



Vapor y Sensibilidad

Kirsten Weiss , Carolina Araya (Translator)

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Vapor en aumento.

Territorio de California, 1848. Se ha descubierto el oro, produciendo que la población masculina del pueblo de San Francisco desapareciera.

La tecnología de la energía a vapor aún se encuentra en sus comienzos.

A los 19 años, la inglesa Sensibilidad Grey ha pasado su vida como reparadora en el laboratorio de su padre y alejada de los mejores aspectos de una vida británica como corresponde. Pero cuando su padre muere en la miseria, es enviada en barco a San Francisco para ser protegida por un tío al cual nunca ha visto.

El territorio de California puede tener más peligros que incluso ni la indomable señorita Grey puede hacerse cargo. Perseguida por agentes del gobierno, una sociedad secreta y el enigmático señor Night, Sensibilidad debe descifrar los secretos de los mecanismos de reloj que aparecen en el diario de su padre, sin darse cuenta que podría cambiar al mundo para siempre.

Magia, caos y robots. VAPOR Y SENSIBILIDAD es una novela de suspenso previa a la revolución industrial, llevada a cabo el periodo de la fiebre del oro en el lejano oeste de California.

Sobre la autora

Kristen Weiss trabajó en el extranjero por casi veinte años en la periferia de lo que fue la Unión Soviética, África, y el sur este asiático. Su experiencia afuera provocó que tuviese un interés en los efectos del misticismo y la mitología, y en cómo ambos se entrelazan en nuestra vida diaria.

Ahora radicada en San Mateo, CA, escribe historias de género mixto en la revolución industrial de suspenso, fantasía urbana, y misterio, mezclando sus experiencias e imaginación para crear un mundo vívido de magia y caos.

Kristen nunca se ha encontrado con un postre que no sea de su agrado, y sus placeres culpables son las repeticiones de la serie Ghost Whisperer y beber vino tinto.

Vapor y Sensibilidad Details

Date : Published September 28th 2016 by Red Empress Publishing (first published March 17th 2014)

ISBN :

Author : Kirsten Weiss , Carolina Araya (Translator)

Format : Kindle Edition 292 pages

Genre : Science Fiction, Steampunk, Young Adult, Suspense



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From Reader Review Vapor y Sensibilidad for online ebook

Mike says

This is a better-than-average steampunk novel. If only that was a higher bar to clear.

First, the copy editing. Even though I received my review copy through NetGalley, I will talk about the copy editing, because there's a 2014 publication date on it, so I assume it's not going to get another editing pass any time soon. It needs one, though it wouldn't have to be a heavy pass; it just needs someone who knows the coordinate comma rule to take out unnecessary commas, clean up a few typos ("Put perhaps...", "take it from me my force", "at the head the table"), remove one interrobang, rewrite the several dangling modifiers ("As the only female on board... the ship's master had taken her under his protective wing"), remove an unneeded hyphen in "six inches high", move the apostrophe in "smashed one of the thug's faces" (there are multiple thugs, each of whom has only one face, so it's "one of the thugs' faces" or, even better, "the face of one of the thugs"), change "ransom the journal for her uncle" to "ransom her uncle for the journal", and fix the homonyms plum/plumb, loathe/loath, waived/wavered, and damn/dam. Oh, and "wheel barrel", which appears to be an eggcorn for "wheelbarrow".

Believe it or not, that's actually pretty good for steampunk.

The author rather clumsily tells us near the beginning that it's 1848, and I didn't spot anything that was obviously wrong or out of period, except that dagueurretypes were on glass, not pasteboard. The tension is established strongly early on, and kept up well; it's not at all clear through most of the book who the heroine should trust, which gives all her decisions a greater weight. She's mostly sensible, and not the usual steampunk heroine; many steampunk authors, though not this one, make their heroines headstrong in the mistaken belief that this is the same as "strong".

Here, however, we hit perhaps the most glaring language error: the heroine's name is Sensibility, and this is treated throughout as if it means "the quality of being levelheaded and sensible," instead of what it actually means, "the quality of being sensitive and aware". Other than that, I didn't notice any vocabulary words being abused, if we leave aside the relatively few homonym errors, and for steampunk that's highly unusual; generally, there are words being used in the wrong sense left and right in this kind of book.

I note in passing that, despite the title, there's very little actual steam, though the book is none the worse for its lack.

