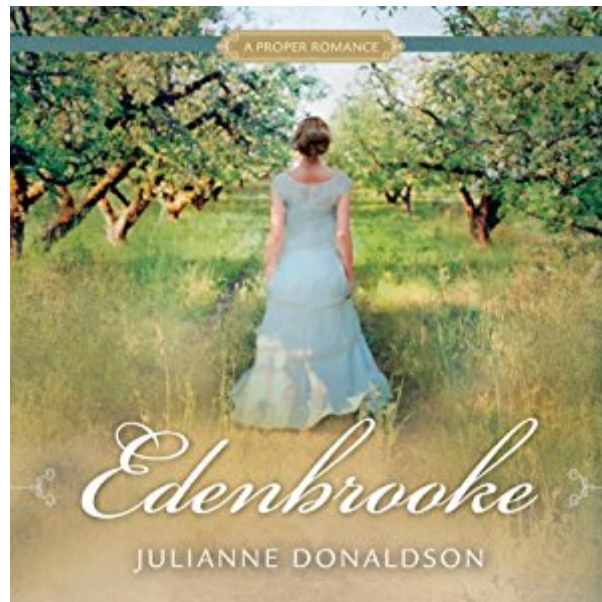


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# Edenbrooke



## Synopsis

Marianne Daventry will do anything to escape the boredom of Bath and the amorous attentions of an unwanted suitor. So when an invitation arrives from her twin sister, Cecily, to join her at a sprawling country estate, she jumps at the chance. Thinking she'll be able to relax and enjoy her beloved English countryside while her sister snags the handsome heir of Edenbrooke, Marianne finds that even the best laid plans can go awry. From a terrifying run-in with a highwayman to a seemingly harmless flirtation, Marianne finds herself embroiled in an unexpected adventure filled with enough romance and intrigue to keep her mind racing. Will Marianne be able to rein in her traitorous heart, or will a mysterious stranger sweep her off her feet? Fate had something other than a relaxing summer in mind when it sent Marianne to Edenbrooke.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Marianne Daventry likes to twirl. But since her mother's death a year ago, she can't remember the last time she has. With her grieving father in France and her social-scheming twin sister Cecily in London, Marianne was sent to live in Bath with her grandmother. The social hub of England was intended to brighten her spirits, but instead she pines for country life and dreads the unwanted attentions of a much older suitor. So when the invitation from Cecily arrives to spend summer at the great estate Edenbrooke, Marianne quickly accepts, grandmother's conditions aside. One highwayman attack, a mysterious gentleman and several failed ladylike attempts later, Marianne's summer couldn't be more exciting or confusing. Will she be able to figure out her own heart before it's too late? Frankly, I'm still surprised that I picked up Edenbrooke at all. I avoid most Austen

readalikes and continuing stories like the plague. Whether squeaky clean or more graphic, I have no desire to read anything Austenesque that is going to be cheesy, fluffy, or pale in comparison to the original source material. It was only when a few of my non-blogging friends started raving about Edenbrooke on GoodReads that I decided to give it a try. Long story short: I loved Edenbrooke, which did feel somewhat like an Austen romance. Many strictly Austen film adaptation fans will prefer this modern version, which focuses on Marianne's romance and moves at a faster pace without sacrificing characterization or losing its Regency-inspired prose. That said, Julianne Donaldson is heavily inspired, if only superficially, by Austen's best known works, and I couldn't help pointing out every single similarity.

Any fan of Jane Austen will surely love this debut by Julianne Donaldson. I read Edenbrooke in one sitting ( a first for me this year) because it was so good. It's a very sweet tale that will appeal not only to teens but adults as well. I can see Julianne having a great future in the romance genre, specifically historical romance. She's an author to watch, and her writing is very refreshing. Edenbrooke will give you that warm fuzzy feeling in the pit of your stomach, and when you finish, you'll be craving more. The heroine, Marianne Deventry is staying with her grandmother in Bath, England. Marianne is bored silly. She misses her father and her charming and beautiful twin sister, Cecily. Marianne has been in Bath for fourteen months, ever since her mother died. Her father left Marianna with her grandmother while he went off to France to grieve. Cecily has been with their cousin Edith in London, enjoying the social scene there. Marianne is very different from her sister. She likes to read and paint. She also had this adorable and childish habit of twirling when she's happy. But Marianne hasn't had much to twirl about. She misses her father and wants to go home but can't. She feels rejected and alone. But then word comes from Cecily, inviting her to come stay with Cecily's dear friend Louisa at her family estate of Edenbrooke. Marianne is thrilled because she'll see Cecily again and meet Louisa's older brother who Cecily plans on marrying. Marianne expects a wonderful adventure, but she gets more than she bargains for when a highway man tries to rob her carriage. He gets away and almost ends up killing her driver. Marianne finds a local inn and asks for help. Whom she first comes in contact at first is incredibly rude.

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