



The Velvet Promise

Jude Deveraux

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All of England rejoiced on her wedding day. But Judith vowed that her husband would get only what he took from her!

At the flower-bedecked altar, the first touch of their hands ignited an all-consuming passion. Gavin Montgomery looked deep into her golden eyes and burned with desire for her...but his heart had been pledged to another.

Humiliated and alone in a strange castle, Judith resolved to hate this husband who took her body, but rejected her love...never admitting her fear of losing him.

But destiny held another fate for Judith...a fate that would keep at last...*The Velvet Promise*.

The Velvet Promise Details

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From Reader Review The Velvet Promise for online ebook

♥Katie says

Romance is not a genre I usually read-- in fact before this book, I'd only read two romance novels. So, the Romance section in the bookstore is one I've usually avoided. I have no idea why now.... this book was gripping! It has been awhile since I have read a book I couldn't put down and couldn't wait to pick up again to see what happens next!

The characters are wonderfully crafted. I have read others reviews and I have to say-- I have no problem with Gavin. I enjoyed his character immensely. His affections for the conniving Alice are a classic 'love is blind' theme until he 'sees' the real version of Alice. I had no qualms with his rape of Judith on their wedding night. I know a lot of people do... but, in the 16th century this was common. You cannot look at this with modern ideals. Women back then were their husband's property and he could do whatever he wanted with her. It's just the way it was. But,... he grows up and regrets his rape of her.

I loved the dialogue between Judith and Gavin-- so passionate is their love/hate relationship! Judith is a strong willed woman, and it is easy to sympathize with her as Gavin mistreats her.

Gavin's brothers were all likeable as well. To me, especially Stephen and Raine. Stephen seemed so much more mature than Gavin even though he is younger. Raine just seems like a sweet, humorous guy. I look forward to reading about them in the next books in the series.

In all, this book has made me reconsider my avoidance of Romance novels. This one is so good, it earned 5 stars (rare for me) and a place on my favorites shelf.

Highly recommended!

Zoe says

Because it's such a "classic", I really thought about how I feel about this book. If so many people have loved it, what is it wrong with me that I find it boring?

Maybe it is a phase thing, recently I have found most of the reads to be kind of blah. But let me say this: a book that has the lead characters having great sex (and marital rape no less) before the book hit 18%, while the hero was in love with another woman and our heroine fell in and out of love with the hero all within 2 days. What do I have to go on?

No rating because I give up. Maybe it is a great story, maybe it is a classic. Right now I have lost patience with both Gavin and what's her name (I forgot already). And I just read my last page of the book 10 minutes ago.

Linda Sims says

UNREDEEMABLE MALE LEAD

original review

This is my very first Deveraux and I definitely had a hard time coming up with the rating. Part of me feels like I should give it a 4, because the writing is certainly far superior to other things I've given 3's to. But in the last few chapters the hero lost the book that extra gold star.

From some of the reviews I've read, I expected to have problems with the hero because he was violent. Actually in the world of medieval romance, I didn't find him too bad. (view spoiler)

Most of my problem was with Gavin's attitude. He acts like a class A jerk a lot of the time because he's very jealous (Judith is extremely beautiful and every man who sees her wants her). That's rather par for the course though in many romances. My problem was his attitude when it came to that crazy ex-lover of his that everyone but him could see through. It was because of that witch that their wedding night went awry. He was thrilled when he saw how beautiful Judith was and they were both making googly eyes at each other until Alice (the ex) turns up and cries crocodile tears while attempting a fake suicide. Judith witnesses this and is understandably not happy to hear her brand new husband swearing undying love to another woman on their wedding day. Gavin handles this by slapping Judith for daring to be angry and say something unkind about the sweet homewrecker Alice. Then he ends up raping Judith that night because she won't just 'get over it already' and go back to being the warm, attentive wife she was before she witnessed that scene with Alice. He reminded me more of a spoiled, petulant child than a true alpha hero. Plus, he's not the sharpest tool in the shed.

