



Return of the Rogue

Donna Fletcher

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Marriage was her only means of escape . . .

Though Honora Tannach came of age amid the misty moors of the Scottish highlands, where warring clans battled to the death for the future of their wild land, nothing frightens her so much as a lifetime trapped in the castle of her cruel stepfather. She is thrilled when a marriage is arranged to the son of a Scottish laird . . . until her betrothed is revealed to be Cavan Sinclare. Though the savage warrior once saved her life, Honora knows no one can tame the heart of such a brute, no matter how finely chiseled his features or how enticing his eyes . . .

After escaping his captors, Cavan's only concern is protecting his clan from the menacing invaders who threaten at every turn—and his beautiful wife is a dangerous distraction. But in the face of fiery passion, their reluctance will fade . . . and Cavan will discover that there is no greater strength than the power of true love.

Return of the Rogue Details

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From Reader Review Return of the Rogue for online ebook

?nci Puyan says

<http://illekitap.blogspot.com/2013/06...>

Yine Epsilon, tarihi a?k roman? türünde yeni bir yazar ve yeni bir seri ile okurlar?n? kar??lad?. :))

"Bekle Beni", Sinclare Brothers serisinin ilk kitab? ve seri toplamda 4 kitaptan olu?uyor. Her kitap bir Sinclare erke?ini anlat?yor. "Bekle Beni" kitab? da en büyük Sinclare erke?i olan Cavan'? konu al?yordu. Bir de bu seri ?skoç klanlar?n? sevenler için :)) ?skoçya'ya da geçiyor haberiniz ola :)

Seri hakk?nda k?saca bir bilgi verdikten sonra yazar?n kalemine de?inmek istiyorum. Kolay okunan, ak?c? bir kalemi var ama bence profesyonel bir yazar de?ildi. Benim için bir Garwood ya da McCarty kadar güçlü bir kalemi yoktu ama yine de okurken keyifli zaman geçirtip de bir ç?rp?da biten bir kalemi var.

Kitap karakterlerini sevdi?imi söylemeliyim. Gerçi ?skoç'lar?n tipik erkekleri gibi idi erkek karakter Cavan bu yüzden kendini sevdirdi :) Kad?n karakterin, Honora'n?n da ürkük görünü?ünün alt?nda güçlü bir karakter oldu?unu okumak güzeldi. Ama yine de kitapta havada kalan ?eyler vard? bana göre. Mesela Honora çok çabuk tutuldu bu bana biraz yapmac?k geldi ve o zamanlarda kad?nlar?n cinsel yönden daha masum oldu?unu okuduk kitaplarda ve burada Honora'n?n çok aç?k olmas? ve Cavan'dan sevi?me iste?inde bulunmas?n? pek be?enmedim. :) Gerçi yazar öyle uygun görmü? yazm?? bize laf söylemek dü?mez ama ben pek be?enmedim i?te.

Ahh bir de söylemeyi unuttu?um as?l nokta yazar?n sava? sahnelerini biraz geçi?tirir gibi yazm?? olmas?yd? ya da bana öyle geldi bilemiyorum. ?ahsen sonlar?nda Mordrac ile kar?? kar??ya geldi?inde bir sava? okumay? tercih ederdim bu kadar kolay teslimiyet olmamal?yd? :)

Çok ele?tirdim san?r?m susuyorum :)

Biraz daha konu?ursam kitap içeri?ine girece?im bu yüzden k?sa kesiyorum. Bence çok da mükemmel bir kitap de?ildi. Ama yine de okurken keyifli zaman geçirten bir kitapt?. Bu yüzden tavsiye edebilirim :)

Zoe says

OK story. I think it is supposed to be Scottish/Highland themed but this story could have been staged in any period with any particular theme and would not make any difference.

The best part of the book is Donna Fletcher's way of telling a story. It was easy to continue and the prose flowed naturally. The story itself is plain, characters unmemorable, but easy to like. Little angst and struggle. I probably won't read it again. I have read the youngest brother's story before this book, which is the oldest brother's story. I do like them as characters, but will not continue reading the rest of the series, unless the prices are reduced significantly.

