



Midnight Rainbow

Linda Howard

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Grant Sullivan had been one of the government's most effective agents, and he's agreed to rescue Jane Hamilton Greer, a wealthy socialite possibly engaged in espionage. In the time they spent together, questions of guilt and innocence began to fade against the undeniable reality that two people from such different worlds should never have met.

Midnight Rainbow Details

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From Reader Review Midnight Rainbow for online ebook

Blacky *Romance Addict* says

Extremely fast insta-love aside, this was such a brilliant book! THIS is why I love Linda so much. She's just amazing.

Crista says

This is one of my favorite of Linda Howard's "oldies but goodies"! Linda Howard is perhaps best known for her MacKenzie series, but for my money, this series is her best.

Here's the order to read them in:

Midnight Rainbow

Diamond Bay

Heartbreaker

White Lies

Midnight Rainbow begins this awesome romantic suspense series as Grant Sullivan is hired to rescue Jane Greer from a compound deep in a South American jungle. I love a good jungle romance, and they don't get any better than this! With Linda Howard's skilled writing, you can feel the heat of the jungle as the action grips you and keeps the pages turning as fast as you can read them.

The romance in this book is simply awesome. Two seemingly opposite people are thrust into a dangerous circumstance and have to rely on each other to make it out of the jungle alive. Both have misconceptions about one another, and I loved reading as the walls and prejudices they share about one another come crashing down.

While Grant is a very sexy leading man, Jane is by far my favorite character. Tough, determined, brave, and loyal, she embodies all the characteristics of my favorite type of heroine. Her character is someone I respected and cared about.

If you haven't read this...please do!

Sandra says

Ex-government agent Grant Sullivan is hired by a wealthy man to get his daughter, Jane Greer, out of the Costa Rican jungle where she is being held captive by a powerful man who thinks she has access to important microfilm that he wants. What follows is an exciting, suspenseful, and romantic story.

I really liked:

The heroine Jane Greer--29 and divorced, she was no TSTL (To Stupid To Live) heroine. She was quite brave and gutsy at times but also vulnerable and likable. She was a heroine who actually listened to the hero when he gave her instructions in the jungle when their lives were in danger.

The hero Grant Sullivan--a 38-year-old retired military expert. He was sexy, strong, and a bit of a loner. But was very sweet and thoughtful at times towards the heroine.

This couple had great chemistry and I enjoyed the sexy love scenes. I also liked the suspense and tension as they were being hunted in the jungle by the bad guys. And I loved the Costa Rica jungle setting!

This was a great read for anyone who loves a good jungle romance with a great main couple!

Hasnamezied says

Amazing 4.5 Stars.

Another great book for the talented Linda Howard. The chemistry between Grant and Jane was one of the best I read.

Definitely a favorite.

Mo says

As they would say in Ireland ... "It was grand." I had higher hopes for it but they fizzled out about halfway through. I felt it read like another LH book but cannot seem to remember the name of it right now. The next in the series is available for preorder on kindle at \$10.00. No thanks. Not sure how an author/publisher can justify issuing an OLD book on kindle ... and then charging that much for it. Will have to scour the second hand bookshops at some stage.

Time disappeared as they stood in the water, the late afternoon sun dappling them with the shifting pattern of light created by sheltering trees ...

Zeek says

Initially this story starts off with a bit of Pride and Prejudice, in that Grant Sullivavn, ex-military who's specialty was jungle warfare, is prejudiced against Pricilla Jane Hamilton Greer from the facade of a spoiled selfish society girl she's wrapped around her life. But Jane, is not who she portrays and she knows exactly what she's doing- ie getting the hidden secret microfilm (microfilm- yeah that's how old this book is) and getting the hell out of Costa Rica ASAP. If her pride keeps her from telling the truth to the cagey junglecat her father hired to rescue her, so be it.

But that changes quickly enough when they head out into to the jungle to make their escape together. Even though she has learned she can only depend on herself to make her way in the world, she's letting down her

guard and allowing this stranger to get her out of this mess. But can she trust him?

Through danger both from the jungle and those hunting them down, they learn to lean on each other all the while discovering that neither is what first impressions led them to believe. But old habits die hard and it's easier to believe the worst of someone, after all. Can Jane find the strength to let him go so that he can finally learn to believe what is true?

