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## HISTORICAL

INSPIRATIONAL HISTORICAL ROMANCE

PATCHWORK

A debutante with a pioneer heart...



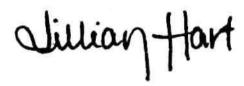
### Dear Reader,

Welcome back to Angel Falls. PATCHWORK BRIDE is the second book in my *Buttons & Bobbins* series. When you open these pages, you will revisit old friends from earlier books like the Worthington family from HOMESPUN BRIDE and Finn McKaslin from HIGH COUNTRY BRIDE. The *Buttons & Bobbins* girls are growing up, graduating from high school and adding a new member to their beloved sewing circle. I hope you enjoy revisiting old friends and meeting new ones as much as I have.

PATCHWORK BRIDE is a story I hated to end. Perhaps because I loved the bonds of family Meredith was blessed with and the circle of friends that reminded me of my high-school days. Most of all I loved the tender story of how true love comes to Meredith and Shane in God's time, a great blessing that is a complete surprise. It changes both of them into better people and transforms their lives forever in the most beautiful of ways. I hope you are touched by Meredith's journey, Shane's love for her and their discovery of their dreams for the future. Lila's story is next!

Thank you for choosing PATCHWORK BRIDE.

Wishing you the best of blessings,



## QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

- 1. Describe Meredith's first impression of Shane. How does she react? What are the reasons why she doesn't tell him her last name?
- 2. How would you describe Shane's first impression of Meredith? Why is he drawn to her? What role does his past play in regard to her?
- 3. What do you think of Henrietta Worthington? Is she a bad character? Is she good?
- 4. Meredith overhears Shane talking about her and reacts with anger. Why? What is behind her emotions? Has this ever happened to you? How did you handle it?
- 5. How would you describe Shane's character? The things he does in the book—for instance, the way he treats Minnie—what does this say about him? What are the deeper layers to his character?
- 7. What is the story's predominant imagery? How does it contribute to the meaning of the story? Of the romance?
- 8. Meredith looks to God to help her at her turning points and crossroads. When do you see Him in the story? How does He guide her? How does He guide Shane?

- 9. What role does Meredith's friendships play in the story and the romance?
- 10. What values do you find in this book? What are the most important ones to you?
- 11. How does Meredith resolve her conflicts with her mother? What meaning did you find in their conversation? How does it contribute to the larger story?
- 12. What do you think Meredith and Shane have each learned about love and about themselves? How has love changed them?
- 13. What role does the patchwork quilt play? What is its greater message?
- 14. There are many different kinds of love in this story. What are they? What role do they play in the meaning of the book? In Meredith and Shane's romance?



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Spotlight on

## Heart & Home

Heartwarming romances where love can happen right when you least expect it.

See the next page to enjoy a sneak peek from Harlequin Superromance®, a Heart and Home series.

# Enjoy a sneak peek at fan favorite Molly O'Keefe's Harlequin Superromance miniseries, THE NOTORIOUS O'NEILLS, with TYLER O'NEILL'S REDEMPTION, available September 2010 only from Harlequin Superromance.

Police chief Juliette Tremblant recognized the shape of the man strolling down the street—in as calm and leisurely fashion as if it were the middle of the day rather than midnight. She slowed her car, convinced her eyes were playing tricks on her. It had been a long time since Tyler O'Neill had been seen in this town.

As she pulled to a stop at the curb, he turned toward her, and her heart about stopped.

"What the hell are you doing here, Tyler?"

"Well, if it isn't Juliette Tremblant." He made his way over to her, then leaned down so he could look her in the eye. He was close enough to touch.

Juliette was not, repeat, *not* going to touch Tyler O'Neill. Not with her fingers. Not with a ten-foot pole. There would be no touching. Which was too bad, since it was the only way she was ever going to convince herself the man standing in front of her—as rumpled and heart-stoppingly handsome now as he'd been at sixteen—was real.

And not a figment of all her furious revenge dreams.

"What are you doing back in Bonne Terre?" she asked.

"The manor is sitting empty," Tyler said and shrugged, as though his arriving out of the blue after ten years was casual. "Seems like someone should be watching over the family home."

"You?" She laughed at the very notion of him being here for any unselfish reason. "Please."

He stared at her for a second, then smiled. Her heart fluttered against her chest—a small mechanical bird powered by that smile.

"You're right." But that cryptic comment was all he

offered.

Juliette bit her lip against the other questions.

Why did you go?

Why didn't you write? Call?

What did I do?

But what would be the point? Ten years of silence were all the answer she really needed.

She had sworn off feeling anything for this man long ago. Yet one look at him and all the old hurt and rage resurfaced as though they'd been waiting for the chance. That made her mad.

She put the car in gear, determined not to waste another minute thinking about Tyler O'Neill. "Have a good night, Tyler," she said, liking all the cool "go screw yourself" she managed to fit into those words.

It seems Juliette has an old score to settle with Tyler.

Pick up TYLER O'NEILL'S REDEMPTION

to see how he makes it up to her.

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## ALASKAN Briderush

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## This was a Meredith that Shane had never seen before...

A bell jangled as she opened the store's glass door, waltzing toward him like sunshine on the darkest of days. As her shoes tapped on the damp boardwalk, he launched off the seat and with a bow, held out his hand.

Merelith lifted a slender eyelrow, perhaps sensing his sarcasm. He could not stop the rolling crest of emotion threatening to take him over. The snow lith not touch him, the wind did not chill him as she laid the palm of her hand softly against his. Time stopped, Shane's soul stilled and her gaze found his.

Wide-eyed and startled as a doe by a hunter, she did not move. Nor did he. A second stretched into a moment without heartbeat or breath, and he felt as if eternity touched him....

## **Books by Jillian Hart**

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Homefront Holiday

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\*Blind-Date Bride

†The Soldier's Holiday Vow

†The Rancher's Promise

Klondike Hero

\*The McKaslin Clan

†The Granger Family Ranch

\*\*Buttons & Bobbins

## JILLIAN HART

grew up on her family's homestead, where she helped raise cattle, rode horses and scribbled stories in her spare time. After earning her English degree from Whitman College, she worked in travel and advertising before selling her first novel. When Jillian isn't working on her next story, she can be found puttering in her rose garden, curled up with a good book or spending quiet evenings at home with her family.

# JILLIAN HART



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#### STEEPLE HILL BOOKS



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#### PATCHWORK BRIDE

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A man's heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps. —Proverbs 16:9