Gavin never actually cheats with Lady Alice (there is a kiss, which she initiated), but he keeps her on a pedestal as this vision of how a real lady should behave. He does quickly realize he desires Judith more than he ever desired Alice. Thankfully, he doesn't seem to really pine after her either or I'd have given up. I don't think he ever loved Alice to begin with. He's all about Judith from day one. It's "Lady" Alice who continues to seek him out. Problem is, he never seems to get it that she's trying to cause trouble in his marriage and is the #1 reason the two of them are often at odds. He always blames Judith for being unreasonable, shrewish, and jealous. He thinks she should have compassion for Alice since she had to go through the horrible devastation of losing him :P Dude really likes the idea that this woman is so hopelessly in love with him that she'll go to crazy lengths to cause trouble. His ego was only rivaled by his stupidity. Up to the very last chapter, he still couldn't believe that gentle, demure Alice would actually try to harm his wife. Surely she was just misunderstood.

However, despite my issues with the hero, the writing was good and the story engaging. I really liked Gavin's brothers who seemed to have inherited all the brains in the family. I'm holding out hope that their stories will be better.

Lucy Qhuay says

This book was too heavy for me!!! -.-

First, the "hero" is a total dick, who is obsessed with some evil blonde slut and doesn't recognize that he is her puppet. He fails to recognize the evil in the bitch and totally mistreats the heroine, his wife, because of said slut.

The heroine just wants his love and approval, which he constantly denies.

She is physically and psychologically abused. She ends up pregnant and risks her life and the life of her unborn child to save him, going to the house of some psycho weirdo that holds him hostage.

The hero thinks that the heroine and the weirdo are lovers and that the child she is carrying is not his.

He treats her badly, once again but as he desires her body, that's ok.

Then, I don't know why, he decides that he loves his wife and doesn't care about the blonde slut. Blonde slut plots to destroy the poor heroine and she ends up losing her unborn child!

At this point, I'm completely out of my mind! -.-'

The loss of the child was the last straw! Were I the heroine, I would happily impale the sucker and beat the blonde bitch until her face was goo! -.-'

Lady Vigilante (Feifei) says

[Strike one: Slaps and rapes the heroine on their wedding night

Stri

Megzy says

I refuse to finish reading ANY story that involves rape, abuse, or involuntary sexual servitude by the "so called hero" as an erotic act. Even if you have a physical reaction to the abuse, the emotional damage that results is something you never get over. You do not fall in love with your rapist, and you certainly cannot have a healthy relationship with your rapist, and suggesting otherwise is demeaning to sexual abuse victims AND irresponsible.

KatLynne says

[a scene of forc

***TANYA* says**

I wanted to scream and shout at Gavin for being so dense and stupid, he was not deserving of Judith. Perhaps I was suppose to swoon over this "love story" but I hated the back and forth between them.

Hanife says

Bu yorum ayn? zamanda Romancekolikte yay?nlanm??t?r.

This review also shared in Romansholic.

English Review;

Story begun with besotted hero knowing his lover soon to be marry.

That shrew girl is like an actress and fool him that she marry by force.

Our besotted hero believes her. But he asked for a marriage an earl daughter.

So hero accept. He think with him marrying too he could accept the fact his lover soon to be marry. Wedding took place and our hero was surprised to see such a lovely wife he had. He fan over her trough to feast and even let himself with his wife to escape for a minute from feast.

But this precious moment interrupted by heroines father. He strike her in front of her husband because she made laughed him by all the crowd for she let her affection seen by everyone. But hero is most angry and hit father-by-in-law. And say him he will never touch what is his. Heroine come to the conclusion that our hero is never strike a women. He fears such act because her mother abused by her father all the years.

But this lovely moment interrupted again by Alice. Ex-lover to our hero. She is greedy. She must have all men. And she cry for he couldn't ever love her anymore. Even act false suicide. Our fool hero believe her and take oath what she want. He shan't love anyone but her. And our heroine watch the scene.

When Alice is off she come to through to tree with claps her hand. Accuse her husband for treacherous word he spoke of. But that went really wrong, hero accuse the women then strike her. Heroine is make an oath. She will never willingly give anything other than he take. Hero say she will do what he says. And she must prepare this night. Then he took of. Etc. etc. etc. story continue like this.

I really love this book :) Even when screaming for anger or ate my nails for the distress! :) This book make feel lot of thing. Anger, happiness, sadness... I sad about the Joceline and his lover. This extra story made me cry. Because they haven't united, she suicide when learn her lover trow deep inside the hole for the reason he save her. And then again I'm curious about the new book. Lets look what happens Stephen with the new bride of him!