Though written in the 80's this book holds up damn well. A forerunner to all the military hero romance novels out there, Midnight Rainbow sure doesn't disappoint, both in edge of your seat action and heart melting romance.

The book really gets started when Grant sneaks into her room to get her out and... she racks him with well placed knee! Jane is my favorite kind of heroine, smart and vulnerable but determined. Courage is her middle name, plowing passed very real fears to do what she's gotta do.

Grant is of course the quintessential alpha hero, protective and in control and once he discovers she can match him in inner strength and nobility he's a gonner- which makes you love him all the more.

Still, it takes a bit till he's ready to accept their love, hardnose that he is, but the emotional payoff at the end of their story- as quirky as Jane herself- makes this former category romance a treasured romance novel in the best of traditions.

4 out 5 from me!

(I still like Kell's book best! :))

Duchess Nicole says

I had read this years ago but wanted to revisit some of Howard's stories. Namely the Kell Sabin series, as I recall loving him to absolute pieces. This was a jungle setting, nonstop action from page one, and the hero is the alpha male that I never knew the name for way back before realizing there was a name for the type of hero I liked. I admit, this story feels a little dated. The technology they talk about would have been okay ten years ago, but sadly, it seems archaic now. The romance was great. Super hot, of course...it's Linda Howard.

Vintage says

Plot? Who cares. There's the McGuffin aka microfiche that has to be smuggled out of Central America by heiress/natural born spy Jane who is rescued by ex-covert agent Grant Sullivan. Bad guys give chase while love blossoms. I jest. Fun, fun, fun. Tons of exciting action within a very short time period and off the charts sexiness.

Midnight Rainbow is an excellent example of suspense novel. Strong silent-type hero, smart and ingenious heroine, explosive chemistry, and non-stop action. Correction, action temporarily stopped for the apparent necessary steamy sex in the jungle where clothes magically fall off.

This couple would have made a great TV series. Jane's a great heroine as she's charming, open, strong and in love with the H and not afraid to show him. Grant, in way over his head with Jane, is going to have his job

cut out for him as he tries to save her from one escapade after another.

Definitely going to continue with the series.

Why not 4 stars as it was so close? I'm being stingy.

Jane Stewart says

I wanted to buy the audiobook but the narrator Brenda Sweeney is terrible. There were many complaints on Audible about her and her breaths were annoying. My review of the paperback is below.

Fun, good story. Warrior-type saves smart, feisty, troublesome heroine - danger, suspense and love.

Setting is current day Central American jungle with former CIA-type agent. Sexual language: moderate. Number of sex scenes: eight or more. Copyright: 1986. Genre: romantic suspense.

CAUTION SPOILER:

When the two were captured by Turego, she pretended to have missed Turego and kissed him as an act so he wouldn't tie her up so she could help Grant escape. Yet Grant got jealous and believed the act. Grant's anger was not believable, and I think Grant should have known what she was doing. This was the weakest part of the story. But, I still recommend it as a fun escape.

Cheri says

I really liked this one. Tons of action!

♥Rachel♥ says

Sexy and a lot of fun!

AgentScully says

Midnight Rainbow was originally published as a Silhouette Intimate Moments in the '80's and is about 250 pages. It is more exciting, more action-packed, more romantic and plain more fabulous than many a longer mass market paperback published nowadays. In fact it is one of my top 5 favorite Linda Howard books. If only she still wrote like this! The plot is simple enough - burnt out special ops hero must rescue spoiled socialite from villain's Costa Rican lair. There's a microfilm involved, which the villain and other nefarious types are burning to get their hands on, but this is just the McGuffin. It's the well-developed leads and their sizzling chemistry that make this story special.

Without going into graphic details, Ms Howard paints a hero who's seen too much and done too much, both in his special ops work and previously in Vietnam. Grant is dead emotionally, unable to even relate to his family, and holed up on a remote Tennessee farm when he's called into action one last time. He's also tough,

capable, manly, rugged, commanding, and sheer sex on a stick. One of the hottest heroes ever! Readers who love protective alpha men or Southern bad boys should run to get this book.

Jane Greer (don't call her Priscilla!) is far from the bubble-brained twit Grant expects, she's intelligent, resourceful and brave. Too often so-called "feisty" heroines turn out to be TSTL, putting themselves and the hero in repeated jeopardy because they think they know better than a trained warrior. Jane is refreshingly free of this, but she's quirky, zany and just unique. I've never read a heroine quite like her. I admired her too, no way could I trek uncomplainingly through jungles for days on end with little food or water, even with Grant's fine ass swaying in front of me.

