plotting and the general overkill of absolutely every trope that was used, What also annoyed me that there was no satisfactory comeuppance for the villain/villainess. Allegra faced off-page punishments that we had no opportunity to dwell on and enjoy, Are we supposed to believe Alessandro was so clever and powerful he controlled all communication links to Rocco?I have read loads of this author's books and loved them, If she had just held back from the melodramatic over-the-top and utterly unbelievable plot-holes I would have enjoyed this one so much more. Other parts of the story - especially once they were together were enjoyable and up to MB's usual standard: Sorry but I have to be honest about my response to this. So the revelation of his unknown heir throws his world into chaos, For a start Mia was sure that he knew about their baby! Yet determined to raise his child in Sicily Rocco suggests they wed. It's for her son's happiness alone that Mia agrees to Rocco's proposal: She can't risk falling under the Sicilian's intoxicating spell again. For me there's nothing better than a story with a vengeful Hero hating and hurting on his wrongly judged heroine and this story fit that bill perfectly, Mia was wrongly accused of an action she never committed and was not only banished from Rocco but also blackballed out of ever working in her field again. Rocco was devastated and furious at Mia's betrayal or at least what he believed to be her betrayal: and he cut her out of his life completely with no regrets, It was fun experiencing these two sort out the wrongs done to each of them and setting their relationship right again, This story had plenty of angst really likeable hero and heroine and evil family members as icing on the cake, The Sicilians Banished Bride (Harlequin Presents) A little too phoned in marriage of revenge story because, H thinks the h stole from the company or committed fraud or something2: Why they don't hire more competent investigators forensic accountants or at least have a no relatives policy in their billionaire empires is beyond me, Or more simply let the evil OW and evildoers of the world run your company: I read this about a week ago and kind of forgot in part due to the watered down tropes above as well as another Sicilian HP auto-generated title. The Sicilians Banished Bride (Harlequin Presents) It's most disappointing when a novel doesn't quite deliver on the the promises made by the blurb. Maya Blake delivered a strong dramatic and riveting start but this story suffered from a somewhat weak middle portion: Despite this I might've still given this 4 stars because it was quite entertaining and angsty and I wasn't bored at any point in this story: BUT there were a few plot holes that were larger than what I normally have to jump over in HPLandia: The fraudulent court case brought against the heroine by the H's cousin Alessandro. This guy hated the heroine and didn't want the H to learn that she was pregnant so he hired a small time skeezy lawyer to prosecute her for \*stalking\* the H, This case was pursued on behalf of the oblivious H who ( obviously ) didn't even have to turn up in court to explain himself, The Daily Mail and Dan Wooten from The Sun would've had court reporters whose basic remit includes scoping out court cases/updates etc. It's kinda ridiculous that the villain was able to pull the wool over the eyes of the press when celebrity stalker trials are always big news. The heroine who'd worked as a structural engineer for her fiancé H should've known that the signature on the court documents was not his: She only realised this immediately when he showed her his passport after they're reunited and are trying to figure out the villain's identity, This leads me to assume that it hadn't even been a good forgery: Plus as his former employee the heroine ought to be used to seeing the H's signature on numerous documents: Every employed person is able to identify his/her boss' signature immediately: That one person's signature is more common to an employee's eyes than even the signatures of relatives and friends because memos/reminders/updates/policy manuals etc: always have the boss' signature and a week doesn't go by without the boss sending out some form of written

communication - hard copy or digital, As the boss of the firm the H's signature would've also been on each copy of the final blueprint drawings. A construction tender cannot be submitted for a proposed project without his final written approval: Rookie engineers are lucky to even interact much with the middle level project managers. They definitely aren't yet allowed to design important structures on their own and participate in key decision making discussions, I don't think she even had any post-graduate qualifications either which might've been the one thing to help her skip a couple of rungs on the company's hierarchy ladder, But I won't penalize this novel too much because the storyline itself the pacing the MC's sexual chemistry and the writer's narrative technique were all quite impressive: The villain had framed the heroine for fraud; he'd framed her for transferring important structural blueprints to a competitor: This is the heroine Mia:Although the H had been besotted with the heroine the set up had been too much for him to ignore, This is the H Rocco:The MC's are reunited after the H's grandmother sees a billboard ad with a toddler who is almost identical to photos of the H at that age, After the big opening confrontation scene the big conflict is quickly resolved when the heroine's court documents prove that she's telling the truth. The H then sets out to marry her as quickly as possible while getting his real lawyers to investigate the fraud that had been perpetrated on them 3 years ago, This is Gianni the MC's son:Amidst all of this there's additional angst provided by the late villain's scheming wife Allegra, She gets her comeuppance however when she's ejected from the household and ends up being dumped by a rich old guy she'd latched onto after failing to tempt the H, That bit of comeuppance helped to balance out the plot holes and place this novel firmly on the 3 star mantle. Another huge plus was the cute father-son relationship between the H and Gianni: The H took to fatherhood like Harold ( my dog ) to his fav steamed minced chicken meal. The H wasn't ever reluctant to engage in toddler talk and play the fool like most loving parents do with active and adventurous toddlers: It was a welcome change from the stereotypical HPlandia heroes who treat their offspring as mini adult humans: In the epilogue the MC's have a daughter and the heroine is expecting their third child: Safety: The heroine is celibate during their separation but I don't think the same can be said of the H, No reference is made to the heroine's sexual past before she met the H so for those who are interested I don't know whether she was a virgin or not. The Sicilians Banished Bride (Harlequin Presents) This heroine had the best excuse ever for not letting the hero know about her secret baby, Someone set her up to be convicted in a court of law for stalking the hero! Restraining orders and threat of jail time have a way of killing the romance, Hero truly believed the heroine lied stole blueprints and didn't want children ever. Still a weak revenge/unjustly accused heroine is better than all the Cinderella stories that have been offered lately: The Sicilians Banished Bride (Harlequin Presents) I find this authors books too slow[1]

And quite frankly - he would have deserved it. Very disappointing in a romance. But that's okay it still worked for me. And they're never overlong. HEA: Yes. The villain had already died before the book started. Disappointed because I expect so much better. This was a very entertaining way to spend my afternoon.tropes1. Secret baby3. Heroine can't make a decent living now4. Ivy's review is more fun. <https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/5.1>. 2. 3. to see if any famous persons were involved in a trial. 4. 5. 6. Her writing style is not for me. I didn't care for the investigation or the theft. The Sicilians Banished Bride (Harlequin Presents)

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