



The Bride and the Buccaneer

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"Lucky Jack" Burrell's quest for revenge against Sophia Deford will have to wait until he discharges a debt. He has to help her find the fabled pirate treasure Garvey's Gold. Then he can wring her dainty neck.

For her part, Sophia has no intention of sharing anything with anyone. She will have all of Garvey's Gold, no matter how much Jack's lean-muscled body makes her want to get to know him just a little bit better before she gets rid of him.

As the two adversaries squabble their way across Florida following the clues on their treasure map, they know that before they're through they're either going to kiss each other, kill each other, or both. . .

The Bride and the Buccaneer Details

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From Reader Review The Bride and the Buccaneer for online ebook

The UHQ Nasanta says

3-3.5 stars

Julie says

I enjoyed this pirate romance set in pre-US Florida in the early 1800's. In this forced marriage scenario, the heroine was a bit too single-minded to notice what a gem her pirate husband really was, but I did enjoy the banter between them. Suspenseful finish, as I suspected it would be.

<http://ktleyed.blogspot.com/2010/05/b...>

Lisa Jo says

Ahoy matey!! Prepare yourself for the dazzling tale that is The Bride and the Buccaneer by Darlene Marshall. Plenty of fun, plenty of adventure, this novel is sure to delight fans of historical romance.

Lucky Jack Burrell has been waiting years to enact his revenge on Sophia Deford. Years ago, she left him naked, tried to a post and broke as she walked off with his treasure. Now, living worlds away from one another fate is planning on reuniting them again. Jack and Sophia are unaware they share a mutual acquaintance. One whom leaves them a treasure map and insists they solve it together. As Sophia and Jack go on the hunt for Garvey's Gold they have to tolerate each others presence in order to reach the prize. Yet the more time they spend with one another, the more difficult it becomes to resist sharing stolen kisses. They began their journey hating each other, but with each kiss Jack and Sophia must decide what the real treasure is...a bag of gold or love?

Whew! If you like romance and you like dashing pirates then look no further than Lucky Jack Burrell. He was a complete joy to read about. Obviously after their past encounter, Jack is a somewhat uncertain about what complications Sophia will bring to his life and how much he can trust her. Yet, as you watch Jack fall hopelessly in love with her you see a touching and tender side to this fierce pirate. What made his character so perfect was the passionate side he kept in reserve not wanting his feelings to show yet also playing the perfect protector. It was the part of his character I loved the most.

Sophia...well, Sophia was the reason I gave this book a four star instead of a five. While on the one hand I loved her fiery spirit and independence on the other, it made her somewhat unlikeable at times. When you read this novel some of her intentions and reasoning are made clear at the end, but while your in the middle of reading it, it made me feel like she was somewhat cold and uncaring. Some readers will love the angst and agony you go through reading about Sophia's decisions, but for me it was a bit distracting. As the story progressed, I thought she was the perfect match for Jack, but there were some points that had me doubting her.

The development of the romance was beautiful. This couple was mean in the beginning, playful as the book

went along and passionate towards the end. It was very fun and romantic journey to read about. The treasure hunt that these two go on insures that hilarity will ensue. They meet plenty of exciting characters and solve fun clues along the way that I thought was refreshing and interesting storyline. Marshall also includes a vibrant description of history with the area of early Florida and St. Augustine in 1817. It was fascinating and deliciously explained in this novel and added a lot to the adventures these characters face and to the romance.

The Bride and the Buccaneer also ended a bit abruptly for me. I wanted to know more about how they were going to start their life together, and what the future held in store for them, but it was still satisfying all the same. Historical romance fans looking for an exciting and adventurous novel need look no further than The Bride and the Buccaneer. Marshall pens a fantastic novel with all the right elements and everything a romance fan could ask for. A dazzling time period, lovely characters and adventure throughout, this is a novel you should not miss.

Overall Rating: 4/5

Heat Level: 4/5

Lisa @ Once Upon A Chapter

Karen says

While traveling, Sophia Deford is kidnapped by a highwayman in an attempt to get to her guardian's money that he feels is owed him. Sophia feigns the damsel in distress but outwits her captor leaving him naked and tied up in a cave. Most embarrassing, and an experience the highwayman will never forget it.

Fast forward to five years later when circumstances throw these two crazy kids together again. Fulfilling the last wishes of a good friend, Sophia must travel by ship to deliver a letter to an American captain named Jack Burrell. Her goal is to deliver the letter and convince the captain to take her along to find a hidden treasure mentioned in the letter.

