



A Stranger at Fellsworth

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Could losing everything be the best thing to happen to Annabelle Thorley?

In the fallout of her deceased father's financial ruin, Annabelle's prospects are looking bleak. Her fiancé has called off their betrothal, and now she remains at the mercy of her controlling and often cruel brother. Annabelle soon faces the fact that her only hope for a better life is to do the unthinkable and run away to Fellsworth, the home of her long-estranged aunt and uncle, where a teaching position awaits her. Working for a wage for the first time in her life forces Annabelle to adapt to often unpleasant situations as friendships and roles she's taken for granted are called into question.

Owen Locke is unswerving in his commitments. As a widower and father, he is fiercely protective of his only daughter. As an industrious gamekeeper, he is intent on keeping poachers at bay even though his ambition has always been to eventually purchase land that he can call his own. When a chance encounter introduces him to the lovely Annabelle Thorley, his steady life is shaken. For the first time since his wife's tragic death, Owen begins to dream of a second chance at love.

As Owen and Annabelle grow closer, ominous forces threaten the peace they thought they'd found. Poachers, mysterious strangers, and murderers converge at Fellsworth, forcing Annabelle and Owen to a test of fortitude and bravery to stop the shadow of the past from ruining their hopes for the future.

A Stranger at Fellsworth Details

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Author : Sarah E. Ladd

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From Reader Review A Stranger at Fellsworth for online ebook

Karen R says

Wow, for a Regency era tale, this had a faster pace with more action, and the romance was quite believable. It wasn't all balls, gowns and tea cups like some tend to be, although there was a little. Well, it wouldn't be Regency without it, right? It is probably one of my favorite books from this time period, ever!

Several characters were like something from a Dickens or Bronte sisters tale, sinister, corrupt, with societal prejudices, and others full of goodness and hope. An intricate plot kept it going, plus a tender romance for some sigh-worthy moments. Owen Locke is my new book crush.

Highly recommend to readers who enjoy a good Regency era story with some action. 5 stars!

(An e-copy was provided by NetGalley and the publisher. All opinions are my own.)

Joleen says

[Annabelle was unsure of her future with her brother. Their parents had both passed, and her brother's poor stewardship of their family's home and wealth had left him in debt. Thomas had decided she would marry Cecil Bartrell, a wealth, older,

Kav says

Sqqqqquuuueeeaaaalllll alert! A scrumptious Regency with sinister overtones and a despicable villain -- well, more than one -- to thwart! The kind of story that will curl your toes in rapturous delight while sending delicious shivers of trepidation up your spine.

As heroes go, Owen rates right up there. He might not be a traditional high society gentleman but he certainly has more gentlemanly manners than the men Annabelle has been associating with. And Owen has a strong sense of right and wrong, not to mention a protective streak where damsels in distress come into play - especially where Annabelle is concerned.

Annabelle's world has been turned upside down and hiding away at her uncle's school seems the safest place to be...only there are more mysteries in Surrey than in London and somehow Annabelle becomes entangled in them all.

Impeccable pacing -- subtle nuances that might just be clues are scattered throughout the story and I was furiously trying to put the pieces together before Owen and Annabelle did. Depth and detail in all the characters, not just the hero and heroine, bring this story to life in the manner of a classic BBC drama.

There's a glorious inspirational thread -- subtle but powerful all the same -- woven into the story. Though Annabelle's mother died when she was a young girl, she leaves a legacy of faith behind. A faith that sustains her daughter until she develops a faith of her own. There's a tangible link between Annabelle and her mother that is both bittersweet and joyful and it made me think about the kind of impact I can make on my loved ones. A great spiritual takeaway to ponder long after the last page has been read.

Exciting, uplifting -- full of adventure and romance -- a perfect mix for a Regency read.

Brittany says

A Stranger at Fellsworth was a very nicely written story. I felt transported back in time with the author's descriptions of life in early 1800's England. It was hard to see the way Annabelle was treated toward the beginning of the book. The actions of her brother and the men he associated with made for such a difficult situation for her.

The main characters, Annabelle and Owen, were very likable and the setting of Surrey was beautiful. There was a gentle romance that brewed just perfectly throughout the pages and an ongoing mystery that waited to be solved. I thought that the balance between the mystery, the romance, and the danger was very well done.

I received a complimentary copy of this book. All thoughts and opinions are my own.

You can read this review on my blog:
<https://brittreadsfiction.wordpress.c...>

Suzanne Leopold says

Annabelle Thorley's fiance has just called off her engagement. Scandal around her late father's financial activity made him bolt, leaving the future of her and her brother in doubt. London society in the early 1800's was not very flexible for young women. Her brother quickly arranges a marriage to a wealthy gentleman that she cannot stand to be around. Putting her happiness first, she flees her comfortable upper class life and joins her aunt and uncle in Fellsworth.

Her uncle oversees a boarding school where Annabelle find employment as a teacher's assistant. She provides for herself and no longer has staff at her disposal. She assimilates to living with other teachers in shared housing. Her biggest worry is being found by her brother and being forced into an unhappy arranged marriage.

