



The Seafaring Women of the Vera B

Susan Page Davis

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With the Vera B's captain dead in Melbourne, Australia, Alice Packard thinks the worst has happened, until she learns the crew has deserted her husband's ship in favor of the goldfields. Only one old man, Gypsy Deak, sticks by her, but Gypsy alone can't raise a crew from the depleted population. In desperation, Alice turns to the only source of plentiful workers: the women of Melbourne. In a bold move, she and Gypsy empty a brothel, promising the escaped women a new life. Her all-woman (save one) crew put their backs and hearts into the voyage, but Alice finds training her sailors much harder than she expected. Her faith is tested to the limit. With a cargo to sell, angry brothel and tavern owners in pursuit, pirates to evade, and a mysterious stowaway, will the seafaring women of the Vera B. survive to tell the tale of this daring adventure?

The Seafaring Women of the Vera B Details

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From Reader Review The Seafaring Women of the Vera B for online ebook

CarolynB says

What an exciting read! I was hooked from the first page. I can't wait for the next book in the series to see what happens to this crew of women from such diverse backgrounds. I really loved this book!

Barbara orris says

Thrilling

Amazing! Such a great read. A group of fallen woman band together to sail for freedom. The strength of the human spirit is see inspiring. Hope the next book comes out soon. Susan Page Davis makes the words jump off the page

Kailey says

This was a really interesting read! I really enjoyed it. It was really different from anything else I have read. I'm looking forward to reading more from this author!

Britney says

Get ready to set sail on a seafaring adventure! Filled with drama and danger, this action-packed story entertained me from beginning to end! I easily envisioned the Vera B. and her ragtag crew, and I loved Captain Alice and her dogged determination to complete the tumultuous voyage as promised.

The Seafaring Women of the Vera B. is an enjoyable tale that leaves me eager to find out what will happen next. I look forward to continuing this journey in the Hearts of Oak series!

I received a complimentary copy of this book in exchange for an unbiased review. All thoughts expressed are my own.

Susan says

This book has everything you would expect from a seafaring adventure. Pirates, stowaways, and a crew of women. I love the premise of the book that has the women signing on as sailors to escape and make a better life for themselves. I could not put this book down.

Loraine says

With the ship's captain dead in Melbourne, Australia, Alice Packard thinks the worst has happened, until she learns the crew has deserted her husband's ship in favor of the goldfields. Only one old man, Gypsy Deak, sticks by her, but Gypsy alone can't raise a crew from the depleted population. In desperation, Alice turns to the only source of plentiful workers: the women of Melbourne. In a bold move, she and Gypsy empty a brothel, promising the escaped women a new life. Her all-woman (save one) crew put their backs and hearts into the voyage, but Alice finds training her sailors much harder than she expected. Her faith is tested to the limit. With a cargo to sell, angry bordello and tavern owners in pursuit, pirates to evade, and a mysterious stowaway, the seafaring women of the Vera B. find their escape in question.

This is the first book in a new series by Susan Page Davis and her son James. Totally unusual and unique story line with a crew of women from prostitutes hoping to start new lives to a grand lady of England escaping her philandering husband who all join together. With no sailing experience except the grand lady and a young woman whose father was a fisherman, they find out they all are stronger than they ever thought. Alice becomes captain after her husband's death and finds her strength as well when one mishap after another occurs. She also brings her faith to her crew of whom most have never been exposed to much religion. The bonding between the women is a wonderful part of the story as those who previously had little to do with one another find that as a team they have to learn to rely on one another. The sailing part of the story is well researched and well explained in context as the girls learn what they need to know in order to crew this brig. A well written book that was a delightful and exciting read. My only complaint is "What happens next?" This book was just released in Feb, so I am sure it will be a year or so before I find out what happens next to the women on the Vera B!

I received a complimentary copy from the author to facilitate this review. Opinions are mine alone. I was not compensated for this review.

Bethany says

[although i admit i expected a confrontation with the men the women ran away from. However the skirmish with the pirates, more than made up for that. (hide spoiler)]

Betti says

Women and the Sea

What a fabulous story! The sea has always had a fascination for me, but I cannot imagine experiencing some of the things that the crew of the Vera B did. A very well written story that kept me on the edge of my seat. Could they get away, survive the pirates and all manner of other dangers, when they didn't even know how to sail a ship? I am certainly looking forward to more from the Hearts of Oak series!

Robin says

This is a truly wonderful adventure. Strong women do the impossible aboard a sailing ship in the 1800's and what a job they do. Very well written. Engaged from the beginning. Highly recommend.

Melanie says

The Seafaring Women of the Vera B is a wonderful book. Susan Page Davis and her son, James S. Davis have written a captivating story. The characters are strong and fearless and they are independent souls.

Readers will enjoy this book.

This review is my own and I give it freely.

