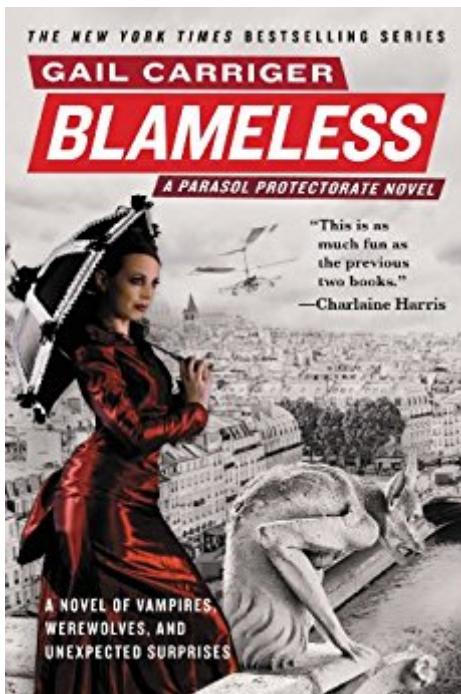


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Blameless (Parasol Protectorate Series Book 3)



Synopsis

Quitting her husband's house and moving back in with her horrible family, Lady Maccon becomes the scandal of the London season. Queen Victoria dismisses her from the Shadow Council, and the only person who can explain anything, Lord Akeldama, unexpectedly leaves town. To top it all off, Alexia is attacked by homicidal mechanical ladybugs, indicating, as only ladybugs can, the fact that all of London's vampires are now very much interested in seeing Alexia quite thoroughly dead. While Lord Maccon elects to get progressively more inebriated and Professor Lyall desperately tries to hold the Woolsey werewolf pack together, Alexia flees England for Italy in search of the mysterious Templars. Only they know enough about the preternatural to explain her increasingly inconvenient condition, but they may be worse than the vampires -- and they're armed with pesto. *BLAMELESS* is the third book of the Parasol Protectorate series: a comedy of manners set in Victorian London, full of werewolves, vampires, dirigibles, and tea-drinking. The Parasol Protectorate *Soulless* *Changeless* *Blameless* *Heartless* *Timeless* For more from Gail Carriger, check out: *The Custard Protocol* *Prudence* *Imprudence* *Finishing School (YA)* *Etiquette & Espionage* *Curtsies & Conspiracies* *Waistcoats & Weaponry* *Manners & Mutiny*

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Customer Reviews

I went into this seriously hoping that this book would redeem the godawful cliffhanger in the last one, because up to that point I'd really enjoyed the series. And I don't mean godawful in the sense of I hate cliffhangers, I mean godawful as in who has their primary love interest go off on their wife like that and expect them to remain sympathetic? Especially when the reason for her apparent infidelity is so painfully obvious that it's obvious to everyone with half a brain? Nope. It didn't. It's quite literally one of the worst mishandled bungle of a relationship I have ever seen. First Maccon spends the first quarter of the book being hit with the stupid stick in order to be a drunken jackass to everyone around him while his pregnant wife is in danger. Obviously, this was necessary for the plot to advance to get Alexia into Italy, but there had to be a better way of doing that than making your heroine's romance interest into an unmitigated asshat. By the time he disappeared from most of the book, I was glad enough to see him gone. Then...well, I won't go into details because it would be spoilery. Suffice to say that I would have thrown the book across the room at the reconciliation scene if I hadn't been reading it on my iPad. It may, in fact, be the least satisfactory reconciliation scene ever. Honestly, I half read it as an abusive relationship at this point. Certainly, I'd have a hard time believing that Maccon holds Alexia in any great regard after this. He may love her in his own way and he certainly desires her, but I don't believe he has any respect for her at all. I enjoyed the rest of this, and I'm sure everyone who enjoyed the first two would as well.

** SPOILERS ahead of book #2 'Changeless' ** Gail Carriger's second instalment of the Parasol Protectorate ended on a doozy of a cliff-hanger. At the end of 'Changeless' our buxom heroine discovered she was pregnant, and her werewolf husband Conall Maccon accused her of infidelity and kicked her out of his house. When 'Blameless' begins Alexia is living in the aftermath of scandal. She has become the talk of London town for Conall's abandonment, and when word gets out about Alexia's delicate condition, she is kicked out of her mother's house too. Everyone is convinced that Alexia was unfaithful to Lord Maccon because he is a werewolf and therefore dead, and thereby unable to procreate. But everyone seems to be forgetting that Alexia Tarabotti is a prenatural soulless - the first female soulless in history, and therefore an anomaly. Desperate to prove everyone (namely Conall) wrong about the legitimacy of her unborn child, Alexia decides to travel to Italy and uncover information about her prenatural self. Gail Carriger's books are a breath of fresh air. Her 'Parasol Protectorate' series is historical paranormal romance with a healthy dose of Steampunk. In a word: 'fabulous'. Gail Carriger is probably the most unique voice in the paranormal genre to date, and she continues her magnificence in 'Blameless'. This instalment sees Alexia

Tarabotti in the uncomfortable quandary of being abandoned and pregnant. But Alexia is a heroine made of tough stuff, with a backbone of steel and enviable etiquette. In 'Blameless' Alexia really shines and proves her mettle - she faces down London gossip-mongers, nightgown-wearing Templars, rampaging vampires and killer ladybugs.

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