The plot is the fairly familiar "must prevent the Maguffin from falling into the wrong hands" one, but it's well executed, and the Maguffin itself is not only interesting but also used to help in the heroine's escape (which she manages for herself, hindered rather than helped by the only man in the vicinity; extra points for this). There's a female villain, too, and a good one.

Overall, then, this is a well-executed steampunk story with a strong, tense thriller plot and better-than-average characters. While it shares some of the editing flaws so common in the genre, they're less prevalent than in many other books I've read, including award-winning ones; if the author learned the coordinate comma rule, watched the homonyms, and stopped dangling modifiers, she would be well on the way to a clean manuscript. And since steampunk readers mostly seem unaware of such flaws, I expect this one will do well, if it gets any kind of decent promotion at all.

Jeannie Zelos says

Steam and Sensibility, A Steampunk Novel of Suspense, Kirsten Weiss

Review from Jeannie Zelos book reviews

Genre: mystery and thrillers, sci-fi and fantasy

I haven't read a lot of Steampunk, a couple that were really enjoyable and a few that were OK reads, but its good to read outside one's comfort zone occasionally.

This book sounded fun, but for the first half it really was a western type read more than steampunk, with very little to bring the story into that category.

I liked Sensibility, and her confidence in her abilities, and enjoyed the aether refs, they made for a bit of extra and Steampunk does need that touch of magic IMO.

I wasn't really taken by any of the other characters though, and found the plot to be a little thin.

It seemed to be a who can be trusted and everyone is out to get the Journal, and rather too much bumbling around to fit my taste. It picked up after the halfway point, but never really hooked me fully into the story and the steampunk elements were very thin on the group.

The author mentions this was a book that has been reworked to fit the steampunk category and to me it feels like that, doesn't feel as if its fully immersed in the genre, but another story with added extras making it fit where the original story didn't. There was the watch, and the little mechanical sweeper she made, but no traditional elements such as dirigibles, fantastic creatures etc until close to the end.

Maybe it will appeal to steampunk lovers more than those like me who tend to stay on the fringes, I don't know, its not a bad book, just one that was only an OK read for me.

It's a fun read, but definitely a one off for me.

Stars: Three, an OK read but steampunk is a bit thin.

ARC supplied for review purposes by Netgalley and Publishers

Bree T says

I don't read enough steampunk. I say that about things a lot....I don't read enough mystery or crime or fantasy.....and now steampunk. But it's true. I really don't read enough steampunk. What I read, I always end up really enjoying and it always makes me make a note to find more books like it. But then that somehow gets lost in a pile of other books. I see a lot less steampunk novels, so I need to make more of an effort to seek them out.

Sensibility Grey is 19 and has recently just lost her father. She's being sent to San Francisco, to her uncle only when she arrives and disembarks from her ship, he isn't there. Several other people are though – a mysterious woman who claims to be a government agent, a dandy who claims to have her uncle and seems to

want something he's convinced Sensibility has in return, and a mysterious man. Sensibility needs to decide quite quickly what she's going to do in this strange place where there are hardly any men. The men are all off making their fortune on the goldfields leaving behind a town of mostly women and a state not too far from anarchy.

From the moment Sensibility touches her feet on land, the book is fast-paced with plenty of action as one thing after the other seems to happen. It's a game of cat and mouse between Sensibility and the government agent against the dandy, who wants the papers Sensibility rescued from her father's things before the creditors took everything. Her father was a brilliant scientist who seems to have discovered something very important and a secret society will stop at nothing to have the notes on his work. They are heavily encrypted but no one knew her father and his work better than Sensibility herself, who grew up tinkering in his workshops. She's actually very talented although she doesn't yet see what she is capable of. Sensibility believes she can decrypt the papers although she'll need some time, which they might not have as the dandy keeps threatening her uncle's life.

I really liked Sensibility. She's very young and she's also very out of her comfort zone and she's also grieving the loss of her only parent. I'm not sure what happened to her mother but it's quite clear that it was the two of them for a very long time and his loss has definitely devastated her but in that sort of English young lady "well we must go on" sort of way. She is also learning that there was a whole side of her father that she never knew, that he was connected to this secret society, who are most decidedly nefarious. Sensibility is never quite sure who she can trust as it seems that there are plenty of games being played and some bluffing back and forth but I think she knows who she wants to trust.