Clarice says

Honora Tannach came of age amid the misty moors of the Scottish Highlands where warring clans battled to the death for the future of their wild lands. Nothing frightens her so much as a lifetime trapped in the castle with her cruel stepfather. She is thrilled when a marriage is arranged to the son of a Scottish Laird, until she finds out that it is Cavan Sinclare, who had saved her life once. Then turned down marriage to Honora years ago. Honora knows that no one can tame the heart of such a savage warrior, who came back from his captors more beast than man, to a wife that Cavan didn't know or want. Cavan's only concern is to protect his clan from menacing invaders who threaten the clan at every turn, and find his missing younger brother, having his beautiful wife is a dangerous distraction. Getting to know Honora everyday, learning that Honora is a strong and proud woman. Cavan will discover that there is no greater strength than the power of true love.

Monique Takens says

Dit boek is in het Nederlands vertaald : Vlucht in het huwelijk - Candlelight Historische roman 880 .
Ik ben hééél erg verbaasd over de hoge waardering die dit boek van zo veel lezers krijgt . Mijn kleinzoon van 4 jaar oud kan al een beter verhaal vertellen . Ik heb nog 7 ongelezen boeken van deze auteur liggen maar ik kan mijzelf er niet toe brengen om die te gaan lezen , gelukkig heb ik ze 2e hands gekocht en verwacht ik ze voor de zelfde prijs als ik ervoor gegeven heb ze ook weer te verkopen .

Amanda says

I was surprised by how much I loved this. Normally I get really frustrated by heros like Cavan and they ruin the book for me, but for some reason I adored Cavan. The main problem with Cavan was that he was a complete jerk to Honora a lot of the time. And she was generally forgiving about it, especially as time goes on. Usually that is enough to seriously drive me crazy. However, in this book Cavan is generally aware that he is being a jerk and does feel bad and try to explain himself. And considering that he just escaped from a year of capture by barbarians, he is probably suffering some serious PTSD so his moods are pretty understandable.

I even understood his reasoning for not being happy (another thing that usually drives me crazy, the whole "I don't deserve to be happy" thing). His brother is still captured and Cavan got away, and since Cavan has known since birth that he would be clan leader, he feels that weight of responsibility even more.

I feel like I really made Cavan look bad in this review, but I seriously loved him. He is so drawn to Honora, and I love them together (even occasionally when he's being a jerk).

All in all, I never thought that I would find a book that held two things that I hate in romance novels and make me love them. I can't wait to read the rest of the series!

Elaine says

Disappointing read. I'm surprised at such high reviews. The first 275 pages is the same thing over and over.

You could read the first and second chapter and skim to the end. The whole book is the Hero blaming himself for not saving his younger brother, yet at the end there was still no closure on that. I guess that is why there are other books in this series, but I honestly am not interested in finishing this series. The story in this book could have been told in under 200 pages and not left anything out. The mystery was really no mystery, and there was nothing exciting about this book.

pennapely says

Gave up a few chapters in. The writing itself is pretty clunky - the heroine's description of her abusive stepfather as a "nasty and mean man" is hilarious. (BTW why do we need to know her lips are narrow? Is that a good thing?). The hero came across like a brutish half-wit and the heroine completely dull. Shame, cause I love the arranged-marriage-in-the-Highlands trope.

And that's another thing, why exactly does the laird want to marry off his heir to this step-daughter of a nobody? She doesn't bring land or money or powerful connections, it really makes no sense. Meh, who cares, I'm off to find a better book. Won't be hard.

Dwayne says

Reviewed @ Girls Without a Bookshelf

I'm not exactly sure how Return of the Rogue ended up as my afternoon read but I do know it probably took the expressway. I simply wanted a romance novel to spend my afternoon with and found myself attached to the story of the Sinclare brothers. As you may have guessed, the fact that this has diverted me from my official to-be-read pile means I favour this book!

Return of the Rogue is a charming highland romance novel - not that I read many, mind you - and set my standards for the succeeding books in this particular series quite high. It follows the story of Cavan, the older of the Sinclare brothers and the joy and upsets of his unexpected and unwanted marriage to Honora Tannach, a 'mousy' woman he so thoroughly dislikes. Scarred and broken from his being captive to the Barbarians, Cavan is riddled with guilt at failing to save his younger brother Ronan from the same hands. The novel follows Cavan's marriage and his family's attempts to rescue Ronan from the barbarians' hands.

As already mentioned, Cavan Sinclare is a broken man - the novel is lengthy at its description of Cavan's tumultuous thoughts, of his guilt and the effects of both on his character. There were moments where I wanted to skim read over his reveries but reading through proved useful as the plot progresses; mind you, these were merely at minor times as I did enjoy Cavan's thorough development. In fact, all characters are well developed; Honora for her part is provided with sufficient history and uniqueness I have no complaints whatsoever. The rest of the Sinclare brothers are also very well described; they are easy to relate to and are quite an entertaining company. Their bond - brotherhood - is evident and is a huge driving force in the plot.

