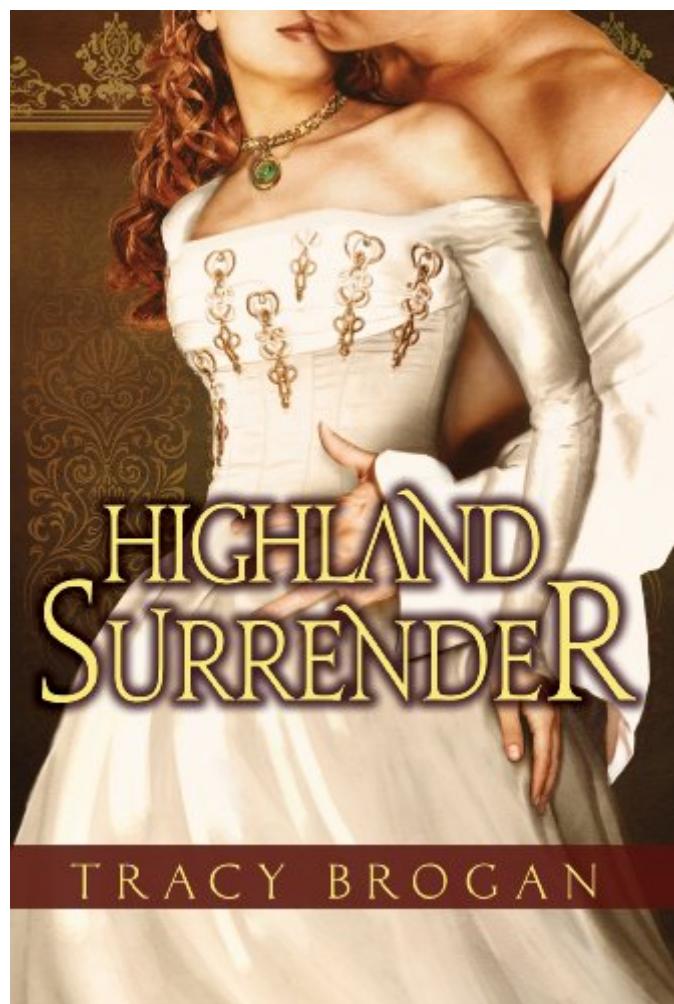


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Highland Surrender



Synopsis

2013 ©Desert Rose RWA® Golden Quill Award Winner - Historical Romance To seal a fragile truce, Fiona Sinclair's brothers trade her in marriage to their sworn enemy. Though devastated by their betrayal, she has little choice in the matter, for if she refuses, her innocent young sister must take her place. The spirited Fiona is willing to sacrifice her freedom to protect her kin, but she vows never to surrender her heart. As the eldest son of a clan chief, Myles Campbell is accustomed to having his own way. But when the king of Scotland commands he wed a defiant Highland lass instead of a French mademoiselle, Myles must obey his royal duty. Meeting his bride for the first time on their wedding day, he is pleased to discover the lass is a beauty, but she quickly proves she'd just as soon kill him as kiss him. When two such warrior spirits collide, sparks fly, igniting a fiery passion that strains against the bonds of family honor, clan loyalty and the ultimate surrender "love.

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Customer Reviews

I'm a long time fan of Julie Garwood's Scottish Historical novels, especially "Ransom" and "The Prize", and find little else in that genre that's well written enough to be enjoyable to read. I received my Vine copy of Highland Surrender last week and loved it. It always takes me a few chapters to get

into the flow of the story and the authors voice but when I did I was slowly but surely hooked. The story is the age old tale of feuds between the Scottish clans but with a refreshing new style, cleaner, more straightforward, and interesting. The story revolves around the romance of Myles and Fiona, their characters are well defined with depth and interest as well as great secondary characters, and the whole story rings true. I would love a follow up book about the very interesting Vivienne. The chapters are short and story moves along well. The writing style, as I previously said, is clear and straightforward and doesn't burden its reader with endless and mindless subjective ramblings as most Highland romance novels do. One reviewer mentioned that this book was similar to the style of Hanna Howell's, which I respectfully disagree. While it's a no brainer than few can write as well as Julie Garwood once did with her Scottish Historical's, this author's skill at story telling is superior to Hanna Howell's. A delightfully entertaining story and I hope Brogan can write her next one quickly as I'm a fan!