Türkçe Yorumum;

Kitaba bay?ld?m. Beni sinirden patlatt? hop oturtup kald?rtt? ama kendini bana sevdirdi! Hem a?latt?rd? hem güldürdü :)

Hikayemiz o?lumuz olan Gavin'in gidip cadoloz bir kad?n? sevmesi kalbini ona vermesi ve bu cadolozun gözünü aç olmas?ndan adam?n evlenme teklifini geri çevirip zengin bir av aramas?n?n sonuç vermesiyle ba?l?yor. O?lan?m?z bunu ö?renince k?z?yor ama k?z öyle bir oynuyor ki of adam kar??s?nda duram?yor. 2 y?ld?rda sevgililer. K?z adam? bakire diye kand?rm?? birde. Neler neler.

Efenim o?lan?m?z gerçe?i ne kadar erken kabul edersen o kadar iyi diye dü?ünerek ona teklif edilen k?zla evlenmeyi kabul ediyor ama ta ki evlenece?i güne kadar k?z? görmüyor. Görüncede güzelli?i taraf?ndan ba?? dönüyor. K?za çok iyi davran?yor ta ki bizim k?z bahçede kocas?yla eski sevgilisini görene kadar. Cadoloz kad?n adama öyle bir oynuyor ki hatta onun ba?kas?yla evlendi?inin ve bir daha onu sevmeyece?inin verdi?i ac?yla yalandan intihara kalk???yor. O?lan?m?zda onun dedi?ini yap?p yemin ediyor ondan ba?kas?n? sevmeyece?ine.

Cadoloz gittikten sonra bizim k?z ortaya ç?k?yor alk??layarak. K?z?n performans?na adam?n laflar?na yorum yap?yor. K?z için söyledi?i laflar yüzünden kocas? tokat at?yor ona. K?zda yemin ediyor ona zorla alaca?? d???nda istekli olarak bir ?ey vermeyece?ine. Adamda onun kar?s? oldu?unu istedi?ini istedi?i yerde istedi?i ?ekilde yapaca??n?. Ak?am için haz?rlanmas?n? söylüyor derken evlendiklerinden iki gün sonra çiftimiz evlerinin yolunu al?yorlar. O?lan k?z?n bu isteksizli?ini cezayla giderebilece?ini sanarak, yeni gelini evinde b?rak?p çekip gidiyor. Birkaç gün sonra k?z?m?z?n kald??? kaleye o?lan?m?z?n 3 karde?inden ortancas? geliyor. Bir avda yaralanm??.

O?lan?m?z 1 hafta ormanlarda, ya???l? havada k?z?m?za ders vermek ad?na kal?rken eve gitti?inde kollar?na ko?up merhamet dilenece?ine ba?? dik bir e? buluyor. E birde karde? O?lan?m?z acayip

k?skanç bir karakter. Erkek karde?in orda olmas? iç güdülerini uyandırm??t?r. Olmad?k yerde i?ler arar. Zaten karde?te bir iki güne yollan?r gider. Evli çift tuhaf bir durumda kalm??t?r. Aradan bir süre geçer. – en fazla bir ay – K?z?n ailesinden haber gelir. Babas? öldürülmü?, anneside rehine tutulmu?. O?lan?m?z i?e el atar. Hemen gider kaleyi ku?at?r. Baya bir süre sonra k?za kocas?n?n ele geçirildi?i haberi gelir. K?z art?k eli kolu ba?l? kalamayacakt?r. Zaten kocas? ve annesini kaç?ran?n tek istedi?i k?z? ele geçirmektir.

Hemen kaleye giderler ve adam?n hafif salakl???ndan ifade etmeye çal???rlar. Ama bu adam?n vekili pek kurnazd?r. K?zdan ba?tan ?üphelenmi?tir. K?z buradaki günlerinin say?l? oldu?unu bildi?inden hemen i?lere geri?ir. Önce kocas?n? bulur. Zavall? Gavin'i bir çukura atm??lard?r. Berbat bir durumdad?r. Adama gizli ?ekilde yemek sa?larlar. Sa?l??? kaç???na uygun durumda olmal?d?r. Yaln?z bu arada vekil bizim kötü adam?n beynini y?kar ve k?z? s?namaya çal???rlar. Kocas?n? yemek masas?na o peri?an halde getirip kad?n?n tepkisini ölçerler. Tabi k?z kocas?ndan nefret ediyor gibi davranmak durumundad?r. Bu yüzden kocas?n?n yüzüne ?arap f?rlat?r.