During the journey, Sophia's ship is boarded by pirates led by none other than the former highwayman, now known as dun....dun....dun...Captain Jack Burrell! When Jack realizes who Sophia is he can't wait to get even with her to teach her a lesson. Unfortunately if either of them wants the hidden treasure they need to combine their skills and work together.

I'm not often a fan of historical romances and I can't remember ever reading a pirate historical romance but The Bride and the Buccaneer was a lot of fun. Sophia is completely self reliant and isn't left a quivering mass every time Jack throws a rude comment her way. After he kidnaps her for a second time and Sophia is held prisoner aboard his ship she does agree to mend the crews clothing. However, she carries out quiet acts of rebellion like sewing flowers on Jack's underwear. Jack is all alpha male but to his credit he likes and respects Sophia's feisty nature. Once he gets to know her, he sees that she hasn't always been treated well by the men in her life and gives her the space she needs to learn to trust again. Sure he's hot and all "piratey" (my very own made up word) but he's also an upstanding guy.

They have a sexy, fun relationship but it is also mature and about so much more than attraction. The setting is early 1800's FL so the issue of slavery is addressed and I particularly liked how Sophia and Jack set aside their greed to work together to help others.

There is also a great deal of witty banter between the two:

Sophia: "What if you were blinded and I had to take care of you for the rest of my days?"

Jack: "Sophia, I have no doubt if I were blinded you would direct me to the edge of the nearest cliff and then encourage me to take just a few steps forward, rather than care for me all your days."

If you're looking for a fun story with adventure, strong characters and a slow brewing but sexy romance give *The Bride and the Buccaneer* a try.

Tara Chevestt says

I enjoyed this and was thoroughly entertained. The heroine, Sophie is a very strong independent woman. She has had a hard knock life and has learned to take care of herself by any means necessary. She's been a gambler, a highway robber, and now, she is searching for long lost pirate's treasure.

"A woman who is financially dependent on others is at their mercy."

"I am especially enjoying traveling while not being at the beck and call of demanding male person who thinks he is in control of my life because he holds the purse strings."

Anyways.. to find this treasure, she must hook up with privateer Lucky Jack. They end up getting married... and though she plans to leave him after the treasure is found, she finds herself realizing that perhaps the treasure isn't really gold at all, but love... ?

From the ship to the overgrown vegetation of Florida, the story is action packed and fun and I got a kick out of the tumultuous relationship between these two.

A favorite scene of mine is when Captain Jack pirates a slaver to steal its gold and notices that one of his "sailors" is not really a sailor.. "One of the sailors was very small, ver blonde, and wore a Florentine gold ring in one ear. She had a pistol clutched in her hand and was standing guard over some sailors seated morosely on the deck.."

Yep, that's Sophia.

I also like how this author wrote a steamy romance without making the heroine a virgin. Nice change!

Penny Watson says

The Bride and The Buccaneer by Darlene Marshall

Thanks, Darlene, for recommending your book to me! This book was indeed the perfect romance novel for a trip to Sanibel-Captiva. It is a charming, well-written historical romance set in 19th century Florida. It combines adventure, fascinating historical tidbits about 19th century Florida (including maritime history, slavery, and cool stuff about the territories and villages of Northeast Florida in the 1800's), very appealing

characters, and an intriguing treasure hunt-storyline. The hero is a sexy-as-hell "pirate," the heroine is a spunky treasure hunter, and their love story is sweet if not somewhat predictable. I loved this!

Grade: A-

Jo says

2.5 I liked the main character's determination, but I wasn't especially thrilled with the emotional denial. Anne was probably my favorite. (A tie-in novel with her story might go over with me well. But maybe not...) There were bits that made me laugh, but mostly, I probably won't remember this one with any clarity in another year or month or so.

I received a free copy through FirstReads in exchange for an honest review.

Chain Reading says

A pirate romp and probably a good one if that's your thing but fairly predictable with a very high bar to get over in terms of suspending disbelief.

Mandi Schreiner says

When the story starts, Sophia has been kidnapped by a highwayman who is after her guardian's money. This highwayman doesn't intend to harm Sophia, and tells her she is free to go in the morning. Sophia, acting meek and innocent outwits him and the highway man finds himself naked, and tied up in a cave, with Sophia and all of his money gone.