Most of the book takes place in the jungle, which is painted so well that I could feel the steamy heat. And jump at the anaconda scene *shudder*. There's lots of steamy heat in the love scenes too, which are sensual and fairly graphic but tasteful (no anaconda jokes please). Grant and Jane's chemistry is amazing, rarely have I felt a hero and heroine to be so completely perfect for each other. 5 big fat juicy stars :-)

Jacqueline says

Just as lovely the second time around. Love this story. I am particularly fond of running through the jungle stories and this one is great. The alpha male all set to rescue the society princess but she is already in the process of rescuing herself. She's odd and quirky and smart but not hard and smart alecky. Moves fast, well written and well plotted. The hero and heroine spend almost the whole book on the page together. It had almost that old madcap comedy movie feel without being in anyway over the top or hokey.

Lady Heather says

Grant Sullivan is an 'Original' Uber-Bad-Ass, dominating, possessive male!

Jane (Priscilla) Greer is charming, witty, sassy, and brilliant.

When the reader 'sees' things through her eyes, everything seems SO logical, but when it actually *plays* out... maybe her choices may not have been the best in her situation.

I absolutely LOVED this story!

Background

Grant Sullivan is a retired agent hired by Hamilton Greer, a wealthy, connected socialite to rescue his daughter (Jane) from being held captive in Costa Rica by a very powerful, dangerous man (Turego).

The intelligence Grant has been given can't confirm whether or not Jane is involved in espionage (the disappearance of a microfilm), or if she has the microfilm or knows of it's whereabouts. His mission is to go in and get Jane, and get out as efficiently, and quietly as possible.

The story was intense, and had me engaged through the whole story, to the point that at the end I was looking for *more*.

Don't get me wrong.. it's not that it ended abruptly. NO! I just wanted more Grant and Jane.

When Grant first meets Jane, she is not at all what he expected. He assumed she would be a spoiled, haughty, debutante.

What he got was a resourceful, intelligent, witty, fast-on-her feet adaptable woman.

Half the time he doesn't know whether he wants to strangle her or jump her bones.

Favorite part in the story is after Grant and Jane have been traveling through the jungle for two days. Their tired, dirty, hungry, and frustrated.

They finally come across a shallow 'safe' stream to wash in.

The sexual tension between the two of them is off the charts, and Jane is terrified of the feelings she's developed towards Grant.

"He stood very still in the stream, watching her as she watched him, letting her take in every detail of his body. Under her searching gaze, his body began to stir, harden, growing to full, heavy arousal.

"Jane," he said softly, but still she heard him. She was so attuned to him, so painfully sensitive to every move and sound he made, that she would have heard him if he'd whispered. "Do you want to come down here?"

Grant doesn't push Jane because eventually she'll give into her attraction and feelings towards him. He has no doubt that before they leave the jungle, Jane will be his.

We learn that Grant was drafted at 18 to go to Vietnam. Because he grew up in the swamps in Georgia, the jungles of Vietnam were second nature to him. So much so, that after the war, he was wild and no longer fit in anywhere. His own family didn't know how to reach him, so he went back and continued working 'Black-Ops' for the government. The Government trained him as a highly skilled weapon, and he was so good at his job that he lost sight of the 'light' of himself and was living in total darkness.

.. until he meets Jane

"She was his now, and her life was being threatened. He'd lost too much already; his youth, his laughter, his trust in others, even part of his own humanity. He couldn't afford to lose anything else. He was a desperate man trying to recapture his soul.

After they give into their desire for one another.

"She was his, as she'd never belonged to any other man. her safety hinged on how swiftly he could get her out of the country, for he sensed Turego closing in on them. That man would never give up, not while the microfilm was still missing. There was no way in hell, Grant vowed, that he would allow Turego ever to touch Jane again.

Lifting his mouth from hers, he muttered in harsh tone,

"Your mine now. I'll take care of you."

Jane rested her head against his chest. "I know," she whispered.

Jane has never been in love before, and she knows her time with Grant is running out as they draw closer to being rescued.

Her biggest fear is never seeing Grant again, and she knows that she can't convince him to give 'them' a chance because He thinks he's lived in the darkness too long to be able to have any light.