Ama Gavin bu bir oyun de?ilde ki?isel olarak alg?lar. Bu arada k?z?m?z allem eder kalem eder bizim o?lan?n temizlenmesi, tra? olmas?n? sa?lar. Odada art?k daha fazla duramayaca???ndan iznini ister ve odas?na çekilirken birden biri onu kö?eye çekip bo?az?na b?çak dayam??t?r. K?z?m?z ilk ba?ta bu ki?inin kimli?i konusunda emin olmasada sonra bu adam Gavin'in karde?i ç?kar. Onlar? kurtarmaya gelmi?lerdir. Yaln?z Gavin'in karde?i Stephan k?z?n masumiyetine inanmaz. K?z buraya kocas?n? kurtarmaya geldi?ini, kendi ve çocuuunun can?n? ortaya att???n? söyler.

Sonuçta Stephan inan?r ve yak?nda olacak kurtarma için haz?r olmas?n? söyler. K?z?m?z ertesi gün gizlice kocas?n? görmeye çal???r ama biri kimli?ini tan?m?? ve hemen vekile haber vermi?tir. Vekil ise k?zla bir pazarl??a giri?ir. Judith ona toprak vericektir. Adamda kar??l???nda onlar?n kurtulmas?na yard?mc? olaca???n? söyler. Judith adama ayn? zaman hamile oldu?unuda bildirir. Bu konu?may? vekilin yata???n?n alt?nda saklanan casus direkt bizim salak sand???m?z ama yeri geldi?inde ac?mas?z bir psikopata dönü?en adama haber verir. Vekil ilk i? kötü adam?n odas?na transfer olmu?tur. K?z?m?zda oda hapsine. Ertesi gün k?z kötü adam?n odas?na götürülür. Kötü adam?m?z ona bütün gece adam? ne hale getirdi?i gösterir. K?z fenala??r. Ama ayakta durabilmi?tir.

Ama kötü adam?m?z?n i?kenceleri bitmez. S?ra Gavin'e gelmi?tir. K?z?m?z ç?ld?rm?? gibi hareket eder ama kötü adam uslu olmas?n? yoksa de?erli kocas?n?n bunu can?yla ödeyece?ini söyler. K?z? kocas?n?n önünde taciz eder, k?yafetlerini soyar. En sonunda elini k?z?n karn?na getirerek onun çocuuuna hamile oldu?unu söyler. Ondan sonra Gavin üzerindeki i?kenceye giri?irken k?z?m?z adam? öldürür. Gavin hemen i?leri ele alm??t?r. K?z hemen üstüne bir ?ey al?r. O arada kap? aç?lm?? ve kap?da Stephan belirmi?tir. Hemen oradan ç?kar?rlar. Olay mahalinden uzakta bir yerde kamp yaparlar. Gavin Judith ile tek kelime bile konu?muyor. Çocuuun babas?n?n kimli?ini sorgulam?yordur. Judith ise gurur yüzünden ne yalvar?r ne de aç?klama yapar. Kral?n emri dolay?s?yla saraya gitmeleri laz?md?r. Hep beraber yolculu?a ç?karlar.

O arada hikaye o?lan?m?z?n metresine geçiyor Metres evlenmi? ama kocas?n? avucunda oynataca?? planlar? hayal olmu?tur. Adam k?z?n kar??t?rd??? her halattan haberdard?r. K?z?m?z?n çeyiz diye yeni evine getirdi?i sevgililerden bir kaç?n? katletmi?tir bile. En sonuncusu olan saf müzisyenimizdir. Bir gün k?z?n odas?ndan ç?kt?ktan bir süre sonra Kont kar??s?na ç?kar. Kellesinin gidece?inden korkan adam Kontun onu odas?na ça??rmas?yla dahada korkmu?tur. Ama Kont ona ölesiye dövülmü? bir kad?n cesedinden kurtulmas?n? ister. Kar??l???ndada paras?n? verir. Bu kad?n Kontun metresidir. Genç müzisyen k?z? odas?na götürür. Yar?n gömecektir. Ama ke?feder ki k?z zorda olsa ya??yordur. Orada odas?nda k?za bakar, birbirlerine a??k olurlar. Ama durum ?u ki bizim o?lan tam bir çapk?nd?r eskiden.

