



The Renegade and the Rose

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On a shrouded moor in Culloden, Scotland, Keegan MacLeod watched his brothers die by the sword of the English. When only his father and he remained standing, Keegan vowed to see his father to safety or die trying. But at the promise of an English lord, Keegan dropped his broadsword-- only to watch his father be tortured to death.

As for himself, he is awaiting hanging in London. But by a twist of fate he escapes and is on his way back to Scotland. But before he leaves, he intends to kill Lord Foxworth Morgan for his deceit and cruelty. Poor Lady Zoe Morgan is a weak and frail thing. Lucky for her she has Miss Phelps, her nurse and companion to take care of her. But when a wild Scot bursts through the window not even Miss Phelps can save her.

Kidnapped by Keegan, Zoe must live long enough to warn her brother Fox who might possibly be in Scotland. Saddled with the constantly complaining Lady Zoe, Keegan questions his judgement in kidnapping her in the first place. But she is the bait that will lead him to her brother. As their adventures progress, Keegan and Zoe change their opinions of each other even as she continually tries to escape. As enemies become allies, their mutual attraction blossoms into passionate love.

The Renegade and the Rose Details

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From Reader Review The Renegade and the Rose for online ebook

Erin *Proud Book Hoarder* says

Since I enjoyed her last book so much, I was eager to try more of Dorsey. I hoped her trademark sense of humor would be present in this book as well - it was !. Story wise it's a little similar to the Sea Fires in that the romantic interest is kidnapped, but this time for revenge. A classic scenario in romance stories, the background to this one is breathtakingly depressing, making you feel for MacLeod on multiple levels. It was easy to fall in love with both characters, including the heroine Zoe, who made me chuckle throughout the entire thing. While in Sea Fires the humor rested on a girl obsessed with zoology and science, here Zoe is a hypochondriac always convinced she's on her death's bed.

Twists abound as MacLeod must get his captive back to Scotland without getting captured and subsequently hanged, which isn't easy when his captive wants him to get caught at first. A sweet woman who's convinced of her brother's innocence, she can't help but of course fall in love with the dark warrior eventually. The ending dishes out a healthy climax, rich in suspense and the ending of how they save themselves is rather unique, if not slightly depressing for the culture MacLeod worked so hard to preserve.

The story moves swiftly and never lost my interest, demanding my attention through the complicated tale as the kidnapping reaches multiple levels. Dorsey's writing is easy to follow and addictingly smooth, always have an unusual twist in her books that most romances are devoid of. Her humor is contagious and I'm anxious to read more of her work. Sexual tension is strong in several scenes, with the payout being blissfully sweet. The Renegade and the Rose focuses primarily on story and less on erotica, but there's enough there to satisfy readers itching for mutual lust and deeper love.

I enjoyed Sea Fire a little more as the humor was heavier there and the plot more bizarre, but this second offering of Dorsey's work was a pleasure as well. While a little melodramatic at times, it's still a fun romance read that just doesn't stick out as much as it could have. The first in a trilogy.

Yolonda says

Really good book. I enjoyed it and I'm starting the next one. I hope it is as good.

LadyCalico says

I usually say that nothing ruins a romance like an obnoxious heroine--but that is so not true when the author makes the heroine obnoxious on purpose, and plays her for laughs. The spoiled, immature, whiney, hypochondriac Zoe adds a refreshing and original touch to this historic romance, and gives the author all kinds of opportunity for character development as the hardships of life on the road gradually transforms her into a human being. The only thing I didn't like was the hero seemed to fall in love, or lust, too soon before the transformation took place--expressing lustful feelings for Zoe while she is still a whining childish brat was a bit too pukey to take.

Danielles says

Just a good read,....

I liked the end,.....

Zoe was a soft girl, and her Keegan too, but that was oke for me,.....

Regan Walker says

4 and 1/2 Stars! Well Written Post Culloden Love Story Between a Scottish Warrior and an English Lady

This book was first published as *The Renegade and the Rose* and is now book one in *The Renegade, Rebel and Rogue* trilogy that features three heroes, a Scot, an Irishman and an Englishman, who cross paths on Drummoissie Moor at the battle of Culloden in Scotland in 1746 when the Scots knew a defeat that would forever scar their homeland.

This first story tells of Keegan MacLeod whose father summoned him home to stand with his three brothers at Culloden in the hopes of restoring a Stuart to the throne. But the battle of Culloden was lost from the beginning and Keegan's brothers are killed. Sheltering his wounded father, Keegan hands over his sword when British officer Foxworth Morgan assures him that his father will be spared. But, instead, his father is tortured and killed and Keegan is jailed and sentenced to hang. Keegan uses his time in goal to nurture his hatred of the Englishman who denied him and his father a warrior's death.

With the help of his French valet, Keegan escapes from prison, and decides to take hostage Lady Zoe Morgan, the sister of Foxworth Morgan. Zoe has lived the life of an invalid since a childhood illness, convinced by her nurse she is weak and frail. She is shocked when the Scot takes her hostage and leaves word for her brother to come for her in Scotland.

As they begin their arduous journey north, it appears to Keegan that despite her constant haranguing about her ill health (and, yes, that was annoying), the girl he has taken hostage is quite braw. So much so, she is able to escape Keegan, but then falls into the hands of a notorious smuggler who takes Keegan captive as well, hoping for a large ransom for both the girl and the Scot when he delivers them to the English in Scotland.

Well written and cleverly done, Dorsey was able to make me believe Keegan could fall in love with an Englishwoman even after he lost his family to the cruel English at Culloden. And she also made me feel Keegan's pain at losing the castle that had been the seat of the MacLeods for centuries. Zoe is a woman who changes much once she is free from those who would coddle her, thriving on the adventures she and Keegan have. She encourages the Scot to look to the future and not to the past.

I found the story of Keegan and his clan moving and thought Dorsey did an excellent job of portraying it. I intend to read the rest in the series (especially the Irish one that comes next!). I recommend this one.

L. (Vacation All I Ever Wanted) says

Losing everything and everyone at Culloden, watered-down Highlander Keegan MacLeod swears vengeance against English Lord Sequel Bait. In an effort to draw his enemy out, Keegan kidnaps Lady Zoe Morgan, Lord Sequel Bait's valetudinarian sister.

The chemistry between the H/h is adequate and the pacing is fairly well. There's a touch of mysticism in the story that I believe is further explored in the other books. Maybe I'll get around to reading them, maybe I won't.

Annery says

This was a good read and one I would have been drooling over during my Historical/Regency craze so I rated it accordingly ... LOL ...

Keegan is a man with no particular political ideals who is reluctantly thrust into the battle of Culloden and comes out worse for wear but also changed by the loss he experiences and with a plan for revenge & redemption which of course goes awry in the person of Zoe Morgan.

Zoe is that girl you want to hate but can't help but love. She's a hypochondriac with a sense of humor about her impending demise and after a while you find yourself laughing and cheering her gumption.

The romance is a bit of a slow burn but once it gets going oh how sweet it is! There are no missish recriminations or misunderstandings. The MCs face some dire situations and come through with a believable HEA.

Recommended ;-)

Monique Takens says

Ik heb de nederlandstalige versie gelezen (Candlelight Historische roman 837 / De rebel en de roos). Dit verhaal heeft een zeer originele heldin in de zogenaamd op sterven na dode Zoe Morgan . Verder valt er eigenlijk niet zo veel bijzonders over te melden .Ik vind het twee en een halve ster waard .
