



# None But You

*Sarah Shuff*

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## **None But You** Sarah Shuff

Lyne 1806: While studying medicine in Edinburgh, Benjamin Whitehorn receives news of his father's death and arranges to suspend his studies to attend the funeral. Upon his first steps home, he comes face-to-face with Matilda Dyson, whom he saves from a near catastrophe. He knows instantly that she is above him in social standing but he is unable to get her out of his mind.

He soon discovers his brother is on the verge of being sent to debtors' prison. In hopes of saving the family business, Benjamin goes against his principles and reluctantly accepts an offer from Captain Crawford for employment as a doctor aboard The Hadrian, a slave ship.

When he finds himself stranded in the West Indies without a penny to his name, he encounters Captain Wentworth of the Royal Navy who offers him a position aboard The Asp. What will Benjamin find when he returns to England after months away....

It is a story of family, friendship and love.

## **None But You Details**

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# From Reader Review *None But You* for online ebook

## Samantha says

Sarah Shuff's heartfelt debut novel *None But You* is a good old-fashioned yarn. It's a story of love, class, honor, and high seas adventure. There's a nice mix of original characters, real historical figures, and familiar faces from Jane Austen's *Persuasion*. *None But You* is an immersive novel with much drama and romance to get caught up in.

In 1806, Benjamin Whitehorn returns home to Lyme from studying medicine in Edinburgh. His father has died, and Benjamin finds the family business on the brink of collapse, with the debts piling high. But his return is brightened by a chance encounter with Matilda "Matty" Dyson. Matty is above him socially but neither can help the attachment that forms between them. Due to his change in fortune, Benjamin is forced to go against his principles and accept a position as a doctor on a slave ship. He sets off with only his love for Matty and his hopes for their future to sustain him.

If you're a fan of Dwight Enys on *Poldark*, have I got the hero for you!

Benjamin and Matty are a progressive hero and heroine. They stand up for what is right and push against the strictures of their time. Yet they still possess all the lovely manners and niceties of the Regency era. Who doesn't love that kind of courtship? \*sigh\* *None But You* has winning, sympathetic characters. I especially loved the supporting characters Quedurah and Stapleton.

*None But You* has a lovely old-fashioned spirit while exploring social issues and themes relevant in the present day. There are great nods and parallels to Jane Austen, while it also stands on its own with a strong original story. Captain Wentworth from *Persuasion* plays a prominent role in the novel. It's exciting to see him in this work! As well as featuring characters from *Persuasion*, there's also a very cool cameo from a character from another Jane Austen novel. Which makes a strong case for the ALU (Austen Literary Universe). Like the MCU (Marvel Cinematic Universe). Can the ALU be a thing? It's a thing.

The depth of the research that went into this novel is apparent. Shuff weaves historical detail well into the story. The reader is alternately pleasantly transported to Lyme and faced with the horrors of a slave ship. There's a balanced approach to showing the romantic side of Regency life and the harsher historical realities. I appreciated all the nautical detail.

This is a finely plotted novel. The interconnectedness of it all and the connections to *Persuasion* are very cool. In *None But You*, you go on a journey with the characters. You grow to feel for them, are anxious as to what outcomes will befall them, and are rooting for them in the face of impossible odds. How it all comes together is immensely satisfying. It feels inevitable, though along the way surprises, twists & turns, and reversals of fortune abound.

*None But You* features a moving romance, steadfast friendships, and the bonds of brotherhood. At its heart, it's about relationships, how people come together and are torn apart and how they may find their way back again. This is for fans of historical fiction, historical romance, and, of course, Jane Austen. I look forward to what Shuff may write in the future.

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## **Susan says**

The story starts in Lyme 1806, when Benjamin Whitehorn receives the news that his father has died he leaves his studies of becoming a doctor and returns to Lyme. Where he meets Matilda Dyson and her friends. Circumstances lead him to becoming a doctor on a slave ship, against his beliefs, while also being engaged to Matilda.

On his travels and adventures over the next few years he meets Captain Wentworth. So not a Persuasion variation, but a nod to Austen.

My problem with the book was that I didn't actual take to Benjamin all that much. But as there were parts that I did enjoy it receives 3 stars.

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