It has intrigue, sibling rivalry and betrayal, love, and romance (complete with detailed love scenes). The storyline was gripping. I could feel the pain that the young and lovely Fiona Sinclair must have felt when her brothers forced her to marry Myles Campbell, the son of a bitter rival (whose father was thought to have murdered her mother). Naturally, she assumed that Myles would surely be the brute she thought his father to be. I was gripped by the back and forth emotions she felt, as her experiences after marrying Myles would seem to indicate that she didn't have the entire story. The author, Tracy Brogan, weaves an intoxicating story, and I could feel the emotions of the various characters through Ms. Brogan's words. The storyline was intense, and I found myself staying up late into the night to learn what would happen next. And the romance! Oh my, it's been forever and a day since I've read of intimacy that stirred the loins as Ms. Brogan's words do in this story. It made this older woman feel young again!

I found this book to be a frustrating reading particularly because of how long it takes for the leading lady of the book, Fiona, to budge in her hatred of her husband, Myles. It isn't until more than halfway through the book that she even tries to meet Myles halfway in trying to at least make their marriage bearable. Her initial blinding hatred of Myles, despite the fact that he was being extremely nice to her, bothered me so much. Because of that, the majority of the story, I wasn't even sure I liked Fiona and we're suppose to be rooting for these two to get together. And in terms of Myles, who I did like quite a bit, it annoyed me that at the same time that Fiona is behaving horribly towards him that Myles is constantly being turned on by her because she's beautiful. In the end, I enjoyed the ending

and all the twists that were involved a lot, but for me they had come a bit to late. By then, all that I didn't like about this book outweighed what I did like.

I've read a few historical romances before, and enjoyed them, but for the most part I usually stick with contemporary. And the Scottish Highlands? They just didn't have much of a pull for me. (Although I recently was voting in a cover contest and was surprised by how many kilt-clad heroes were gracing the covers!) I wasn't even sure about the general premise. A couple, betrothed as children, from warring clans, married to form a truce. That kind of thing has been done to death, right? Yeah, and I was all smug thinking I had the story all figured out in the first chapter. WRONG! This book has more twists and turns than San Francisco's Lombard Street! Stakes were high and the intrigue truly gripping. Tracy Brogan is the kind of writer who makes you feel like you are right there, smelling the lamb stew, feeling the broad side of the training sword, and getting ashes in your eyes from the torches. She adds little details seamlessly. I never felt there was too much description or too little. I can't imagine the kind of research it takes to make that happen. Her dialogue is fabulous, especially the repertoire between Myles (our hero) and Fiona (the beautiful heroine), but also with Myles and his brother, Robert, and the scandalous Vivienne (loved her!) and Fiona. Come to think of it, the King was great, the priest was great...pretty much anyone who opened their mouth in the book was captivating and authentic. The sex scenes were very steamy, every action and reaction genuine and scintillating. In short, folks, this book was fabulous! I can't say enough about it. So go out and read it already!

I'm not a big romance reader but I really enjoyed this one. I can't say there's really anything new or groundbreaking in terms of either plot or steamy scenes, but it's a really sweet story anyway. Fiona is forced into marriage by her brothers seeking to gain a truce with an enemy clan. After some time and some really affectionate scenes from her husband she warms her heart to him. There were plot parts which were predictable and a few that totally caught me off guard (that's rare). I found the book really hard to put down and even found myself wanting to re-read a few scenes because they were either very touching or quite interesting. If you're a fan of Highland fiction you will want to include this in your collection. I do wish there had been more detail making it feel like more of a historical story. Parts of it almost felt modern or even like a manor England setting. I don't know how to accurately describe what made me feel that way, but it seemed to be less about Scottish clans and more about a Lord and Lady...if that makes sense to anyone. I enjoyed it enough to look for more from the author, so that's a pretty high commendation from me.

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