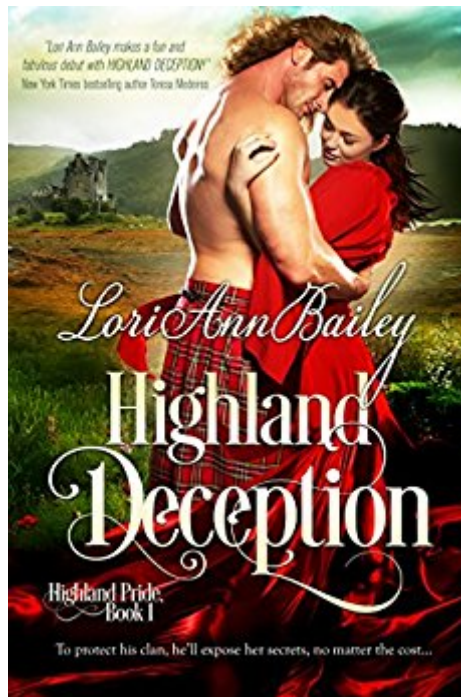


The book was found

Highland Deception (Highland Pride)



Synopsis

Scotland, 1642. Maggie and Lachlan must fight their growing attraction, battling suspicion and intrigue as religious and political turmoil threaten to tear their clans apart. He has sworn he will never marry. Lachlan Cameron is honor bound to see a wounded lass to safety, although he has well learned women are deceivers, and this lovely maid harbors a wealth of secrets. But Maggie's free spirit and charms enthrall him while he works to discover if she is innocent or a spy scheming with his enemies to destroy his clan. She has sworn she will never fall in love. Maggie Murray fled her home to avoid a political marriage to an abusive man. Salvation comes when the Cameron laird, unaware of her identity, protects her as she escapes. His kindness slowly warms her, and she's tempted to confess her real name. But his strong sense of honor would force him to return her to her father and torment at the hands of her scorned betrothed.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

For a debut author Lori Ann Bailey just blew me away with this spectacular, riveting, and moving novel. I devoured it from start to finish and absolutely loved it! She is one new author fans of Scottish historical romance definitely don't want to miss! I look forward to reading more and see a

bright future, from this new and extremely talented author! I can't wait for her next book! *Sláinte mhath* Ms. Bailey magnificent read indeed! *Scotland, 1642 Lowlander*, Margaret (Maggie) Murray is on the run after being betrothed to an abusive evil brute! She has stalled for over a year, but her time has run out! No matter how much she pleads her case-of how awful her betrothed is! It's a political match, as her father is the Duke of Kirk is forcing her to marry Conall Erskine! He will not listen nor will her as her betrothed and his family have a lot of political power and influence. Even Maggie's brothers won't defend her or go against their father's wishes. Telling her she just must get used to his rough ways and love will come later! Like hell it will! Especially not after the he terrorized and used brute force against her best friend! Yet no one was aware of this - due to fatal threats he made against her best friend. He is so horrid and evil she doesn't dare doubt the threats he makes! After that tragic incident Maggie closes herself off from people fearing he would hurt someone else she cares for. This basically forces her to become a loner in seclusion. Yet deep inside wishes for family and friends that love and care for her. Even her dreams of children will never come to be. Better safe than sorry, for herself as well as others connected to her. Her own mother ignored her why she basically ran wild and did as she pleased!

• *Highland Deception* is the debut of author, Lori Ann Bailey, and is the first in her Highland Pride series. As a fan of all things Scotland, I was predisposed to like this book although, while Bailey does a great job with her debut, it was a tale of two cities for me. **The Story-** Maggie is set to marry a rapist/murderer/real jerk, so she decides to run away and join a nunnery. On the road, she unwittingly falls in with a group of men from another clan while showcasing her healing skills. Fearing that they will return her to her fate, she refuses to tell them who she is, which is a problem for their leader, Lachlan. Lachlan falls for her; conflicts arise. **My Thoughts-** This story began with a bang and hooked me immediately. Unfortunately, as soon as they arrive at Lachlan's castle about halfway through, it felt like the story began to flail and random conflicts arose here and there which seemed like an attempt to add drama. I also took issue with the idea that a priest's niece could be bedded and discarded with no issue. I didn't swoon over the hero like I normally do when they are wearing kilts, and I think it's because he did not treat her much better than the other men in her life. I did identify with Maggie, which could be why I took her mistreatment to heart. **The Good-** Maggie is a great character: brave, kind, a woman who thinks for herself. The sex scenes and preceding build-up scenes were very hot and well-written. The Scottish brogue is just enough to hear the music of the language, but not over-done in a way that makes it difficult to read. The setting is perfectly described and makes you want to be in Scotland yesterday. The initial

conflict and set-up is intriguing and captivating.

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