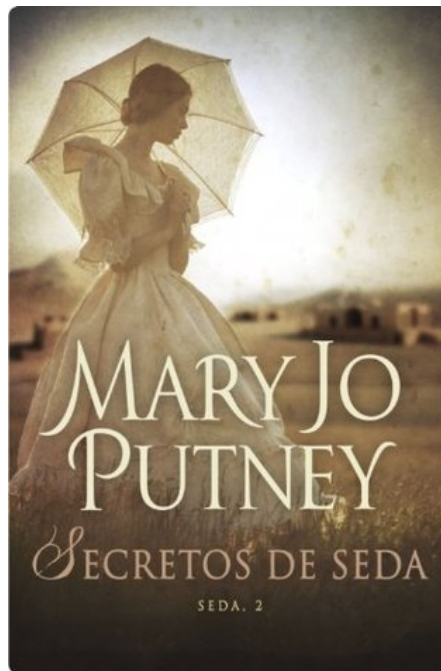




Secretos de seda

Mary Jo Putney

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A los diecisiete años, Juliet Cameron lo tiene todo. Esta joven hermosa, apasionada y sedienta de nuevas emociones se ha enamorado locamente de lord Ross Carlisle. Él es el compañero de viaje perfecto para seguir con el estilo de vida aventurero al que está acostumbrada así que, siguiendo su naturaleza impulsiva, decide casarse con él. Pero la rígida moral victoriana y el temor de que su amor por Ross acabe por consumir su espíritu libre la llevan a tomar una dramática decisión: escapar de ese mundo que la asfixia y regresar a su amada Persia, la tierra donde su padre, un diplomático británico, la crió. Doce años más tarde, Ross viaja a la tierra adoptiva de Juliet para cumplir una misión sin saber que está a punto de reencontrarse con su esposa y con la irresistible atracción que sentían el uno por el otro. Mientras la pasión renace bajo el impasible sol del desierto, Juliet empieza a sentirse atrapada por un amor que ha sido pospuesto demasiado tiempo...

Secretos de seda Details

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From Reader Review Secretos de seda for online ebook

Alba Turunen says

3'5 Estrellas, pero le dejo las tres porque algo me impide subirle más. Lo cierto es que el libro me ha gustado bastante, es muy del estilo del anterior, pero con un argumento y ambientación totalmente distinto. "Secretos de Seda" ocurre íntegramente en el desierto asiático, de modo que salimos del ambiente aristocrático victoriano que tuvo el primer libro.

Aquí se narra la historia de Ross y Juliet. Conocimos a Ross en el primer libro, donde tuvo un importante papel como secundario, era amigo de Peregrino y el primo favorito de Sara. Será porque Ross y Sara son familia, pero para mí han sido hasta ahora los mejores personajes, en "Besos de Seda" me encantó Sara, mucho más que Peregrine, y en "Secretos de Seda" ha sido Ross quien me ha conquistado. Aunque advierto, Ross es un dechado de perfección, tanto tanto, que es imposible que sea real, pero me ha cautivado totalmente.

Si hemos leído la sinopsis, sabremos que Ross y Juliet se conocieron siendo muy jóvenes y se enamoraron. Contra los deseos de sus familiares se casaron, pero algo ocurrió a los pocos meses, Juliet abandonó a Ross sin darle explicación, y diciéndole que no volviera a ponerse en contacto con ella. Así es como Juliet desapareció del mapa y acabó gobernando su propia fortaleza en Oriente Medio.

Bueno, pues este es el primer punto negativo del libro: la protagonista. Juliet no me ha caído mal, pero ha sido un personaje demasiado desdibujado e irreal, no me la he creído, ni a ella, ni a su actitud, ni su modo de vida, ni nada. Si tuviese que elegir, le habría dado a Ross otra protagonista, y no una tan egocéntrica y cobarde. A pesar de todo, Juliet no me ha caído mal, pero no he congeniado con ella, ni he entendido ni compartido sus motivos, ni por qué hizo lo que hizo, y desde luego la condeno solo por una cosa que vas descubriendo al final, y que no me ha gustado nada. Repito, no se merece a Ross, ni Ross se merece lo que ella le hizo.

