



Run Wild

Shelly Thacker

Download now

Read Online ➔

Run Wild

Shelly Thacker

Run Wild Shelly Thacker

A sexy pair of scoundrels run from the law--shackled together by an unbreakable iron chain.

Nicholas Brogan is an ex-pirate with years of sin branded on his soul. Samantha Delafield is a high-born lady turned devious thief. Captured by His Majesty's marshals, the two are on their way to the gallows until they stage a daring escape and run for their lives--shackled together by an iron chain that quickly proves unbreakable.

Forced to work together to survive, the outlaws find themselves locked in a battle of fierce wills and fiery passions. From a remote forest in Staffordshire to a secret hideout in London's most elegant square, they must learn to trust one another as they face old enemies, dark secrets... and discover a love more priceless than any gem they've ever stolen.

A full-length novel of 110,000 words

Adult content: explicit love scenes

Setting: England, 1741

Originally published by Avon Books under the title *Hearts Run Wild*

This revised Author's Preferred Edition ebook includes new scenes never before published. Also includes bonus content: "The Making of RUN WILD: The Story Behind the Story," plus excerpts from upcoming Shelly Thacker books.

Run Wild Details

Date : Published April 21st 2013 by Summit Avenue Books (first published April 1996)

ISBN :

Author : Shelly Thacker

Format : Kindle Edition 350 pages

Genre : Romance, Historical Romance, Historical, Adventure, Pirates

 [Download Run Wild ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Run Wild ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Run Wild Shelly Thacker

From Reader Review Run Wild for online ebook

Margaret says

Here's the thing: I really, really wanted to like Run Wild. I like romances. I like stories with pirates and thieves and people who are generally speaking bad but good enough to be heroes. I like girls in pretty dresses and men with big muscles, and this book should have had all those things. Danger! Adventure! Heroism and betrayal and true love!

And maybe it does, but I'm too bored of it to bother finding out.

The lady thief is a bit too ladylike for believability, and a bit too skilled at theft, too. Her backstory is telegraphed well in advance: she was a Sheltered Innocent with Hidden Inner Strength until she was betrayed and had to flee for her life. Whereupon she started stealing -- from the rich, and never more than they could spare, natch -- to support herself and to fund her Secret Dream To Move To Venice. (Seriously. Venice.) She's good with a lock pick and smart enough not to stay in any given district for too long, but does, and is so virginally beautiful that country bumpkins and the fiercest of pirate captains alike fall near-instantly bewitched.

Which brings us to the pirate captain. Who seems to have had all the gritty realism that was excluded from the lady's background dumped down his much-scarred torso: grew up in the savage confines of a prison hulk, survived its destruction and the ensuing riots, became a pirate, drank/gambled/wasted all the money he made, nearly died in a flaming wreck, and decided then and there to use that to fake his own death. Right up to the faking his own death part, the history student in me was fine with this -- he got away with fewer disabling scars than I'd have expected, but eh, I'll buy lucky. Except that this is all backstory: as the story begins, a Hilarious Case Of Mistaken Identity that isn't milked for nearly as many laughs as it could've been has landed him in a country jail, where they decide to chain him to the lady thief and send the two of them off to London for trial, in the hopes of a bounty. From then on, our hero is Grouchy, Unobservant Except For Plot-Purposes, Self-Centred, Bossy, and Violent.

Hero and heroine do not get along, and the story drags them along. I kept thinking it had to be almost over; we'd had the Dramatic Fight and Flight Scenes, leaving the heroine traumatized and the hero wounded. She got to play Ministering Angel while he swooned and then lay about unconscious for a week. And then they got up and tromped through the woods and Met Gypsies (I liked the gypsies!) and Separated But Couldn't Stop Thinking About Each Other, but not before a sex scene that I actually skimmed.

I like sex scenes. I have to be pretty disinterested in a pair to skim their sex scenes.

Fundamentally, this is a book that forgets that it is hitting every trope it can, and instead tries to do so straight. (Seriously. The villain might as well twirl a moustache, and I truly wish he had.) We have Innocent Virgin. We have Man With Dark Past. We have Man Who Does Not Listen Because He Is Accustomed To Command. We have Girl Who Spends A Long Time Walking, Running, Swimming, Hiking, And Trying To Remove A Shackle (hint: when it comes off, it's left her ankle a bit bruised and sore, but she'll dwell on her ladyparts instead). We have Convenient Abandoned Cabins, Convenient Deadly Waterfalls, and Convenient Interlocking Parts.