Grant has allowed Jane to get under his skin, but he knows that he can never give Jane what she needs in life, because he doesn't know how to live in love.

So when they spend their last night together it is passionate, and heartbreaking because Grant knows this will be their last night and he tries to savor every moment.

Jane walks away the next day without turning back, but she has a plan to get Grant to realize just how much he loves her and needs her as much as she loves and needs him.

Brilliant story, characters, and writing!

Can't wait to read the next book in the series!

Thank you so much Jill for giving me the final nudge to give this story a try. Your the bomb!

Naksed says

Hands down my favorite Linda Howard book and the only one that has earned a five star rating from me as of this date.

For 90% of the book, it was a lighthearted, humorous, romantic suspense reminiscent of those popular 80s capers that would pit a prim, proper, cool, city girl with a hawt and dirty adventurer in some exotic locale. Think *Romancing the Stone* or *Crocodile Dundee*. I enjoyed the banter and tension between the characters, the setting of the Costa Rican jungle, and the fast pacing. But what made me love it was the characterizations.

For an author who has written her fair share of dumb as post heroines and big fat jerk heroes, I am happy to report that her creations of Jane Greer and Grant Sullivan, two *equally* kick-ass, lovable characters, were the best that I have ever read from her. It is so rare for a writer to give the necessary care and development to both hero and heroine in the romance genre. One almost always ends up getting the short end of the stick and it is clear who the writer, and therefore the reader, ends up favoring. Not the case here.

As I approached the conclusion of the book, I cringed because so many great books that start with a bang end in a whimper and I have had my share of wimpy endings with this author. But wow! She did not drop the ball. The ending was perfect, true to the characters, and it added another layer to this otherwise lighthearted caper, becoming something more than just a humorous piece of fiction. It reflected on the factors that have to be in place to allow people who have had a trauma in their past to heal: time, willingness, willpower, and of course, love.

These characters will stay with me for a long time. Bravo, Ms. Howard!

Chitra *CJ* says

"Midnight Rainbow" is the story of Jane and Grant.

When heiress Jane Greer is kidnapped and suspected of espionage, her father hires the famous government secret agent Grant Sullivan as the man to rescue her.

Grant thinks of Jane as the airheaded man-eating bimbo, but within moments of meeting her- realizes how mistaken he was, something that is proven yet again by her resourcefulness throughout the journey..

It was a pleasant read. The couple survives in the wild, fighting against nature and initially their wild attraction to each other- something that leads to violent bouts of lovemaking and soon they start falling for one another.

I liked the heroine pursuing the hero for once towards the end.
Enjoyed this one! Sweet ending.
Safe
3.5/5

Linda says

4.5 stars

MIDNIGHT RAINBOW is the first of four books by Linda Howard about the U.S. government's most effective agents. Grant Sullivan thought he had permanently retired to a farm in Tennessee when he got called back to save a woman in Costa Rica. Under the impression that she was a spoiled bimbo, he was going to say no until he found out there was more involved than a simple extraction. The security of the United States was at stake.

Grant was an uber-alpha loner. Many who knew this former soldier preferred to keep their distance and that was fine by him. Jane Hamilton Greer was an enigma. And from the moment these two met, she was nothing like Grant had assumed. Plucky with spirit, she also had numerous insecurities. The more Grant learned, the more her personality tugged at him.

I enjoyed the suspenseful sections of this story as much as the romance. Nothing ever comes simple to Ms. Howard's protagonists. I appreciated that Grant and Jane were neither handsome nor beautiful. Most people aren't except in the eyes of their loved ones. And the author's written sexual situations are die-hard Linda Howard engagements: intense, impassioned and sentimental all rolled up in one.

I was over halfway through the book before I felt the need to search for the publication date. It originally came out in 1986. There is the mention of the Vietnam War, microfilm and a few other things but the dated material can easily be overlooked by older readers. I would recommend this romance to the 40 yrs. old and up age group unless you enjoy the uber-alpha genre.

Lastly, the ending had a twist that I relished. If you liked this story you might want to also read Linda Howard's HEART OF FIRE. Other older romances that I enjoyed and that contain alpha males with some steamy jungle love are Theresa Weir's AMAZON LILY, Dana Marton's CAMOUFLAGE HEART and Glenna McReynold's RIVER OF EDEN. Give one or all a try.