La historia empieza cuando Ross vuelve a Oriente dispuesto a empezar otro de sus viajes para empezar un nuevo libro sobre el tema. Una vez llega a Constantinopla recibe una carta urgente en la que su madre le conmina a volver a casa, pero en ése momento aparece su suegra, la madre de Juliet y le ruega ayuda, ya que en la embajada británica no quieren saber nada. Su hijo, Ian (su cuñado), lleva meses preso del emir de Bujara, en Uzbekistán, según los rumores muerto, pero su madre se niega a creerlo, y le ruega a Ross que la ayude a saber qué ha sido de su hijo. Así es como Ross, en un momento de locura, decide emprender un último viaje a Oriente, y en casa que espere lo que tenga que esperar.

En medio del camino hacia Bujara, es cuando Ross volverá a encontrar a Juliet, doce años después, y sin saber nada de ella ni de su actual vida. Ahora es dueña de una fortaleza en Serevan, donde ha acogido a parias y gente necesitada, y los ha ayudado y dado un hogar. Cuando Ross le explica a Juliet por qué se dirige a Bujara, inmediatamente Juliet se une a él para averiguar qué ha sido de su hermano.

Aquí es donde comenzará la aventura, propiamente dicha, y un viaje por el desierto lleno de peligros: turcomanos, el sol, falta de agua, tormentas de arena etc. Ha sido un libro que ha descrito un entorno distinto y muy exótico, y tan bien trabajado, que de verdad es lo que más valoro de lo que he leído. Como no puede ser de otro modo y pese a todos los peligros, cuando nuestros protagonistas llegan a Bujara, los espera otra trampa: el emir no es amigo de los occidentales, los odia, está loco y es sanguinario, y sólo quedará saber si Ross y Juliet podrán averiguar qué ha sido de Ian, y si podrán escapar de Bujara.

Esto es lo que ha sido “Secretos de Seda” y por eso me ha convencido, la historia, la ambientación, los peligros, la aventura, y Ross. Lo único que me lo ha fastidiado es el personaje tan inverosímil que es Juliet, y que para mí ha salido mejor parada de lo que debería tras lo que hizo.

Sólo queda leer el tercer y conclusivo libro de la serie, que ya me spoileé quién es su protagonista, y al cual tengo muchísimas ganas, pues tras todo lo que ha pasado, se merecía su historia.

Marissa says

I have a weakness for marriage recovery stories. Magical new romance is fun and I love to read it, don't get me wrong, but marriage is hard and I dearly love authors who address that. "Silk and Secrets" is of course implausible but it tackles a marriage that was destroyed by serious issues. It's not just a silly misunderstanding, easily resolved. It's tough and brutal and heartbreaking and requires hard work from both partners, which makes it all the sweeter and worthwhile. Mary Jo Putney writes not just about romance, but about love.

Mary Troxtell says

Not as interesting as the first one

The main character in this story is not a likable female . While reading the story on several occasions I felt like putting the book away and forgetting it . However I kept trudging through it and the plot unfolded in very predictable ways . Add together the predictability of the plot and the inability to like the heroine; this story could easily be skipped.

Desi says

leído en Julio 2014

Estuvo muy bueno el libro, me gustó!

Sombra says

Serían 3,5 estrellas, pero le subo a 4 porque la ambientación me ha gustado mucho.

Si algo tiene esta autora es que ambienta como pocas las tramas en las que basa sus historias, y en este caso me ha parecido estar con los protagonistas por sus andadas en el desierto.

¿Y por qué sólo 3 estrellas y media? Por la protagonista. Juliet ha sido un personaje que me ha desconcertado desde que me enteré de que ella era la mujer de Ross y le abandonó 12 años atrás. A lo largo de la historia creí que todo se sabría y que la autora nos daría un buen motivo para ello, pero lo que se descubre al final es algo que no logro comprender y solo me hace tener una imagen de ella bastante negativa. Él también tuvo su

parte de culpa y todo es muy probable que se solucionara hablando, pero aún así, lo que hizo ella me sigue pareciendo más grave y de un egoísmo puro.