This book is the third in a series, but it is not necessary to read the prior novels. It is a nice mix of historical fiction, romance and mystery. This was the first novel that I read by the author, Sarah E. Ladd.

Kathy * Bookworm Nation says

I enjoyed this one.

This may be the third book in the *Treasures of Surrey* trilogy, but it stood very well on its own. I haven't read the first two books yet, but didn't feel lost or anything. I enjoyed this one so much I do want to go back and read the previous books.

I enjoyed the unique regency storyline and setting. Annabelle is not your typical regency heroine and when faced with an unwanted marriage, she runs away to her estranged Uncle in Fellsworth. He runs a boarding school for underprivileged children and offers Annabelle a safe place to stay as well as a teaching position at the school. Annabelle is having to take care of herself for the first time in her life, thrown completely out of

her comfort zone she feels a bit lost. Owen Locke is the local gamekeeper and is still getting over the loss of his wife. He is drawn to Annabelle and finds himself wanting to get to know her better. I thought Annabelle and Owen had a sweet courtship and sweet romance.

I enjoyed the storytelling and light suspense of the novel. The setting was fun, haven't read much about boarding schools during the regency time, but think it adds a nice atmosphere for a story. I thought it was well written and the characters were unique and had their own voice. I'd recommend to fans of Julie Klassen.

Content

Romance: Mild, clean. Chaste kisses

Language: None

Violence: Mild. Talk of murder - nothing overly detailed. Mild fighting.

Religious: Mild

Source: Netgalley

Deanne Patterson says

Sarah E. Ladd is a go to author for me. I read her first series and absolutely loved it. Now I have only read this book in this series but it does well as a stand alone. I had no problem understanding what was going on. This book captured my attention right from the start. I really had a hard time putting it down to do other things. This is not your run of the mill regency where they sit around all day and sip tea, very little of that was done. I was intrigued all the way through this book and the ending, oh my, what an awesome finale. I'd say to Anabelle, watch your back. Who you think is your friend just may not be. Not everyone is who they seem to be! I really enjoyed this and now I need to read the first two books in the series.

Pub Date 16 May 2017

Thank you to NetGalley and Thomas Nelson for a review copy in exchange for my honest opinion.

Cara Putman says

This was a thoroughly enjoyable story. Romance laced with a mystery and set in Regency England. The heroine has to leave everything she's known in a rush and her world is upended. There is so much at stake as she learns someone was murdered at her home the night she left. She should be safe, but is she really? This is an author who only get stronger with each book. This one is on my keeper shelf.

Hannah says

I'll be reviewing online about 30 days ahead of publication. I have posted the link where the review will appear.

I really liked Locke...strong, solid guy with a good sense of protective instinct toward the ladies in his life. Initially skeptical about Annabelle's motive, but quickly coming to see her as a woman of character...the early scene with the pickpocket was a good show of both characters.

Annabelle was an enjoyable young lady. She knuckled down and got to work, despite having no prior experience and being used to a life of ease, and not stopping to whine.

The side thread of mystery was a nice bit to add to the story to keep it from being all about the romance. All in all, a pleasant read. I especially liked it that the romance was subdued and not all throbby and hiccup-y...it felt natural instead of sensationalized. The writing style is easy to read and the editing well done, which is always a huge plus for me.

Thanks to NetGalley and the publisher for a review copy.

Katie says

I liked this book, but I wasn't wowed by it. There was the traditional regency setting, boarding school, lady/servant relationship, mysterious woods, etc. Parts of it I really liked, but it was really easy for me to put down.

Thanks to Netgalley and publishers for a copy of this book. All opinions are my own.

Staci says

Sarah Ladd delivers a solid Regency Romance with a twist of mystery once again.

In this third book in the Treasures of Surrey series, Annabelle is living with her married brother in London and is forced to make a decision to marry a man she finds deplorable or take a risk and leave the life she has known.

The author pens believable and honorable characters in her novels. I continue to enjoy her writing style. A Stranger at Fellsworth is recommended for fans of Regency Romance.

My gratitude to the publisher, Thomas Nelson, for an advance reader copy of the novel. I was not required to write a review. The opinions expressed are my own.

Carrie Turansky says

Sarah Ladd's latest novel is one of her best. I enjoyed listening to the audio version. The narrator did a great job portraying the different characters and had a lovely British accent. Owen Lock was a charming and admirable hero. The story contained several twists and turns that kept me listening. The romance was sweet and progressed at a believable pace. Faith played only a minor role in the story, but it was clean and uplifting.

Susan Snodgrass says

I came across Sarah Ladd's first book, 'The Heiress of Winterwood' in the book store and the cover drew me in. It was a wonderful book and I had a new author to follow. Her covers continue to delight. As do her

words in each book since.

In the fallout of her deceased father's financial ruin, Annabelle's prospects are looking bleak. Her fiancé calls off their betrothal, which in itself is ruinous to her reputation and now she is at the mercy of her controlling brother who wants her to marry a man of his own choosing. Annabelle decides the only option open to her is to flee to Fellsworth, and fall upon the mercy of her estranged aunt and uncle whom she has not seen in a decade. Her life then takes a dramatic turn.