Uzun zamand?r onunla ilgilenmedi?i için ?ikayetçi han?mlar onun ilgisini neyin çekti?ini ö?renmek için

odas?n? kar??t?r?p metresi bulduklar?nda k?z? Kont'a verirler. Müzisyende yakalan?p bir çukura at?l?r. K?z?m?z ise o çukurda bir insan?n bir gün bile ya?ayamayaca??n?, kendisininde a?k? olmadan hayatta kalamayaca??n? bildi?inden can?na k?yar. Gecenin körü müzisyen biri taraf?ndan kurtulur. Oradan kaçmas? istenir. Ama müzisyen sevdi?i olmadan kaçmaz. Kötü haber verilip, sevdi?inin mezar? gösterilir. Müzisyende eline k?l?ç ald??? gibi Kont'u öldürür. Böylece bayan akrep olan Alice serbest kal?p as?l karakterimize kabuslar ya?atmaya ba?lar.

Çiftimiz saraya yeni gelmi?tir. Alice kar??lar?na ç?kt???nda Judith çok bozulur. Ortamdan uzakla??r. Kocas?n?n ba?ka kad?na olan ilgisini - kendi dü?üncesi, gerçekler elbette öyle de?il - görmeye dayanamayaca??ndan ortamdan kaçır. Alice her f?rsatta Gavin'e ula?maya çal???yordur. Bir gün Gavin'e avdayken mesaj gelir. Karde?i taraf?ndan ça??r?l?yordur ve kar?s?na bunu söylememelidir. Gavin oraya gidince bu ki?inin Alice oldu?unu görür ve k?za onu sevmedi?ini, kar?s?n? sevdi?ini, her ?eyin bitti?ini söyler. Ama Alice bu anlar m? hiç! Gavin'in karde?ini yollarken yapt??? kutlamadaki sarho? durumundan faydalan?r.

O?lumuz ilk bo? buldu?u yata?a konmu?tur. Alice'te yan?na. Judith'e bir mesaj uçurtulmas?nada sebebiyet verdimi hah buyurun cenaze namaz?n Judith sahne kar??s?nda ?ok olmu?tur. O kadar ki merdivenleri görmez ve pat?r kütür dü?tü?ü gibi bütün bebek umutlar?n?da kaybeder. Acil bir ?ekilde odas?na ç?kart?l?r ve bebe?i ölü do?ar. Kocas?yla ne konu?ur, nede onun giri?imlerine kar??l?k verir. Gavin hala Alice'i savunuyordur. O öyle bir ?ey yapmaz diye! Gerçekler ortaya ç?k?nca da bir ?ey yapmad? ya neyse.

K?z?m?z bir hafta yatakta kald?ktan sonra krala gider ve bo?anmak istedi?ini söyler. Kral hemen acele etmez ve bunu Gavin'e bildirir. Gavinde sinir küpü bir ?ekilde Judith'e patlar ama sonuç de?i?mez. Sarayda herkes Gavin'e bir kar?s?na bile mukayet olam?yor diye gülüyordur. Ama genç adam sesini ç?karmaz. Sanki bekarm??lar gibi genç kad?nlar Gavin'e erkekler ise Judith'e kur yapmaktad?rlar. ?ki taraf?nda k?skançl?k içlerini için için yemektir. Bir gün k?z hayranlardan biriyle bütün gününü ormanda gezerek geçirir. Adam k?zdan bir öpücük çalar. Ama sahneye Gavin'in dalmas? ve bu öpücük çald???na pi?man olacak adam? yere çalmas? tamamen kriz yarat?r. Gavin k?z? al?r oradan götürür. Judith sadece ona aittir ve öyle kalacakt?r tipinde bir tirat yapar.

Akabinde bu topraklardan ayr?l?p evlerine dönerler. Bizim k?z? öpen adam asl?nda iyili?ini isteyen biridir. Alice'inde ne mal oldu?unu bildi?inden onlar? takip eder. Yolculukta Judith kaç?r?l?r. Kaç?ran bu adam? bay?lt?rlar ve geride b?rak?rlar. K?z? kimin kaç?rd???n? söylemesi için. Gavin ö?renir ö?renmez hemen kaleye gider. Alice'te k?z? bir kuleye götürüp k?z?n yüzüne k?zm?? ya? gibi bir ?ey f?rlat?p güzelli?ini yok etmeye çal???maktad?r. O arada kap? k?r?l?r. Gavin ve o sava?ç? odaya girer. Alice k?z? b?rakmamaya yeminlidir. Uçuruma gittikçe yakla??r k?z?la beraber. O arada ilgisini onu seven dad?s? da??t?r. Kad?n uçurumdan a?a?? dü?mesiyle bizim alicenin surat?nada k?zg?n ya? gelir mi? Judith kocas?na ko?ar Böylede bir mutlu son olur. Bol entrika söz konusu anlayaca??n?z. Baya anlatt?m umar?m kitab? benim kadar be?enmi?sinizdir.Özetle süper kitap Jude Deveraux'un yaz?m?n? ilk kitaptan daha iyi anlad?m bu kitapta ve bay?ld?m.