En cambio, Ross ha sido todo un descubrimiento. Si en el primer libro ya me llamó la atención, en este mi interés se ha duplicado y me ha hecho disfrutar del libro aún más. Aunque a veces parecía el hombre perfecto y todo le salía bien, me ha gustado mucho más que ella y de hecho, sigo pensando cómo es que le ha podido perdonar todo.

Los secundarios también me han gustado, sobre todo los que han acompañado a nuestros protagonistas a través del desierto destacando a cierta persona que encuentran en su camino y de la que no hago spoiler por si queréis leerla y pasar por los mismos estadios que pasé yo.

En resumen, una novela muy buena en la que prima la aventura y el romance está en un plano paralelo pero que para mí, la protagonista lo ha acabado desluciendo.

Voy a por el siguiente y último de la serie.

LaFleurBleue says

Very disappointing book

I know some readers who are put off by mysterious secrets in the past which create a major misunderstanding and long-lasting estrangement between a couple. When nicely put, I do not mind that trope. But in that case, the secret was only revealed about 10 pages before the end of the book. And though it was quite a bad one, that revelation was so long due that it felt anti-climatic, as expected it was immediately forgiven, without even a hint of a doubt.

The whole story relies much more on adventure. Some parts were really lengthy, especially as not much is ever revealed concerning the heroine's real feelings, to preserve the terrible secret.

I rushed through the ending and really would have preferred that the heroine came earlier to her senses and/or that her secret had been told before, so that her behavior could be made more understandable. As it was, her persistent silence and avoidance was just childish and irritating. The hero deserved a much better mate than her and I was not so confident about their happy future ever after.

CI says

This rather lengthy historical romance has a few solid elements that I enjoy - a strong female lead (even if she has to dress as a man almost always to achieve respect in those times), characters overcoming problems in the past that have left their marks (including infidelity on behalf of the female).

However, it may be my lack of interest in this area of the world from more than a century previous, a lot of the story was about the area and culture and relationships between cultures. Normally, that wouldn't be a problem, and even though in this book it was very well done with a good blend of realism and writer's licence, I ended up skipping sections that weren't directly related to the development of the two leads.

Zoe says

Silk and Secrets is another re-read from Mary Jo Putney for me. The story is very special in its own way. I want to say up front that my 5 stars rating is personal and biased. I cannot imagine a lot of people feeling similarly about this book. For example, my dear Tinsoni, I am not sure you would like this book very much. If I wasn't so emotionally involved, I would rate it 3.5 stars.

Silk and Secrets is the 2nd book in the Slik trilogy from Putney. Having read the first book Silk and Shadows and loved it dearly, I read Silk and Secrets with enthusiasm years ago. Silk and Secrets is the story of Ross and Juliet. Ross, 21, an honorable, respectable, intelligent, brave, strong, sexy, truly PERFECT English hero married Juliet, 17, a red-haired, passionate, rebellious, wild, beautiful, not-fitting-in Scottish heroine. It was a love match. Ross and Juliet were madly in love. Having found love at such a tender age and being the forever honorable man that he was, Ross proposed. And madly in love that Juliet was, she said yes, choosing to not pay any attention to the fact that Ross was the perfect gentleman, but she was forever an oddball of the English society because of her unusual upbringing. The story began 12 years after they were married. 6 months into the marriage, Juliet left Ross, leaving him only a note and never saw him again until 12 years later, fate brought them together in Central Asia. When they were reunited, they had been estranged for 11.5 years. To save Juliet's brother, Ross travelled to a dangerous place risking his own neck. Juliet, of course insisted to go with him.