The plot itself is amazingly generous. Mostly, it paves way for a complete development of character and builds the essential foundations for a romantic storyline. It strengthens the chemistry between the main characters, so I was rooting and cheering and hoping for their love to be known to each other. I also enjoyed the sub-plots, which are not too many to be overwhelming. I'm surprised at how the book quite easily took

me to a different time in history; most of the time I grapple with such change but it was easy with this book. Wonderful!

The only negative thing I can comment on is the limited array of characters. With such small number of characters - mostly the Sinclare clan - readers are able to familiarise quite intimately with each and every one, which I have no doubt will suit many. It develops these characters very well and each are bountiful in their individuality. However, this also causes the plot to become more predictable. Given the numbered characters it was easy for me to pin-point who the culprit behind it all; the clues that are showered within the plot are no help either - they were too well-timed to be dismissed, which might probably leave readers with too little to guess.

Overall though, this is a really good book. For romance lovers, grab this and enjoy the Sinclares! I am personally reading the next in the series.

Kim says

Rogue? What rogue? This guy is a bloody saint! A piece of paper! A cardboard box!

Highlander stories are always an enjoyable read. The guy is smoking, the girl perfect, the villains are clones across books. It is almost guaranteed a few hours pleasantly spent with a book on the Highlands.

But I guess I have reached a point where merely pleasant is sufficient.

Oh don't mind me. Had I read this book a few years ago, this might turn out to be my favourite. But after reading so many books on the Highlands, ~~as well as books that fill my porn shelf~~, I guess *not* being disappointed is not enough. Looking back, the cookie-cutter stereotype of a Highland hero, heroine, villian, plot and romance now seems tepid and boring somewhat.

However, it is likely that I would be picking up another book on this series before I take a hiatus off the Highlands. Ronan's story has piqued my interest, if nothing else, and I admit that I am mildly curious to see what happens to the poor lad.

I would still recommend this book to any fan of the Highlands, as well of fans of Fletcher. However, if you expect any more detail in this story, my advice is, pick up any other Highlander novel.

[Aengell] says

I was a tad disappointed with this one. The premise of the story sounded really interesting and was exactly my cup of tea (kind of enemies to lovers, forced/unwanted/arranged marriage, some very appealing Highlander for a hero. Perfect stuff, right?)

But the story was much too fast paced, there was too much happening too fast, I didn't have the chance to really get to know the characters or their relationship dynamics. Also the plot was kind of underdeveloped for me, and although I was able to read it till the end, it was rather boring. :/

?lkim says

Orijinali Kitap Esintisi adresinde.

Bekle Beni, yazar?n bizdeki ilk kitab? ve seri için de güzel bir ba?lang?ç kitab?. Öncelikle zaten ?skoç klanlar?n? anlatt??? için okumadan gözümde art? bir puan alm??t?. Bitirince de gerçekten güzel bir hikaye oldu?unu anlad?m. Honora üvey babas?n?n zulümlerine sessizce gö?üs geren cesur bir k?zd?r. Cavan ise bir y?ld?r tatsak oldu?u barbarlar?n elinden kaçm??, eve döndü?ü anda kendini istemedi?i tipte bir kad?n olan Honora ile evli bulmu?tur. En ba??ndan beri korkak bir fare oldu?unu dü?ündü?ü Honora'n?n gerçek yüzünü görüp gün geçtikçe ona kap?lan Cavan, kay?p karde?ini bulamaman?n verdi?i huzursuzlukla kendine mutlu olma ?ans? tan?mamaktad?r. Ama tabi kar?s?n?n planlar? ba?kad?r.

Her ?ey güllük gülistanl?k gibi görünse de klan?n içinde bir hainin olmas? Cavan'? germektedir. Hain de planlar?n? yava? yava? gerçekle?tirmeye ba?lay?nca klan?n huzursuzlu?u Cavan'? heften gerer ve ne yapaca??n? bilemez. Ama sava? yakla?matakad?r ve bu sefer en de?erli varl??? tehdit alt?ndad?r. Zekas?n? ve becerisini kullanmas? gereken Cavan hayat?n?n a?k?n? kurtarmaya kararlı?d?r.