Connie says

I would give this book 10 stars if I could!!! Adventure, excitement, courage, encouragement all live inside these pages. And the most special part for me is the idea of moving beyond the borders of what is deemed "acceptable" when it is necessary, and enlarging your personal comfort zones. Not in regards to things illegal or illicit or anything like that, but doing what needs to be done at the moment to survive. Kudos to Susan and James on a winner of a story!!!

Crystal Caudill says

Susan Davis and her son, James Davis, work together to bring a story unlike any I have read before. The Seafaring Women of the Vera B is truly a unique piece of work which carries you off to sea. The amount of research that must have been conducted to create this novel is astounding and fascinating and the plot is intriguing and believable.

This book is not your typical romance from Susan Davis. While there is a possible hint at future love interests, the focus falls solidly in the adventure category. In some sense, it reminds me of the classic adventure stories from my youth like Treasure Island, The Three Musketeers, and Swiss Family Robison. I am just not sure there are any contemporary books I can compare it to. The richness of detail, the characters, and adventure, they all work together to create a magnificent story that reflects back to an era of storytelling which is severely lacking in today's world of novels.

The first ten chapters really lay the groundwork for the story. It is a little slower paced than many books in the beginning, but it is out of necessity. The number of characters introduced and the necessary foundation of ship terminology would be too overwhelming otherwise. I encourage you to push through even if that is not your cup of tea. It is well worth it.

I struggle with books that follow the viewpoint of more than two characters, but while this story followed the viewpoints of a handful of characters, it is done naturally and not so abruptly as to make you toss aside the book. Believe me when I say I am exceptionally picky about this. I was very impressed with the authors' mastery of that particular skill for this novel.

Once past the first ten chapters the pace of the story picks up and continues to grow in intensity and speed. How can it not with a mischievous little boy, a stow-away man on a ship full of women, pirates, and all the true struggles that come from that many women together learning to do a dangerous and difficult job? There is fighting and there is death, but the details of it are not gruesome, unrealistic, or overwhelming.

Seafaring Women of the Vera B is a swashbuckling adventure I would highly recommend to men and women alike who love adventure and attention to detail. It is truly a rare breed of book, especially in Christian fiction.

I received a free copy of this book in exchange for my honest opinion, which you have read above.

ASC Book Reviews says

I LOVE THIS BOOK! WOW WOW WOW WOW What an adventure this is! But I NEED MORE! This is one of those books that I had to FORCE myself to put down so that I could....you know....sleep! ;) And then I would just lay there wide awake longing to pick it back up and wondering what was going to happen to these characters next! It is one great scene after another. I LOVE the Faith threads! I will say that some might find quite a bit of blood shed towards the end, but no more then when you watch an old western, or the old 1960 Swiss Family Robinson. In fact it reminded me SO much about our old classic addition of Swiss Family Robinson that I had to pop it in and watch it! ;) But there's cliff hangers in this book and I'm LONGING for MORE! I LOVE so many of these women and the whole concept of this story! The fact that they're leading these women to a better life and Faith, is fantastic! But then you throw in all the adventure and well written descriptions and this becomes a book I could read again and again!!!! If you're looking for a story filled with Faith, pirates, sailing, strong female leads, a touch of romance, humor, excitement, and SO much more, then this is the book for you!

Songs: Amazing Grace

Songs etc. May be changed and/or added in the future. ~ASC

John 20:31

~ASC

*I received this book from the author for the purpose of reviewing it. This in no way affected my opinion and the above are my true thoughts and feelings about The Seafaring Women of the Vera B. ~ASC

Tammy Rolle says

Women man the sails

After burying her husband, Alice returns to the Vera B only to find her crew has jumped ship for the gold fields. Determined to see the ship's voyage completed, she sets sail for England with a crew of women willing to earn their way to freedom and a better life. Loved this book and will definitely be looking for additional Hearts of Oak tales.

Debbie says

This is the first book I have read by Susan Page Davis where she co-wrote with her son James Davis. It was a little difficult to get into with all the nautical terminology. I did find it interesting and continued reading it. I must say it is well written and the characters develop along the way.

Alice Packard loses her husband to illness and his crew to the goldfields in Melbourne, Australia. She is left with one old crewman, Gypsy, and is forced to search out a new crew. She turns to the women of the night who wish to escape their miserable existence and leave Australia altogether. While he holds some reservations, Gypsy, agrees to train these women to be sailors.

Their journey to England and America is fraught with multiple perils, but these women have learned to work together and persevere. They come up against angry bordello and tavern owners in pursuit, pirates and a mysterious stowaway. What will become of the seafaring women of the Vera B? Who is this mysterious stowaway and is he/she going to be trouble? Will the ladies perish at the hands of pirates or learn to work together and overcome adversity? Read for yourself and see. Enjoy!

I received a copy of this book from the author without expectation of a positive review. I voluntarily review this book and the opinions are purely my own.