I can think of quite a few reasons why this would not be a wildly popular book. First of all, the setting is too rich for a romance novel. Putney painted a extremely complex backdrop for the story. That goes for characters, locations, cultures, dangers. For someone who wants a quick romance book, Silk and Secrets is too much. Secondly, the story tackles infidelity, a one-time mistake, and I have to say, all too understandable, but still a very bitter pill to swallow for starry-eyed girls. Thirdly, Ross and Juliet acted like 2 mature adults and the passion, while palable, is not hot to the touch. Fourthly, the romance, while being the central element, only occupies about 50% of the book.

All of which, spell a "dense" book, heavy in materials, details, and emotions. It is not a book that makes you sigh with happiness. Instead it grabs your throat and threatens to not let go. You choose to read it, at your own peril.

I wish Putney had saved us the cultural and geographic details and given us more romance. Having read the story before, I skipped most of the background details this time, and was able to concentrate only the relationship. At times I also felt it was difficult to continue. Ross and Juliet had too much baggage. The moving tenderness is not present enough.

So why 5 stars?

In this book, I think Putney has successfully captured one truth in love: sometimes, it is possible to fall in love with the right person, at the wrong time. And sometimes, it is possible that, you meet your perfect match too early, before either one of you was ready to commit. And sometimes, a couple must survive betrayals, disappointments and heartbreaks before they come together. And sometimes, it is not because of some objective circumstances. Sometimes, it is just the way it has to be, because of who you are, you must live before you love.

I did not LOVE this story the way I loved other romance stories. I can't, because this book is not a romance. It is a love story, with all its ugliness and pains. I cannot recommend this story because I think I suffered

through it, feeling the regrets and pains together with Ross and Juliet. It does not have enough "romance" to cushion all that ugliness. Instead we are fed cultural details. I know little of Central Asia and the Muslim religion, so I cannot comment on the authenticity of the story. Putney did a great job building this exotic land, but spent too many pages on things around Ross and Juliet, which ironically, is why Ross and Juliet seem so real.

I will stop trying to explain why I gave the book 5 stars even though I did not experience my 5 star feelings reading this book. I guess I can't and my review probably won't help any readers. My feelings toward the story are still raw and the emotions true. This book did not make me feel happy or entertained, not even when the story ends well and everyone lived happily ever after. But it made me feel things that I do not want to feel, a deep emotion that one experiences when one reconciles with an ugly truth because there is no other way to live.

Dangermouse says

I loved this Victorian - the story involves two estranged spouses finding each other again amidst exotic danger. What's not to love?

Ross and Julia married very young but they knew they belonged together. That is, until Ross returned home from visiting a relative one day a few months after marriage to find his beautiful bride had run away from him and kept running.

Now it's twelve years later, and Ross is a well-known explorer off on his last, desperate mission - to track down his missing brother-in-law Ian, who may or may not have been executed in Bukhara. And it is on his trek through the Kara Kum desert that he meets Julia again. Julia, who the author clearly based on Lady Hester Stanhope, has carved a life for herself in a remote outpost as a 'ruler' of a small fortified village.

The bulk of the book is set during Ross and Julia's journey to Bukhara and their time in the menacing city, as well as their escape. But much as I loved the highly unusual setting (when's the last time you read a romance set on the Silk Road?), what really made me give the book 5 stars was the complex, tormented relationship between Ross and Julia itself - these are two smart, strong-willed, passionate people who have never gotten over each other, and who have caused each other unimaginable pain - they cannot stay away from each other, now that they are thrown together again - but they cannot move forward either, because there is so much baggage between them. They lash out, they comfort, they fight and love and are incapable of letting go.

I liked Julia, who is pretty unusual for a romance novel heroine - the separation is very much her fault - there is no misunderstanding, no 'Ross brought it on himself' here - but she is older and wiser and scarred by her past behavior as much as she scarred Ross. She's brave and complicated and makes mistakes and atones for them, and is a pretty wonderful heroine. But much as I like Julia, my heart belongs to Ross - a self-effacing explorer with a not so-hidden adrenaline-junkie streak, shaped by his loss but not made less, Ross is a rare romance novel hero who is just plain *good* and one I'd not mind taking home to mother :)

So yes, go read!