Shelly Thacker's writing style is flowing enough, and pleasant enough, for me to have kept going for a good long while. But her main characters read like she decided to combine the primary traits of stock archetypes

without thinking over whether they made sense that way. Her secondary characters seemed like they might be cool, but they get almost no time on the page. And the plot isn't strong enough to carry me through. Maybe I'm just disappointed because I like my villains a little more fleshed out, my thieves a little more Pink Panther, and my pirates a little more Errol Flynn.

Monique says

This was a treat to read! I liked the premise: Two prisoners who are chained together and can't stand each other - are on the run. This is a wonderful story on the power of redemption, as well as a well-written romance about two abused, broken, cynical, lost souls who - during their harrowing escape and run from the law - open up and basically re-learn how to trust, love, and hold onto their humanity.

Samantha - the heroine - had an awful backstory. The hero Nicholas's past was like something from the fiery bowels of Dante's Inferno! Both characters appeared to have suffered from what we know today as PTSD. To me, the central theme of the story was the fact that the H/h were able to overcome their physical and emotional hardships, which made their realistic happily-ever-after especially sweet. And to have Nicholas take a former enemy into his fold was an added bonus, which again - highlighted the power of forgiveness and redemption.

I know that I'm one to harp on the tastelessness of sex scenes in many of the books I've read; I have to say that while there were steamy sex scenes in this story, they were tastefully executed - without a crude co--,cu--, or pu--- word anywhere. Yah! If anything, some were maybe a bit too flowery...lol. Just the same - I prefer flowery descriptions over smutty ones.

And a note to the cover creator(s): If there are models used, it would make sense to try to get them to match the characters in the books... Nicholas is suppose to have a big black pirate's beard. lol!

All in all - a great read, which has prompted me to look into more of this author's work! 4.5 stars!

RedRedtheycallmeRed says

I loved the premise of this book, a man and a woman leg shackled together, on the run from the law, adventure and romance ensues. Nick seems like a unfeeling, bloodthirsty jerk, but there's more to him than he lets people see. His evolution into a slightly softer Nick wasn't too fast to be believable, he was still plenty rough around the edges.

As soon as Samantha was introduced kicking and screaming into a jail cell I knew I would like her. Feisty and smart, but still somewhat vulnerable. She and Nick had great chemistry, the hate-turned-to-love kind.

There were some steamy scenes in this book, but the sex didn't overshadow the adventure or the romance.

Lynn says

I really liked this smutty romance! Great palate cleanser.

Teresa says

3.5

I enjoyed this story much better than I anticipated! I was hooked from the start and really enjoyed the first 3/4 of this book when the fugitive characters Nick and Sam were on the run. The author did a nice job describing the events of their capture and escape and while dangerous, she was able to toss in some humorous moments while the captives were escaping shackled together.

I thought Nick and Samantha's chemistry was very believable and I enjoyed both characters as individuals so when they moved into a more romantic relationship it was easy to see that transition.

I agree with other readers that the ending was a bit more anti-climatic than I would have liked and felt a bit rushed and maybe a bit on the less believable side. But, I realize there needs to be a HEA, so what do you do. Overall, it was an interesting novel.

Elisa Vangelisti says

Se dopo oltre un quinto del romanzo l'autrice non ha catturato la mia attenzione, inutile che prosegua. La trama è interessante, ma lo stile di Shelly è privo di pathos e troppo didascalico. Poi i protagonisti sono uno più insopportabile dell'altro. Non riesco a provare empatia, per quei due. Abbandono.

Angie West says

I didn't like it as much as Timeless.

Heather says

This story was very well written throughout. There were moments of extreme tension, and heart-felt sincerity that were expertly carried over to the reader. The ending was a little too neat and tidy considering all the problems the main characters had to deal with. Other than that little bit of criticism, it was an overall fantastic story and time was well spent reading it.

Cynthia says

Wonderful story of two people physically bound then bound by love

Nick and Sam meet in jail, him wrongly accused and her a thief caught red handed. They are shackled together, make a great escape but through a series of events finally get free of the shackles. Only to be bound

by love in the end. Loved it!

Genia Dagenhart says

Very good

I was very surprised this was a good book. I could see myself there with Sam and Nick. Most of the time it is hard to find a good book. For me it felt like I hit the Jack pot. I will read more by Shelly Thacker?