Karakterler de ortam da çok güzel anlat?lm??t?. Di?er karde?lerin hikayelerini de umar?m yak?n bir zamanda okuruz.

Bunga says

Menceritakan tentang arrangement marriage antara Honora dan Cavan Sinclare. Sebenarnya Honora dinikahkan dengan Athair--anak kedua klan Sinclare tapi karena di akhir acara pernikahan mendadak muncul Cavan--anak pertama klan Sinclare yang menghilang selama beberapa tahun--akhirnya Cavanlah yang jadi suami Honora. Ini karena ayah tiri Honora sudah membuat perjanjian dengan ayah Cavan--Tavish Sinclare kalo Honora hanya akan dinikahkan dengan calon pewaris Sinclare.

Honora sebenarnya ga suka sama Cavan yang sifat dan sikapnya memang ga menyenangkan--tipikal prajurit yang baru balik dari medan perang dan mengalami trauma hebat. Cavan juga super duper menyebalkan di awal-awal, karena dia ga siap nikah dan ga pengen nikah sama Honora yg pernah ditolaknya dulu. Tapi dengan kesabaran Honora yang pantang menyerah berusaha memerangi kelemahannya demi bisa jadi istri yang baik--akhirnya Cavan luluh juga. Sebenarnya sih Cavan ada rasa sama Honora, tapi dia selalu menolak rasa itu tumbuh karena perasaan bersalah mendalamnya terhadap Ronan--adik bungsunya yang gagal ditolongnya sewaktu perang melawan barbarian. Sepanjang cerita, Cavan sangat terobsesi mencari Ronan karena didorong rasa bersalahnya ini.

Cheryl says

The year was the late 1500s. The place is the Scottish highlands.

Honora Tannach's stepfather, Calum has arraigned for her marriage to the next laird of the Sinclare clan. Honora does not mind as she has gotten to know her proposed husband, Artair a little bit, so he isn't a total

stranger to her. Much to Honora's surprise, she comes to discover on the day of her wedding that she is not to marry Artair but Cavan. To add insult to injury, Cavan does not want Honora; much less any wife.

Cavan didn't know what to expect about his homecoming after being gone so long. He had been a prisoner of barbarian leader, Mordrac. All, Cavan did know was that he did not expect to be married. Will Honora and Cavan make this marriage work or was it a lost cause from the very beginning?

Honora has a very caring, honest, and friendly nature about her that just makes everyone around her fall in love with her, including me. Then there is Cavan, who is strong, brooding but a good protector. Honora and Cavan meshed well together. I admit that I am impressed by how much I liked Return of the Rogue. I read this book with ease. It is books like these as to why I enjoy reading this genre of historical, romantic novels. I plan on reading more books by Donna Fletcher.

Anne says

I love Donna's books and this one was a great read. I did not read them in order, and I wish i had, but I still enjoyed the story of another son of the Sinclair laird and his four sons. Brave Highlanders with soft sides and loyalty. Fun to read and great storytelling too.

Lori McD says

3-3.5 stars

I liked this book, because IMO, it's not your run-of-the-mill Highland romance. The Hero is the eldest Sinclair brother, Cavan, who was captured in a bloody battle against a Barbarian (Mordrec) when his younger brother, Ronan, falls in the battle. Cavan tries desperately to reach Ronan before the barbarians take him as prisoner, but he fails. And then is separated from his brother and tortured - not just physically, but mentally with images of how his younger brother is being tortured and dying.

But Cavan escapes his captivity a year later and returns home.... arriving just as his second brother, Artair, is about to be pronounced man and wife with Honora, a dark-haired, violet-eyed, meek step-daughter of Calum Tannach, an ambitious, brutal, cruel man. Except that Calum declares that Honora *isn't* married to Artair, she's actually just married Calum by proxy, since the wedding contract stipulates that Honora must marry the *heir* to the Sinclair clan. And with Cavan now returned, he's the laird's heir.

Cavan is still dealing with his perceived failure of being unable to save his brother and of being unable to discover and help his brother escape. He's lived as an animal for a year - locked in a cage, left in his own filth, beaten and tortured, and barely fed. After escaping, Cavan has done what he's needed to do to survive. But he feels foreign being back home again - he feels the "beast" in him is still too raw, too angry for him to live or be the man he once was. And he *definitely* doesn't want to be married... and certainly not to mousy Honora.

