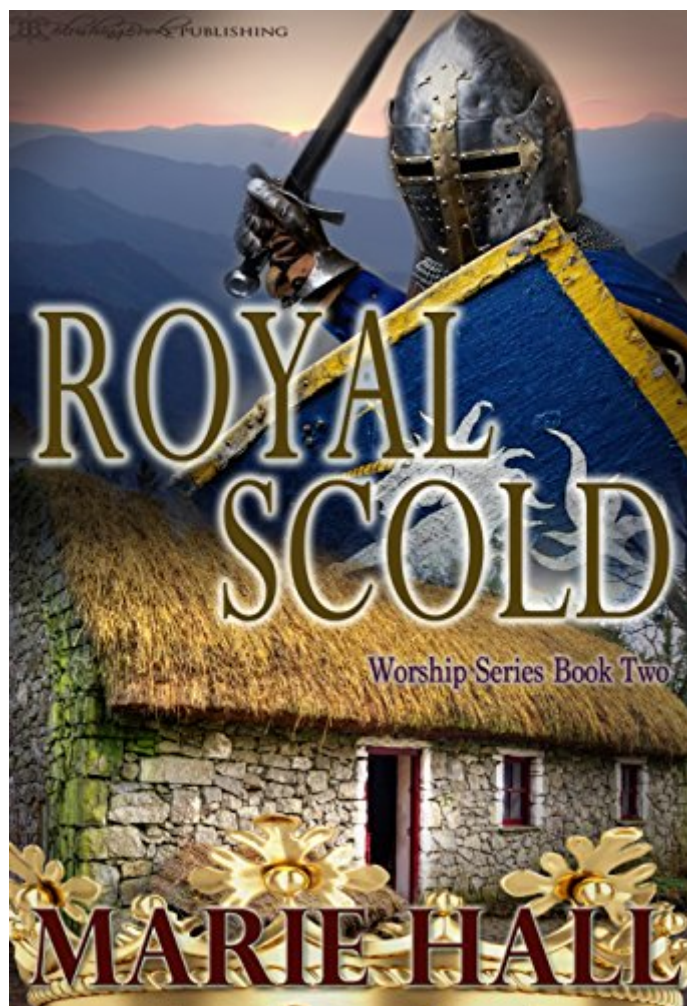


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# Royal Scold (Worship Series Book 2)



## Synopsis

United by a royal contract, Io Desmond has found pleasure and pain under Xavier's firm and steady hand. But trust is not something Io affords to anyone, and without it she cannot receive the full measure of what Xavier will give her. Bound by love and lust, Xavier Brice would give Io the affection and discipline she requires to feel cared for and safe. But he's never faced anything like the inner demons holding Io away from the offer of home and stability. If Io's doubts and fears prove stronger than Xavier's promise of protection and devotion, the challenge could tear them apart. If Xavier's promise of commitment and dependability can rise above, then together, through the pleasure and the pain, they will find love.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is the second book in the second book in the worship series. It continued on with Io and Xavier traveling back to where Xavier lives and finalizes the love between Io and Xavier. Along the Journey to their home they run in to a lot of obstacles and some good drama of some very good action packed excitement of serious trouble at times. This was a very well written story with great

descriptive scenery and the people in the story with very detailed characters of Xavier and Io along with Xavier's warriors. I really like the heroine Io who was very strong willed and capable of handling herself when needed but the Hero Xavier and his men were capable of keeping her from getting too far out of line but Xavier did all the punishment if she was in harms way and doing something that could harm her or be killed. Io was married and in love with a very Alpha male who had his hands full at times with a very independent and strong will and a character of doing her own thing when told not to do it. Io would not submit like some weak women to please her husband by submitting at his feet at his beckon call nor did she get aroused by the discipline dished out by Xavier when she put herself in danger. If you like to read a book set in about the 1500's when the king ruled their county and the warriors the king had to keep his people from their enemies with a Alpha male and a very strong woman who receives many spankings for her defiance and some times for very serious offenses that could seriously harm her. Some of these spankings seem very harsh but you must remember this was about around the 1500's, and there was some sex and some graphic violence from the Warriors who were causing havoc with Io and their enemies of the king. A must read.

Fantastic story

This series must be read in order to fully understand and keep up. We learned more about Io's isolation and movement from location to location. About the death of her mother and that the Queen mother has dispatched men in search of Io to kill her. I know we will learn even more in book 3. Xavier Brice and Io are united under royal contract, but he is determined they will be wed in the church, in the eyes of God and man and not just by decree. They have traveled for months from where he rescued her and has been slowly trying to train her in her position as his wife. Io has had nothing but pain and heartache her entire life, and when words are spoken harshly, she takes them literally and leaves the camp and is nearly raped. Xavier is not a man to go up against, he is a force to be reckoned with and that is not only in his position in the Kings army but with his men and especially with Io. His punishments to her are harsh and painful, but hopefully lessons to be learned. There are multiple forms of punishment that include caning, tawse and paddle and even a painful unguent is used. Although they have engaged in oral and anal sex, Xavier will not consummate their marriage until vows are made in the church, which is eight months in the making.

I absolutely adored book one and was so excited to read book two! Io and Xavier have a complicated relationship and most of that is because of the horrible childhood Io endured. She has a horrible time trusting anyone and frankly, who could blame her? Xavier keeps trying to gain her

trust, and even though he does get frustrated at times, he does truly love her. They are a work in progress but so worth the journey. I am looking forward to the next in the series and am hoping the remaining questions get answered.

I loved the story and the characters. Marie Hall wrote 2 great books. She gave us characters adventure and mystery. I do have one complaint and because of this I still have reservations about Xavier. The punishments were way over the top, sadistic, and psychotic. His men (I loved the way they protected Io from Xavier) were more understanding and patient with her. Xavier punished in anger and the last one was evil. Semi spoiler: What a hypocrite...he's afraid he will cause her pain when he takes her virginity and 2 weeks before he administered an awful horrible punishment. I really wonder if anyone can be forgiving after that abuse. I believe these punishments take away from the character and it stopped me from giving this a 5 rating.

This is a well written story and has romance and lots of action and spice. The heroine keeps everyone on their toes as she tries hard to do what the Hero wants her to do as she tries to trust him and overcome her past and the fears she has always had. There are others working even harder to destroy her and take everything she has. Add the Hero's Mother to the mix and trouble is doubled. Will she see what is happening around her? Can he protect her? Can he keep her or will he miss it all and lose her forever?

This is the second in the series with a continuation from *Warrior's Scold*. You can read it without reading the first book but might not understand the ways and wherefore so I recommend reading in order. Xavier and Io are now married but still insecure about being abandoned by Xavier. Again the author goes into the emotions and feeling of the characters including the secondary characters. There is more sexual activity and many and some harsh spankings but it leads to a happy ending. I hope there will be another book to follow as there are many unanswered questions and hints of what's to come. I just hope it's soon as I enjoyed this very much.

I LOVE this series and I can't wait to read the next book in the series.

I'm caught between wanting the next book to be the end of the series so that I know how it ends and not wanting it to end!!! But, I digress. Io and Xavier are back. Io still has problems trusting Xavier. Xavier continues to try to get her to trust him, but he ends up giving her some pretty harsh punishments. I know the punishments seem extreme, but they seem to work.

within the context of the story. I am very invested when reading this series and I have been brought to tears more than once by this author. I love this story and I highly recommend it!!! I give this 5 stars.

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