Five years later, Sophia put that money to good use to get away from her sleazy guardian and opened a bookshop with a companion of hers. But Sophia longs for something more in life, and gets that opportunity when a friend of hers asks her to sail to America to deliver a letter to someone named John Burrell. Seizing the opportunity, Sophia sails off, only to be almost to Florida when her ship is overcome with pirates. And guess who the pirate is that seizes her ship? Not only the highwayman from five years earlier, but John Burrell, aka Captain Jack, himself. When Jack realizes who Sophia is, he kidnaps her again and takes her on his ship. After he reads the letter Sophia was to deliver to him, he realizes there is a great treasure to be found. Problem is, he only has half of the map – and guess who has the other half? Sophia wants in on the treasure and together – unwillingly, these two head into the wilderness of Florida to follow clues.

Every aspect of *The Bride and The Buccaneer* impressed me. The adventure is just fun to read and it makes me wonder why I don't seek out more of these types of books. These two dislike each other so much, but the promise of 50,000 pounds is just too irresistible to walk away from. They fight, they try to outwit the other, and in the end, they find they just have to suck it up and work together. Sophia is very curious and independent with a free flying soul. Captain's Jack crew takes an immediate liking to her, and they find themselves wanting to please Sophia, but knowing they still must take orders from Jack. Sophia is very subtle with revenge though – for instance, after being kidnapped, Jack gives her his clothes for mending, and she mends them, but she also sews daisies on the fly of all of his underwear – just to spite him.

It takes awhile for the romance to happen, but when it does, there are really sexy scenes in this book. What I found somewhat refreshing is that there is no scheming or plotting by one of the protagonists to romanticize the other. They truly don't care for each other. They appreciate the other's physical appearance, but that is where it ends. It really takes days of them forced together to slowly come together and even then Sophia is very hesitant. It is a very believable, and heartfelt romance.

The tension builds so much, at one point when they first come together, Jack realizes he is not going to last long and starts reciting the names of the states to try to calm his body down. When Sophia does something a little naughty to his nether regions, he shouts out, "Ohio!" It is the small moments and quotes like this which will have you smiling throughout the book. Like the first time Sophia sees Jack naked in the sunlight:

"I never realized how small my hands are."

He snorted a laugh. "No sweetheart, you're supposed to say, "'La, sir!' What a monstrous engine of delight!,

HA! I am so stealing that phrase!!

Jack is all man, and very much at home being a pirate, or a privateer as he calls himself. He definitely has protective instincts over Sophia after he kidnaps her, knowing a single lady amongst the other wilder men could go wrong. Yet for the beginning of the book, he has many times he wants to throw her over the side of the ship, rather than bed her.

"What if you were blinded and I had to take care of you for the rest of my days?"

"Sophia, I have no doubt if I were blinded you would direct me to the edge of the nearest cliff and then encourage me to take just a few steps forward, rather than care for me all your days."

Sophia didn't argue.

There is also a lot of history of Florida in the early 1800's. This issue of slavery is brought up and there is a very poignant moment between Jack, Sophia and a slave that touches you deeply. I can't say enough how wonderful this book is. The ending is just perfect – and will have you laughing and sighing, and not wanting this adventure to come to an end.

The Bride and The Buccaneer is a wonderful tale full of humor, adventure, and a lovely romance that will sweep you away.

★Kayla★ says

YIPPIE!!!! I WON THIS BOOK ON GOODREADS!! It already came in the mail (was super fast), with a note and signed by the Author! - very nice!

I really enjoyed this book, the characters were very believable and exciting! Cant wait to pass it on to my friends!!

Karla says

This historical romance started out strong for me but I became frustrated with it towards the end.

On the plus side it has an unusual setting, a nice set-up, action and a great pirate hero. Jack is charming, has a great sense of humor and is in love with the heroine.

My problems arose from two areas -- the progression of the plot and the heroine. The h/h are supposed to be looking for gold but the story just ambles along and takes forever to get to what I was assuming is the main point, looking for the lost treasure. Even worse is the heroine. She makes selfish, questionable decisions that are not consistent with her character, contradict her previous decisions, and are against her self interest. Then she changes her mind and they live happily ever after.

Misti says

I absolutely LOVED the characters in this book. Darlene Marshall knows how to write a good pirate romance and this contribution is no exception. A treasure hunt with a frank heroine who doesn't mind taking matters into her own hands and a hero who is overwhelmed by the independence and cunning of the lady. Both characters were completely lovable and easy to relate to.

If you like historical pirate romance, go pick up a copy of this story. There's a lot of nice surprises like getting to see the characters in a variety of settings in and around Florida, and the character interactions are just very vivid and realistic. The plot is quite clever too.

Definitely enjoyed this one. It'd be a keeper even if I HADN'T bought it for my Kindle.

Jacky Faber says

Not as good as "Sea Change."