This has an original publication date of 2014 and there are actually two further books in this series already published. I enjoyed this enough to definitely pick those up and see what is next for Sensibility and the friends she made.

Rachel (The Rest Is Still Unwritten) says

Thank you to Monster Book Promotions and author Kirsten Weiss for allowing me to read this in exchange for an honest review

Find this review and more on my blog [The Rest Is Still Unwritten!](#)

A well depicted steampunk novel set in the Wild West during the California gold rush, *Steam and Sensibility* by Kirsten Weiss is a detailed and authentic feeling steampunk tale that blends murder and mystery with excitement and just the perfect hint of romance!

Steam and Sensibility is described as steampunk with paranormal suspense, and although the paranormal aspect wasn't overly there and prominent like I expected, I still enjoyed this story. Personally I wouldn't head into the novel expecting a focal paranormal aspect; because it's rather a small, minimal undertone to the rest of the story. And yet I feel this small hint instead complimented the book and allowed other aspects to shine.

Following nineteen year old Englishwoman Sensibility Grey, who moves to San Francisco after the death of her father to live with her estranged uncle, I will be the first to admit that it took a while for me to truly become absorbed in *Steam and Sensibility*. There wasn't anything wrong with the story; it just took a while

until my attention caught. That being said, I breezed through this well depicted story and by halfway, I was thoroughly caught up in the mysterious goings on our heroine found herself in involved in.

I found the setting for Steam and Sensibility to be a perfect blend of Wild West and British high class. Cowboys mixed with English noblemen and women in a setting right out of the old west that featured lovely hints of steampunk amongst the story. The plotline within Steam and Sensibility was very mysterious and exciting once we got into the very heart of things.

As we're introduced to a bunch of different characters, all with their own plans and agendas, I found that following Sensibility was quite a nice experience. Obviously she is a typical young English woman; cultured and a bit sheltered but Sensibility is also extremely intelligent and this is something that sets her apart from others. With an inventor for a father, a love of tinkering with things is something she appears to have inherited and as the novel progresses this becomes more evident with the way she approaches things. Personally, I really like this about Sensibility and thought she was a nice heroine; the perfect blend of fragility and innocence with bravery and unexpected strength. Sensibility grows quite a lot throughout the novel, although she still has a long way to go.

Throughout Steam and Sensibility we are introduced to a range of unique and different characters, including the rash and biting Miss Jane Algrave; a government officer who doesn't play by anyone's rule and the enigmatic and proud Mr. Night; a young lawyer who after a disastrous initial meeting, manages to set Sensibility's heart a flutter, although not without a few difficult moments. As Sensibility learns who she can trust and who is out to deceive her, I really liked determining who was lying and out for themselves as apposed to noble and good.

Steam and Sensibility introduces us to an intriguing steampunk world that I honestly believe author Kirsten Weiss has big plans for. The introduction we have is sufficient for this story but I foresee a lot of world building and development in future stories.

Rich and proper, but with a western twist, Steam and Sensibility is an entertaining read that has me ready to read the next instalment!

Kelly says

****I voluntarily reviewed this book****

This was a good book, but at times it felt like it dragged a little. I did prefer the writing in this book over the Perfectly Proper Paranormal Museum series, but it wasn't as good as other steampunk series I've read. The story was interesting, but Sensibility isn't my favorite character. Rather than being a strong character, she just lets everyone tell her what to do. I found the other characters to be more interesting than Sensibility, even though as the main character she should be more likeable.

Leslie Hammes says

I selected this book because the title mirrored that of one of my favorite authors, Jane Austen. Although

Sensibility was proper, those around her were not and yet she followed where they pushed. This was an engrossing read (I wanted to know who was trustworthy), but her inability to apply her obvious intelligence to evaluating her family and their negligent treatment of her was disappointing. There was a very mild romance, and I am curious whether it will develop. Several of the characters seem to be other than they appear, and their true natures and allegiances haven't been revealed. This read is worth your time if you like steampunk and Jane Austen.

Beth says

Steam and Sensibility is a fascinating steampunk mystery set during the California gold rush.

Sensibility Grey is a 19 year old woman from England who has been left destitute by her father's death. Hoping for a fresh start, with her uncle in mind to become her protector, Sensibility heads to the California territory by ship. Her uncle is of course no where to be seen... Once there, a master plot slowly unfolds making Sensibility question her father's choices and leaving her to her own wits...fighting for her life.

