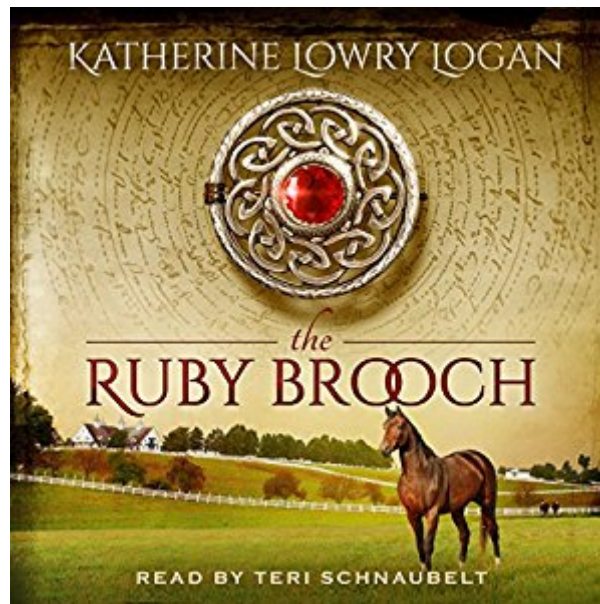


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# The Ruby Brooch: Time Travel Romance: The Celtic Brooch Trilogy, Book 1



## Synopsis

A Sweeping Saga As the sole survivor of the car crash that killed her parents, grief-stricken paramedic Kit MacKlenna is stunned to learn her life is built on lies. A legacy from her father includes a faded letter and a well-worn journal. The journal reveals she was abandoned as a baby 160 years ago. The only clues to her identity are a blood-splattered shawl, a locket with the portrait of a 19th century man, and a Celtic brooch with magical powers. Kit decides to continue her father's 25-year search for her identity and solve her birth parents' murders. Scotsman Cullen Montgomery, a San Francisco-bound lawyer who resembles the ghost who has haunted Kit since childhood, helps her join a wagon train heading west. More dangerous than the river crossings, bad water, and disease encountered on the trail is Cullen's determination to expose her lies and uncover the source of her unusual knowledge and lifesaving powers. Kit is convinced that if she can survive the perilous journey and Cullen's accusations, as well as thwart his attempts to seduce her, she might solve the mystery of her heritage and return home without leaving her heart on the other side of time.

## Book Information

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Whispersync for Voice: Ready

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## Customer Reviews

I wanted to like this book. I read the author bio, and she seems like a really cool person. But, wow, this book was bad. I read it in a day, so at least I didn't invest a lot of time. The author needed an editor, or a friend, with a more critical eye. Because the book had some eye-roll worthy plot devices. (None of what follows can be called a spoiler). A character appeared out of the blue on the wagon trail, as if it was common and easy to just pop in from another state. After WEEKS on the trail, well, hey, what do you know, the heroine's iphone is still working...only a little charge left though. In

addition to her iphone, she also brought her ipod (really?) which has a solar charger...why she didn't bring a solar charger for her iphone? But at a later point in the story, we're told her cell phone is still in the present day...perhaps she has two? Even if you're willing to look past all that...they watched youtube for birthing videos...in the 1800s? Where is this signal coming from? I'm willing to overlook the lack of electricity, but exactly how were they picking up 4G or wifi? I can only suspend my disbelief so much. None of the characters are well developed beyond romance stereotypes. There are plot points that come out of the blue, never to be mentioned again. One of the main characters blames himself for the disappearance of a woman that we, the readers, know pretty early on did not meet with her doom in the 1800s...his best friend finds out the woman made it to the 21st century alive and well, but as far as we know, he never tells the poor guy that he's found out the woman was safe. The author's lack of research was a real problem. It was clear she doesn't know much about 1800s wagon trains.

I bought this book through audible for a long car ride. It was so horrible, I decided listening to Spanish Radio (I don't speak Spanish) infinitely preferable. Audible suggested the book because I have listened to and enjoyed Susanna Kearsley's stories, and it came with primarily 5-star reviews, on both Audible and , a fact I find mind-boggling. I have never returned a book to Audible as unreadable before, but this book was almost unreadable. If you're a person who enjoys historical fiction because you're really interested in the time period the story takes place in, you will be sorely disappointed in this book. The writer clearly did very little research, either about the history of the period, or about the conditions faced by various classes of people during this time. The book is poorly edited, both for basic grammar and construction, and for plausibility and continuity. I knew this was a time travel story going in the "I like time travel" but this story has no logic, the history is almost non-existent, and the characters feel completely manufactured. They are all cookie cutter: the wounded, brave heroine, the shadowed, yet good hero; the crusty heart-of-gold sidekick, the vulnerable child who reminds the heroine of her self, etc. There is no feeling of the time, no sense of the peril a woman would have encountered, and no realistic reaction from any of the characters to a woman so completely unable to tone down her modernity. To make it worse, in the Audible version, the narrator butchers the Scots accents of two of the characters beyond recognition, rendering them in stereotypical Irish brogue. The rest of the character accents are less bad, but none of them are good.

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