Cavan met Honora 10 or so years back, when she was playing in the forest. She saw and heard a horde of men on horseback coming her way, and in a panic, she fled thinking that they were barbarians on a raid. But

in her panic, Honora headed right for the cliffs and would have plunged over them if not for a brave rider who snatched her away in time. That brave rider was Cavan.

Honora's stepfather Calam tried to marry her to Cavan before his capture, but Cavan declined, saying that he needed a brave, strong woman to stand by his side, not a woman afraid of her own shadow. But Cavan doesn't realize that Calum has physically and mentally beaten Honora since marrying her mother when Honora was very small. Honora's mother died when she was about 8 years old, leaving Honora to deal with Calum on her own. Honora's learned that standing up to Calum only results in more beating and mental cruelty; so she's developed her own defenses, mostly her calm, cool head and her quick wit. She's been able to outwit Calum and have a modicum of freedom in the forest and the moors.

When Honora met Artair Sinclare, she saw that he was kind. While she wasn't sure she wanted to marry, she knew she had no choice, and she thought that at least she might have a good life and some freedom with Artair. But when she found herself irrevocably married to Calum, Honora was beside herself. Her new husband barely looked at her and refused to sleep in the same bed with her, preferring instead to sleep on the floor before the hearth. Honora knows that she must be sure that the marriage is consummated or her stepfather will probably kill her, because the shame of Cavan's rejection will haunt her and make her unmarriageable. She tries her best to be a good wife, but she doesn't know how... especially not in a family such as the Sinclares, where there are servants and ways that she's not used to. And Cavan intimidates and frightens her. Still, she keeps herself well-groomed and sweet-smelling and tries her best to show him that she's a dutiful and obedient wife.

Honora is confused by Cavan's reactions. One minute he's almost feral, the next he's kind; one minute she thinks he'll take her on the spot, the next he's pushing her away. What Honora doesn't realize is that Cavan is afraid of his "beast", and while he's not thrilled with his new wife's shyness, he feels she deserves a loving, gentle husband and a loving, gentle first sexual experience. The two slowly find their way together when Honora determines that being married to Cavan is a much better life than she had; it offers her protection from her stepfather and a chance for a loving, happy marriage. And Honora will do what she can to have that loving, happy marriage. So the two begin to talk, and Cavan comes to see that Honora is a prisoner just set-free from cruelty and abuse, too. His protective side comes out, and he teaches her how to defend herself against unwanted attacks. And in doing so, Cavan falls in love with his wife.

But there's unrest in Sinclare lands. Rumors keep coming about Ronan, and each time, Cavan flies to try to find Ronan. Then Tavis Sinclare, father and laird, is killed - a dagger to the heart. Everyone knows that Tavis was a great warrior; whoever killed him was someone that Tavis thought a friend, not a foe, and wasn't on guard against. Cavan is sure that this somehow has to do with Mordrec the Barbarian, but he doesn't know who on Sinclare land is assisting Mordrec.

When Honora is captured, Cavan must face Mordrec to get her back. And he's willing to give his own life to set her free.

While Cavan generally fits the description of the "tortured" Hero, I found his demons more realistic and less annoying than the usual fare. He's not wallowing in self-pity, he's filled with righteous anger... and misplaced guilt at not being able to save his baby brother. But his behavior shows that he's a changed man; Cavan's afraid that his "beast" might never be tamed. And his family and clan all seem to want the Cavan back that they knew before, but how can that be? Cavan has forever been changed by his experiences. And he has to live and work through those horrors to find who he is now.

Honora might be the beautiful, innocent Heroine, but she's not the usual "spunky" sort. Her wit and

personality don't really come to the surface until she makes up her mind to love Cavan no matter what; until she trusts in his protection and forges a bond with him. Her unconditional love and acceptance is what Cavan needs to heal, and she offers that in abundance. Her gentle, unassuming ways are what he needs. And because Honora didn't know the Cavan-before, she places no expectations on who he is now - she simply accepts him.

It's a compelling and beautiful story. So why did I only give it 3-3.5 stars? Because there's so much MODERN about this story... modern phrases and attitudes that are out of place in the 16th century. I'm sure that the author was trying to relate to the audience and not burden them with how life really was - all the traditions, etc. But it's jarring to the reader. And the "mystery" isn't so much a mystery... it's so obvious that you want to shake the characters into realizing it!

So while this book can be a good read, it's not a great read. And I admit that my standards are high. It's tough for me to give a 4-star rating and almost unheard of for me to give a 5-star rating. So keeping with my rating system, this book is only a 3.5.