While the California Territory, without solicitation, Mr. Kreig Night takes on the role of Sensibility's protector...even though she doesn't know who she can trust.

I found *Steam and Sensibility* a fast pace and fun steampunk read. It brings in elements of magic, machinery and manacle plans of world domination. (Cue the evil laugh) I enjoyed this story and hope there is more to come of Weiss's Sensibility Grey world.

I received this copy of *Steam and Sensibility* from Kirsten Weiss in exchange for a honest review.

Written by: Kirsten Weiss

Series: Sensibility Grey

Paperback: 234 pages

Publisher: misterio press; 1 edition

Publication Date: March 17, 2014

Rating: 4 Stars

ISBN-10: 0985510390

ISBN-13: 978-0985510398

Genre: Steampunk | Young Adult

Find this book on: Amazon | Barnes & Noble

Reviewed for: <http://tometender.blogspot.com>

Laura Thomas says

When Sensibility Grey's father dies, he leaves her to fend off the creditors. She manages to retain just a few of his things. One of them being his journal.

That journal lands Sensibility in a world of trouble. Someone wants what's in those pages, and they follow

her as she travels to San Francisco to live with her Uncle Corbin.

Once her ship docks in San Francisco, Sensibility can't help but notice no one is around. It's 1848 and the gold rush is happening. Every man has rushed to strike it rich, leaving very few in the town.

It appears that Sensibility is left at the docks. Her Uncle never arrives. She knows it's not wise for a young lady to be alone. All kinds of bad things can happen. So when a stranger attacks her from behind and drags her into an empty shack, she fears the worse. Turns out, though she doesn't trust the stranger, she needs her. There are some pretty bad men outside, looking for her. They have her uncle and now they want her. Or rather, they want his journal, and they are prepared to do whatever it takes to get it.

The first thing that jumped out at me in this book was the descriptive writing. I visualized the empty sea port and the dusty, abandoned looking town. I could almost smell the brine of the salt water and feel the dry heat burning down on me. And I could almost hear the silence.

Sensibility is true to her name. She may be a bit naive, but she's smart and confident, and doesn't tend to panic. Well, except for a few times, and I didn't blame her for those. I would have too.

The author gave me some bad guys to loathe, and a couple of characters that I wasn't too sure about. One claimed to be working for the government, but something about her didn't sit well with me. She was too secretive and too pushy.

The other was a lawyer. Enough said. Just kidding. At first, I wasn't too sure about him, then I decided he was a good guy. Then I thought, nope, he's a bad guy. Then I just kept reading to find out.

There were humorous scenes and witty dialogue to ease the suspense now and then. I thank the author for the break as this was such a tangled web of intrigue, suspense, and adventure. Quite lively.

As this is a pre-steam novel there weren't too many nifty creations. Sensibility tinkered with a couple and I believe any new creations of hers would be even more amazing than her father's. She has a knack for it. There was one near the end that was quite scary. The author got really creative with what's used to power the machines. It added a bit of a supernatural element to the read and I could see where it might have repercussions if it wound up in the wrong hands.

If you enjoyed the old television series Wild, Wild West or watched the movie starring Will Smith you'll visualize this adventure as it plays out.

You don't have to be a steam punk fan to enjoy Steam and Sensibility and I highly recommend you give it a try.

I received this book for my honest review.

Karen B. says

I read my first "steampunk" type of book before Christmas and liked the concept of the clockwork machines so when I saw this for free I was determined to try it. Technically, this is not really steampunk but it's close enough for me to call it that. Sensibility is a young lady whose father has died and his friends collected

enough money to send her from England to San Francisco to be under the care of her uncle. Unfortunately her uncle has been kidnapped by a group who want to use him to get Sensibility to hand over her father's journal which contains diagrams and explanation of his discoveries and inventions. Sensibility finds herself on the run and not knowing who to trust. She is quite inventive herself and I like how this genre views females in the non-stereotypical way -- Sensibility is a scientist and an inventor herself. I loved the character's feisty attitude and her wit and intelligence. It was fun to read about her creation of an automaton and the whole concept of such machines. Sensibility has goggles and there is a great explanation of how and why they are used. This is the first in the series of three and I am looking forward to reading the other two books.