Saly says

I enjoyed Midnight Rainbow. Grant Sullivan lived in the shadows too long, covert operation and more that he found himself losing his humanity, so a year ago he quit and bought a farm trying to heal but now he's back because someone made him an irresistible offer, if he rescues a woman, his mortgage will be wiped clean.

The woman is Priscilla Jane, who is a hostage in Costa Rico. After observing her Grant thinks he has her pegged, she is rich, spoiled, pampered and woman who uses her feminine wiles, the reason she is in a fix is because her boss and her maybe lover got a microfilm which carries sensitive information.

Grant goes to rescue her at night and instead gets attacked, the attacker is Jane who is not an air-head and

instead knows the danger she is in and made preparations to escape. Jane isn't sure she should trust him but doesn't know what alternative she has.

Jane is scared of the dark since she was kidnapped years ago and has worked hard to overcome her fears, she knows self defense and is far from helpless as she proves it countless times, marching on even when exhausted.

I loved seeing her surprise Grant at every turn and I loved their romance as well. Jane was a very good heroine and so was Grant, he was one of those silent types who didn't know what to make of Jane and puts up one hell of a fight on the road to a HEA.

KatieV says

This is a very fun adventure/romance. Definitely a lighter offering by LH as far as angst goes. The hero only has one small episode of asshattery where he falsely accuses the heroine, but it doesn't last very long.

This is basically a story of opposites attracting with some twists (the h isn't as opposite as most think at first glance).

Re: Audio - I am not a fan of the choice this narrator made for the heroine's voice. It honestly took me quite a while to be able to tune out my annoyance and just go with the flow of the book.

The narrator used a ditzzy sounding little girl voice for the heroine. Perhaps she felt it fit the character, but it was grating to me. The heroine was a very cheerful, outgoing type who most saw as a sweet but dense/spoiled heiress. She's actually very smart and resourceful if a little quirky. I really liked her character, just not the voice characterization. Probably best to read this one the old fashioned way.

Kathleen says

4.5 giddy stars for the book, and maybe 4 stars for Sweeney's narration. Her voice for the hero is great, but the heroine sounds both flakey and fake, high pitched.

Whoot!! Linda Howard's romantic adventure is decades old, but it stands the test of time. Fabulous story! Lots of action and adventure in the rain forests and villages of Costa Rica. Fast-paced page turner. Plenty of tension. Logical, coherent plot. All the characters were credible, with slowly-steaming sizzle between Grant and Jane. LOVED Grant. A cynical ex-spy, needing to believe in love again. Jane was perfect for him. Loved her, too.

However, the book is not quite perfect, for me. I felt there were too many sex scenes interrupting the action, even though the first big clinch didn't occur till half-way into the book.

PLOT A world-weary, soulsick, master spy (Grant Sullivan) is called from retirement to rescue the daughter of a wealthy American, stranded and in peril from villains in Costa Rica. Well, Grant thinks Priscilla (Prissy *chuckles*) Jane Hamilton Greer will be a spoiled, helpless, superficial socialite, but she surprises him. During their desperate race through the rain forest to reach the port city of Limón, they fall in love.

RELATIONSHIP: Grant the spy has learned to trust no one, and the two of them are in constant jeopardy,

with the terrorists always on their heels. Grant fully expects Jane to sell him out in order to save her own hide. Eventually, he learns to believe in her, as she shows herself to be brave, loyal, stubborn, feisty, and fiercely protective. There is a point when he feels sure Jane has betrayed him. Maybe he should have trusted her, but he's only known her a week, and his past life as a spy is littered with deceptions. I felt for him -- he felt so hurt. Nice moments, when he cleans the blood off her, and when he realizes she's been dealing with her phobia so bravely. Howard portrays his gradually shifting feelings for her, from scorn to passionate, protective, devoted, entertained, and possessive.

Memorable scenes: The bloody boa snake attack. Afraid of the dark. Jane's ploy to trick the villain. The microfilm. The airport. The phone number. Jane's final ploy, to lure Grant.

Some humor in this book too. I chuckled several times. Jane is a kick.

As for the smexy times, no one does it better, and the eventual love scenes are delicious. Bold, passionate, and real, as with all Howard's work. Just too many of them. ;-)

The ending was a tagged-on adventure. Surprising, smexy, and fun.

This is part of a master spy series, but each book stands alone. It's my favorite of the series, but I enjoyed them all. We see plenty of Jane and Grant in Diamond Bay.