Nicis says

3.5

«En su mayoría, los hombres piensan que nada peor puede ocurrirle a una mujer que verse sin la compañía

de un hombre.»

Reseña: <http://miotrerealidadetinta.blogspot....>

Ps. Sí, lo había leído antes, en 2014 junto con 1000 otros libros similares xD

Stacey is Sassy says

Where Sassy's love for historical romance began...

*Once upon a time, a long time ago, there was a young girl called Stacey. On a day like any other, she was walking through her local shopping centre doing a little browsing. What does she see before her, but a magical *BARGAIN BIN* announcing *4 PAPERBACKS FOR \$10.00*. Well, Stacey, she was a remarkably canny young lady and had saved all her spare dollars for a day like that day. She looked into the barrel and her eyes lit up. Gleaming, silky covers tempted her senses. She must look, touch, feel and read...*

...and that was Stacey's first introduction to sexy books and the beginning of her love of historical romance.

Wow, I can't believe that was 28 years ago. I can still remember my gratitude afterwards, that *Bookworld* had those books on sale that day. At 16, there was no way in hell I would have stood in the romance section and checked out what was what. My love for *Jude Deveraux* and *Julie Garwood* started with that discount book bin.

The Velvet Series was one of my most re-read historical romance series when I was younger. *Highland Velvet* is my very favourite (Bronwyn, the heroine, had dark curly hair like I did at the time) but *The Velvet Promise* was a close second. The first time I read *The Velvet Promise*, I admit that I found it a little hard to take. As time went on and I matured, I flipped and flopped between loving it and absolutely hating it.

Gavin Montgomery, the eldest of the four boys is an absolute DOUCHEWAFFLE!! If any reader can get through the book without wanting to kick him in the shins at least once, I'll eat my hat. I mean, the guy went to his wedding day loving another woman, for goodness sake. That still makes my blood boil!! Especially considering the insipid, simpering, nasty Alice was not a woman worthy of love.

Anyways, Judith, well she's the kind of heroine that every historical romance heroine should aspire to be. She's strong, courageous, beautiful and kind. The nicest thing (OR STUPIDEST BLOODY THING) she did was forgiving Gavin and his stupidity. She was young and inexperienced though, and their physical attraction made it hard for her to push him away.

Honestly, there are some VERY hard things to deal with in this story and some readers would probably run for the hills in a few scenes. (view spoiler)

But, I am a devoted fan, and seeing as I've read it in Paperback and read it on my kindle, it was time to experience the audiobook. Last year I looked it up and listened to a sample and was a little shocked that it was an American narrator. I found it strange that they didn't use an English one, to be honest. I decided to give it another go and I'm happy to say that I enjoyed it. If I had one issue, it was probably that Gavin's "voice" could at times get a little nasally.

If you're looking for a step back in time (both historical and an 80's bodice ripper) *The Velvet Promise* is a

great example. I am definitely going on with *Highland Velvet*. I can't wait to see the fiery Bronwyn conquer Stephen Montgomery.

Tasha says

First, I struggle to give this two stars because the hero rapes the heroine, really, can you do that in a romance where they still end up together? Then there is "the other" women aspect. Which I know for the formula you have to have something that causes a riff and a way for them to come back together but I'm never a fan of it being another woman. Then, back to the rape thing, I know he was suckered by the other woman and didn't really know about the "bedding of a virgin" but really - rather she is a virgin or not it's not ok to rape her. And the rape isn't an assumption on my part, it's talked about in the book by both characters and they never resolve it w/a discussion or anything. It's just kind of swept under the rug and they live happily ever after (eventually). How can anyone live happily ever after w/a man who raped her? What does that say about his character? I really like Deveraux but I wasn't feeling this book at all. Sorry!

Maria Sanigan says

This is what I want with Miss Jude Deveraux's novels. At first, a reader would think that it's cliché and nothing interesting or new will come out of it. At first you'll extremely want to skip pages only to run from scenes you wouldn't like. Fortunately, as the story goes, you'll be amazed at how interesting and unique the masterpiece really is. It's a combination of love, passion, fun, with a great sense of humor, and adventure as well.

