

GAMBLE OF HEARTS by Virginia Barlow

EXCERPT

He stared at her as if she had gone crazy. His gaze dropped to her mouth, and heat flared in his eyes for a second before his lids dropped over them, shielding his expression. "You want me to find a tutor to teach you how to kiss?" His voice sounded strangled.

Amora giggled. She shocked him out of his cold, stuffy manner, and her success delighted her soul. "I think I shall enjoy his lessons the most."

The duke's eye twitched, and his hands fell flat to the tabletop. "There will be no tutor. Your husband shall teach you the proper way to kiss, and...other things. This discussion is over."

Amora gave him her sweetest smile. "But, your grace, you gave your word."

He turned to stone before her eyes. The silence lengthened to a full minute. "Aye, I did." Rising to his feet, he left the room without looking back. If he bothered to turn, he would have seen his houseguest grinning an impish smile as she finished her dinner with relish.