~Mrs.~ says

Wow, 1. When am I truly going to learn not to judge a book by its cover? 2. Thank God for someone posting a great review about this on book lovers day! This book totally took my by surprise. It has romance, action, humor, and two amazing characters that I fell in love with. This author gave me an even better ending I was hoping for but I was still sad to say "good bye" to these characters I became so fond of. I will definitely read more of her books! :-)

Kari Kaz says

I enjoyed this story from the start. Nicholas became a pirate to fulfill his quest for revenge for the injustices he faced as a child, until an unfortunate incident made him change his ways. Six years later, a call from the past forces him to come out of hiding. Samantha is a runaway thief who has been living on her own since she escaped her uncle's abuse when she was a teenager. They meet for the first time in a country jail. They are shackled to each other with iron chains and transported to London, where they must face the charges against them. On the way, they escape (chains and all) and their adventure begins. Both are criminals with a bounty on their heads, mistreated as children, and lonely. Nicholas is a great ex-pirate full of remorse, and Sam is smart and loving. Their love story flows as they discover that something stronger than iron chains is what truly binds them.

Tracy Emro says

I read the revised e-book version, titled Run Wild. From what I gleaned from the author's note at the end of the book - she made a lot of changes to the book. So if you are Considering reading the book based on reviews - make sure you know which version was reviewed before deciding!

I found this book delightful! Both the Samantha AND Nick are scoundrels! I read a review where the reviewer said she quit reading at 4% - her loss, because at 11% I totally fell in love with this book! When the

heroine calls for the guard - I was expecting a typical sweet virgin lady trying to right a horrible wrong and got totally blindsided by a scoundrel! Loved it! First I was shocked and then I started cracking up - I love it when an author goes rouge and surprises me!

Definitely a must read book for those who love tortured heroes (& heroines) I am looking forward to the next one!

R.C. Matthews says

Samantha and Nicholas are complex / well-developed characters that really were perfect for each other. The blurb delivers on its promise and I enjoyed the fast paced telling of the story. Samantha is quick-witted and surprising in her deviousness. But at the heart of her is a frightened child just trying to get by in life. Christopher is a tortured hero, subjected to horrors in his youth that drove him to seek revenge, only to find that happiness did not lie in the path of ruining those who ruined him.

While I thoroughly enjoyed this book, something kept me from fully connecting with these two character's love story, despite the fact that the author's writing is truly beautiful and these characters stories should've left me with an aching heart. It might sound silly, but the thought of these two having to relieve themselves while chained to one another for an extended period of time, and how dirty they must have been after their ordeal turned me off a little. It's the only reason I can think of for why I wasn't 100% on board with this love story. It's hard to stay in the 'in love' feeling when I'm mentally wishing they'd scrub a little bit while near the river or I'm thinking about how absolutely starving I'd be in their situation. I warned you it was silly, but there it is!

Jennifer (Bad Bird Reads) says

<http://badbirdreads.com/review-run-wi...>

At A Glance

Loved the adventures, didn't like the corny ending.

The Good

An ex-pirate and a lady thief are shackled together as they run for their lives from the law, a sicko uncle, and a blackmailer. Yes, it's as fun as it sounds.

I loved Samantha and Nicolas's misadventures together. They really hated each other in the beginning. It was bad. Sam tried to frame Nicolas for her thievery. Little wench. Nicolas planned on killing Samantha because she knew too much. Bastard. So as you can see, there was no love lost between these two for some time. But once they saved each other's lives, a bond started to form. Can't help that.

Sam was one hell of a spitfire though her growing love for Nicolas softened her up a bit. Nicolas was rough

around the edges because of his past, but his heart grew for Sam despite his best efforts. I wasn't sure about these two for some time but I ended up loving them together. Two runaways finding a home together.

The Bad

The ending was unrealistic for me. I like a happy ending as much as the next gal, but this one was just too goody-goody/corny. Conflicts like these are not so easily resolved. The big drama and one of the main bad guys just fell short for me in every way by the end.

The Snuggly

There wasn't too much smooshy-smooshy but the sexual tension was always there. The sex scenes were good but nothing special.

Final Thoughts

A good but not great historical romance. Liked the characters but not the convenient resolution. Recommend.

Quotes

But, Nicolas decided, it would be worth one bullet to be rid of the girl.

He loaded the pistol.

She inhaled sharply. "W-what are you doing now?" Her eyes searched his face. "What do you intend to—"

He flicked off the safety and stepped away from her. Two paces. His hand seemed a bit steadier now.

She looked stricken, her panic returning. "What are you going to—"

He aimed and fired before she finished the sentence. The sharp burst of noise wasn't nearly as loud as the girl's scream.