Plus, it really is cute to have a stone-hearted man sing a song to his wife to soothe her terrified heart. And is it weird to actually smile while reading a whole chapter of Gavin Montgomery's sweetness? I swear I smiled at the single thought of him and it's cute how Gavin teased her. It's really embarrassing to say this but I think my eyes were heart-shaped as I read this [Haha!].

However, for a story to be as effective and really magical and perfect as this, a reader should realize that it is not all the time that we will experience fun and sweetness. Of course there will be conflicts along the way. There were really great and disastrous tragedies that happened and I got to tell you that it was so real that you can actually see it happening in front of you.

Then again, although it is impossible, I would desperately want to kill Alice with my bare hands. Again, I would like to jump inside the book and slap her face incessantly! That's how much I hate her! Plus Walter and Arthur's brutality and soullessness set me shouting literally and covering my eyes with both palms of my hands as if I was seeing their dark soul in front of me. The sight was unbearable even to a reader like me. It was like I had been tortured as well. That is how good Miss Jude wrote *The Velvet Promise*.

AGAIN, I am extremely in awe of how great Miss Jude Deveraux really is. And AGAIN, I am desperate to give this a million stars if possible.

A hundred thumbs up as well to Miss Jude Deveraux!

GOD BLESS!

Kainat ?HUFFLEPUFF & PROUD? says

15% DNF

I'm weird but not this fucked up. No, thank you.

Jenny says

Wow! so much drama and angst! Don't read this if you hate cruel heroes. Hero slaps and rapes heroine, his ex lover is a slut who kills heroine's unborn baby and she is determined to ruin their marriage along with other villains. I adored all the angst and passion but sadly the ending was way too abrupt!

Perry ★TBBSisterhood Blog★ says

***** *4 Stars* *****

First, a little background: I read this book back in high school and loved it to fervent death. It was my first experience with a proper romance (other than Harlequin Presents) and I fell in love with this epic tale involving knights and ladies and all sorts of sprawling medieval goodness. I was in heaven. Jude Deveraux became my hero and I declared romance my favourite genre. I pulled out pencil and paper and began to write my very first novel (which sucked of course) and declared I wanted to be a romance author just like Jude when I grew up.

Fast forward to present day, many years later. My girl Feifei and I are hanging on GR talking about A Knight In Shining Armor by this same author, and we realize we'd love to BR the Velvet saga. Will it live up to the love we both professed for it?

And the verdict is:

Yes.... and no. LOL. I Know Feifei nearly hated it this time around and I totally get why. I didn't hate it as much but this wasn't the perfect read I remembered from back then. Gavin, who I used to declare as my favourite out of the four Montgomery brothers, stood out stark and clear this time around for being a total scumbag douche canoe. What clearly impressed my young 15 year old, 90's self, today felt annoying and horrifying at the very least. This dude, for all his sexy, hot, knight self never truly redeemed himself after the despicable way he treated Judith, the heroine. **Enter Ye ol' Gavin Montgomery rant fest ahead, come all ye!** (tagged with Spoiler tags for the Super Spoilery Spoils within):

(view spoiler)

But let's just stop there, because it's hard not to slag off Gavin without giving away the whole damn story. The point is, I doubt there will be many readers who will consider this hero swoon worthy and will not end up wanting to cut up his nuts, fry them in butter and serve them to him on a platter.

Don't get me wrong, this book is still good as far as well written, well paced epic historical medieval romances go. If you like high drama and a flair of soap opera with your romances, this will be a hit. Gavin may be hard to take, but Judith Revedoune, the heroine is mostly a delight to read about (if a bit Mary Sue-ish by the end). Truth is I couldn't put this down and the premise itself intrigued the hell out of me. The ending though, left much to be desired. Seriously, too much drama for it to end in the literary equivalent of a deflating balloon.

The other Montgomery brothers are delicious and I cannot wait to read their story.

Thank you, Feifei!! xoxoxo... unearthing and rereading these classic romances is fun as hell. On to Stephen! *crosses fingers*

Buddy Read 23/06/14 with the awesome Lady Vigilante (Feifei). Can't wait!!

Danielle The Book Huntress (Back to the Books) says

I would have loved this book had I not wanted to murder the hero. Gavin Montgomery should be tied to two tons of bricks and dropped off a very high cliff.