Ming says

3.5

Susan says

1848 San Francisco and Sensibility Grey has arrived from Lima to the protection of her Uncle, after the death of her scientist father. But she becomes the pursued because of her father's journal. Who can she trust. Sensibility decides she must decipher the secrets in the journal but what will be the consequences.

A good fun mystery with a range of characters. An enjoyable read.

A NetGalley Book

Erin Burns says

3.5 stars

John Purvis says

“Steam and Sensibility” eBook was published in 2016 and was written by Kirsten Weiss (<http://www.kirstenweiss.com>). Ms. Weiss has published 20 novels.

I received an ARC of this novel through <https://www.netgalley.com> in return for a fair and honest review. I categorize this novel as ‘PG’ because it contains scenes of Violence. The story is set in the mid 1800’s just as gold was discovered in California. The primary character of the story is young Miss Sensibiliy Grey.

After the death of her inventor father, Gray travels to the primitive port of San Francisco to be with her uncle. Little known to her, she has secrets of her fathers inventions that others are willing to kill to obtain. She must both avoid those obviously out to take her and her secrets, as well as sort out who amongst her newly made friends she can really trust. She also finds that she learned far more from her father than her previous ‘tinkering’ led her to believe.

This was an enjoyable, quick 3.5 hour read of this 234 page Steam Punk tale. This isn’t the best Steam Punk

novel I have read, but it wasn't bad. It really just touches the surface of what could draw into a true Alternate History based upon the 'discoveries' Ms Gray has found. As expected, there is a touch of romance in the story. The cover art is a good selection. I give this novel a 3.5 (rounded up to a 4) out of 5.

Further book reviews I have written can be accessed at <https://johnpurvis.wordpress.com/blog/>.

Aimee (Getting Your Read On) says

First of all I want to mention the cover of this book. I think it's really cool. It really gives you a sense of that steampunk genre that is becoming more and more popular. I love the gears and the symbols and even the tower in the back that all come into play in this book. I know I've said this before but I love when a cover does such a good job of representing what is inside.

I know this book is labeled as YA but the characters and feel of this book really didn't make me feel like this was YA. The main character, Sensibility, spoke, thought and acted much like an adult. I often found myself forgetting that she was nineteen. Since there were no other younger characters to bring that youthful side out, it overall just felt like an adult novel.

Sensibility's name surely fits her. She really is a no nonsense kind of girl. She's a thinker and she's been through a lot. I never really connected with Sensibility on an emotional level but she had a lot of admirable qualities. I think one thing that was hard for me as a reader (and this is a small but important thing, I think) was that Sensibility was always Sensibility. Her name was never shortened and she never had a nickname or anything. It was all so formal all the time. Sensibility is such a mouth full of a name. Even when reading it silently in your head! :) Because that familiarity wasn't formed between any characters, it wasn't formed for me either. I hope that makes sense.

I enjoyed the tinker steampunk aspect of this book. I've read a few steampunk books and while I wouldn't say this was my favorite, it was good. This book has a bit of the paranormal thrown in with some suspense which added an interesting mix of flavors.

Overall, this was a book that was okay. I didn't fall in love with it and I wasn't emotionally drawn in. It didn't always hold my interest but it had some good moments.

Content: There is some mild swearing and violence

Lauren says

Tenía ganas de leer algo de steampunk, un mundo que me encanta y que hizo que adquiriera dos libros de esta autora. Empecé a leer este y después de cinco capítulos me ha sido imposible seguir adelante.

En algunos libros, el problema es la ortografía o incluso alguna expresión. En este caso se trata de la traducción realizada. Al estar publicado por una editorial me esperaba mucho más, pero según vas leyendo notas que lo único que han hecho ha sido meterlo en un traductor de internet y lo han publicado así tal cual. Y es una lástima porque el libro prometía.

Hay varios ejemplos. Os dejo tres:

1. Frases sin pies ni cabeza.
2. Frases mal hechas.
3. Y palabras sinsentido que impiden comprender la frase en sí.

Vamos, que este libro ha sido un QUIERO Y NO PUEDO. ¡Qué lástima! Hace mucho que no leo en inglés, pero creo que me haré con ella en inglés más adelante.

Y vosotros, ¿habéis leído alguno este libro? ¿En inglés o español?
