



Scarlet Angel

Elizabeth Thornton

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A CAPTIVE OF HIS DESIRES

As the granddaughter of a highly placed French diplomat Gabrielle de Brienne was a valuable political pawn. She was also the same Gabrielle who as a child had inadvertently taken from Cam Colburne, Duke of Dyson, the two people he loved best in the world. The handsome nobleman had vowed to make her pay for his suffering, and now the perfect opportunity presented itself. He would abduct this eighteen-year-old hoyden with the looks of an angel and the manners of a ragamuffin--and hold her prisoner in his Cornwall castle in order to manipulate her traitorous grandfather. For years he had dreamed of having her at his mercy, and now nothing less than her complete surrender would satisfy him...

A HOSTAGE TO HER HEART

Gabrielle could fence like a seasoned duellist, ride like the wind, and shoot like a musketeer. But nothing in her unconventional education had prepared her for dealing with the enigmatic Dyson--a man who infuriated her with his arrogant commands yet aroused her to hitherto unknown heights of passion with his demanding kisses and intimate caresses. As his captive, Gabrielle was not in a position to deny him. But she loathed herself for wanting his possession, and knew she must escape before her heart was forever lost...

Scarlet Angel Details

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Author : Elizabeth Thornton

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From Reader Review Scarlet Angel for online ebook

FeliciaKaren says

very heavy with history

Heidi says

The book was good for what it is, a bodice ripper, the plot was engaging and there was enough romance, drama, intrigue to keep me moving along through the book. There were quite a historic details which kept the story grounded. A fast, Rather Enjoyable Read :)

Misfit says

From the book description:

As the granddaughter of a highly placed French diplomat Gabrielle de Brienne was a valuable political pawn. She was also the same Gabrielle who as a child had inadvertently taken from Cam Colburne, Duke of Dyson, the two people he loved best in the world. The handsome nobleman had vowed to make her pay for his suffering, and now the perfect opportunity presented itself. He would abduct this eighteen-year-old hoyden with the looks of an angel and the manners of a ragamuffin--and hold her prisoner in his Cornwall castle in order to manipulate her traitorous grandfather. For years he had dreamed of having her at his mercy, and now nothing less than her complete surrender would satisfy him...

Ummm, not exactly. Yes, Cam lost his stepmother and younger sister in The Terror, and yes he's spent years hunting down the leaders of the tribunal that sentenced them to death, but Gabrielle was only a means to an end - kidnap her, hold her hostage to get her grandfather to spill military secrets.

What you end up with here is a heroine raised as a boy (she can wield a sword like a man, and even sun-bathes in the nude), who is kidnapped and taken to the hero's fortress in Cornwall, announces to the world that she's his "ward", and put in the care of the duke's kept mistress (!!). K...

Sorry, but this was a bit of a drag. I don't mind a wall-paperish romance when I'm in the mood for brain-candy, but this one has way too much politics and too many real-life characters that it's impossible to keep track of them all, even with notes and Google. I suspect only those really up to snuff on the Napoleonic era will be able to follow it all, but then those up to snuff will probably be rolling their eyes at times - some minor French political flunky addresses a duchess by her first name?

Those nitpicks aside, there just isn't enough romance and/or sexual chemistry between Cam and Gabrielle to carry this story. Once they finally hit the sack halfway through the book, that's pretty much where they stay for the rest of it. Every argument ends up in bed. Every single one of them.

If you're on a desert island and have nothing better to read, then go for it. Otherwise give it a pass. Extra star just 'cause I finished it.

An Odd1 says

* "Scarlet Angel" by Elizabeth Thornton starts with an angelic blonde girl and English teen lord both saved by her secret grandfather from the French Revolution. Why the Lord persecutes them, kidnaps her, and they both fall in love, she runs, really just seems an excuse for bedplay. Maybe I just wasn't in the mood.

Barbara James says

historical romance

Tabetha Waite says

I have to say, that whole this book was well written, and good aspects of history during the French Revolution were employed, it was not a page turner for me. It took me until then end of the book to like Cam, the Duke of Dyson, our 'hero', and...no thanks. Gabrielle, our heroine, who was first a hostage, then a reluctant wife, was equally bland and almost laughably naive in the common sense area.

Ilze says

Got about 2/3 of the way through this, but finally set it aside. The main characters didn't really engage me, especially the hero, who was actually rather despicable in what he did to the heroine. Yes, his stepmother and sister had been killed partly as a result of the heroine's actions as a seven-year-old child, but two wrongs have never made a right. The description of the early 19'th century political manoeuvring by Charles Fox, William Pitt, the Prince Regent, Fouché, Talleyrand and the others didn't really have much of a connection to the story and wasn't very interesting anyway.

Macaron says

This is the second time I've read it and I've enjoyed it just as much as the first. It is well-written. A well-woven plot. Some advice still: don't start this novel if you have things to do. It is too hard to put it down.

Su says

Language engaged is good.
Too much history.

Wild Rose says

Good story with a tedious but solid historical background.If you like dark,tormented heroes you may pick it up.

Ivy H says

What a delightful story ! After I got over the silliness of a hero whose first name was "Camille", the novel turned out to be very interesting. I got drawn into the political intrigues because the French Revolution is a favourite era of mine so I didn't mind it in the least.

The heroine was a tomboyish but beautiful little hoyden who was a shrew at times but she always fought back whenever she was at a disadvantage. The hero was a man whore with an evil, repellent mistress who got her comeuppance in the end after all the men she had been fucking dumped her ass. That part was fun. But the hero's adultery was annoying. He slept with the mistress for a few times after he married the heroine, but that was before he slept with the heroine. When he decided he wanted a real marriage with the heroine, he dumped the mistress and was never unfaithful thereafter. I did like the author's fictional portrayal of real life historical figures like Charles James Fox, Mr. Pitt the younger and the playwright Richard Brinsley Sheridan. I know a little about these figures but have never actually read anything that was biographical so I cannot say if the author's fictional adaptation was close to being accurate or not. However, what I can say is that she made these figures seem really compelling and very funny at times. Not many authors are able to do that.