Owen Locke is a gamekeeper near Fellsworth, where his daughter is a student. He is intent on keeping poachers at bay even though he longs to be a landowner himself. Owen's wife's tragic death has left him shaken, but when he meets Annabelle Thorley, he thinks just maybe he has a second chance at love.

But all is not well at Fellsworth and the surrounding forest. Ominous forces threaten the peace that Owen and Annabelle have found. Poachers, mysterious strangers and murderers converge at the school, forcing Annabelle and Owen to a test of fortitude neither had expected.

Sarah Ladd has always populated her books with engaging characters that seem real to the reader. She has a way with creating emotions within these characters that engage the reader tremendously. Her Regency novels are rich with details of the era, even down to her descriptions of clothing. The emotions here are quite vivid, at times heart pulling and seem to jump off the page at the reader. If you are a Jane Austen fan, you will adore Ladd's books. Personally, I like Ladd's better!

Sarah Ladd also adds many faceted details to her settings as well. When she describes the forest, I feel as if I am actually there, breathing in the same air as her characters do. The descriptions amazed me, as they always do in Ladd's books. The plot is wonderful as well. She gives us a wonderful period drama, rich characters, with every attention to detail as well as great suspense. I had no clue who the culprit was until the very end. Totally unexpected.

I hated for this book to end for it captured my attention from the very first sentence and held it to the last. Now I look forward to her next book. I highly recommend this one.

*I was given a preview copy of this book by the publisher. My opinions are my own and honest.

Heidi Robbins (Heidi Reads...) says

There's a quality to Sarah Ladd's writing that is restful to me, even with the tumultuous circumstances of her characters. I so easily sink into the story and am immersed in the setting. I loved seeing Annabelle take her future in her own hands and sacrifice her comfortable lifestyle for her freedom and peace. Owen is a hero that grows on you with his quiet strength and I loved his connection to the forest and land. I enjoyed Annabelle's uncle and aunt as stabilizing characters in her new and very different life. There are elements of suspense as Annabelle is in hiding from her brother and Owen is investigating the network of poachers on the land he is responsible for. The pace steadily builds as relationships deepen, secrets are uncovered, and the complex dynamics of the lives of the characters are intertwined. Annabelle and Owen both grow in their faith as they turn to God for comfort and guidance. Highly recommend to fans of historical and Regency romance!

(I received a complimentary copy of the book; all opinions in this review are my own)

Julie Carpenter says

Suspense, danger, painting, family, servants, friends, heartache, woods, horses, loneliness, intrigue, prayers, rumors, peace, love, pistols, hunting, carriage rides, dresses, boarding school, jewelry, scandal, dashing hero, teaching, gardens, arranged marriages, murder, Autumn, property, inheritance and a little bit of kissing.

I love this author's books and I really enjoy her writing style, her characters, the suspense(some books have more suspense than others), the mystery, and how she wraps it all up and gives the reader closure. A Stranger at Fellsworth was a great read that had me turning pages to find out what all the mystery was. I would just think I had it figured out and then something would happen and it was different than what I was thinking. I did have my eye on one character in particular but there were several characters who helped put a shadow over the one I was watching. Which then had me trying to decide if I was going to be correct in my guess or not. I love when an author can stump me in my guessing.

Annabelle was a sweet and courageous heroine. I ached for her when she came up against so many struggles. She was trying to find her place and feel loved but her life was full of deceit and being told what to do(yes it's a regency novel so that is what life was like for women, so probably not a big surprise saying she didn't have a lot of say in her choices). Her compassion was a great addition to her character. Several instances in the story showed her true nature and helped endear her character to me more.

Owen has some mystery surrounding him from the very beginning and as you read further into the novel all the bits and pieces are revealed. I really enjoyed the stories about his youth and I liked watching how those stories and life lessons shaped him and affected his decisions as a man.

The chemistry and romance in the book was so well written. I loved all the moments between Annabelle and Owen. You know the video montages on YouTube, yeah I want one showcasing each moment of these two characters with some rain falling down and the right music playing in the background. I'd even vote for a period drama to be made of this novel. I enjoyed the whole of this book but I will say that my favorite part of the book was anytime these two shared page time together. Talk about some sweet and tender moments. Not every moment between them had a romantic feel to it. I loved watching their friendship and relationship grow. Sometimes a little look, sometimes just a conversation. The scene in the study, oh I loved it! There are a couple scenes in the study so you'll have to read to figure it out, but I'm sure you'll know which one I'm talking about!

The pacing of the book had moments where it was a little slower and some where the intensity picks up the pace but I really enjoyed the reflective and slower moments. I think it's a job well done when an author can write a book with balance between the intensity and the slower moments. This has me wanting to go back and reread her other books. I have been a huge fan of her writing since my first book by her. If you haven't read any and like regency novels I highly recommend picking one up and getting lost in the pages.

Content: Clean. Some fight scenes but nothing graphic, and a few sweet kisses. Some talk about finding peace through prayer but nothing preachy. I would recommend this book for YA and up, I'd let my teenage daughters read it.

I received a review copy from the author. All thoughts and opinions in the review are my own.

Happy Reading!!!