Regan Walker says

An Exciting Adventure in Uzbekistan

This is book 2 of the Victorian Silk trilogy and tells the exciting story of Lord Ross Carlisle, younger son of the Duke of Windemere, and friend to Mikahl Khanauri (now Connery), the hero in book 1. Ross is a world traveler and adventurer and now returns to Central Asia.

Though it is set in Bokhara, Uzbekistan in 1841, it begins in Constantinople where Ross learns that his brother has died and he is now the Marquess of Kilburn, his father's heir. And it is there we discover that Ross is actually married—to Juliet Cameron, daughter of a Scottish diplomat. They married young and Juliet left him six months later feeling that she could not handle London Society. When Juliet's mother asks Ross to go to Bokhara to find her son, Ian, he agrees, never knowing he will soon find his estranged wife.

Juliet is an adventurer in her own right, winning the respect of the Persians where she rules a people. Ross, a splendid hero everyone seems to love, admires her as she admires him. They seemed perfect for each other and Juliet's leaving a man she clearly loved was a bit mystifying. They do have a "big conversation" at the end but it wasn't that surprising as Putney dropped large hints as the story developed.

Putney has done much research for this story and she brings the culture of Central Asia to life. It is rich in historical detail—the sight, sounds, dress and food. The scene of the Uzbek equivalent of polo, played with the body of a dead goat, was thrilling. Lots of action here as we dive into the mystery surrounding Juliet's missing brother and Ross and Juliet together fight off the bad guys who are trying to kill them.

An exciting adventure and a dive into a truly exotic locale.

The Silk Trilogy:

Silk and Shadows

Silk and Secrets

Veils of Silk

Stella Riley says

I thoroughly enjoyed the first book in this series and like this one even better. The detailed descriptions of the various peoples and cultures that Ross and Juliet encounter on their way to Bokhara were fascinating. The book is well-written, the characters well-defined and the plot moves along nicely. Ross made a sexier hero than I'd expected [having met him first in book 1] and I'm looking forward to reading Ian's story in book 3.

Juanra Zuri says

Tengo un sentimiento ambivalente con respecto a este libro: Siempre me han gustado las novelas que tratan

sobre las segundas oportunidades, éste libro trata sobre eso, pero en este caso en concreto termina dejándome una extraña ambivalencia sobre si es lo mejor que les podría ocurrir a los personajes. No quiero escribir nada que desvele demasiado, pero, al leerlo, tienes una sensación de que todo parte de una situación no demasiado verosímil, y eso, lastra un poco toda la narración.

La construcción de los personajes es correcta, sin más, no son personajes que te hagan suspirar pero casi. Los diálogos son, quizás, lo peor. A veces parece que cuentan más los silencios que las palabras, interponiéndose en demasía los pensamientos de los personajes para... no sé exactamente para qué, por que lo único que consiguen es ralentizar todo. En definitiva, por una parte me ha gustado el escenario y algo de algunas escenas, y otras partes me han parecido innecesarias y de relleno. Así que la daría un aprobado por los pelos.

teri jones says

Silk & secrets succently written

Excellent story line. Very well written. Now one of my favorite authors. Book 2 even better than the first !!

L8blmr says

I have noticed that reviews for this book are all over the place and now I know why. The bad news for me was that the plot utilized the "Big Secret" and this one had been kept for 12 years! Warning - it is not revealed until the very last pages of the book.

Aside from that, what the book has to offer is a wealth of information about life and cultures in mid-19th century Persia (now Iran) and surrounding countries, a hero to die for, a very unusual heroine, humor, nasty villains, extreme sports of the day, and a daring rescue attempt. It is certainly not your usual historical romance about the *ton* and a young miss and/or her mother trying to snag a duke or viscount. When you get weary of that tried and true formula but don't want to leave the genre, give this a try. I would give this 3.5 stars but I just cannot abide when a secret of great weight is constantly referred to but not resolved until the very last opportunity.

etherealfire says

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