

1750: Jacqueline

Stephanie Laurens

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#1 New York Times bestselling author Stephanie Laurens brings you the opening story in a series of romances touched by magic as old as time.

A gentleman fleeing the bonds of loveless marriage and a lady in desperate need of a champion join forces to defend an ancient legacy.

Jacqueline Tregarth, lady and guardian of Nimway Hall, is devoted to protecting her people, the Hall, the estate's wood, and its farms. She yearns for a husband to help her meet the challenges, but all those seeking her hand are interested only in controlling her lands. With the estate's stream running dry and summer looming, she sets men digging to reopen an old spring. Her workers discover a dirt-encrusted ornament buried at the spot; once removed, water flows and fills the old lake—and Jacqueline realizes the ornament is some kind of ancient orb.

Meanwhile, Lord Richard Devries, overly-eligible darling of the ton, fights free of kidnappers seeking to force him to offer for some lady's hand. But on escaping into the countryside, he gets lost in Balesboro Wood and stumbles on a covert scheme to divert a stream. Later, he finds his way to Nimway Hall, where the household is celebrating a spring running again.

Richard is welcomed and meets the fascinating Miss Tregarth. That his youthful hostess is disinclined to bat her lashes at him piques his interest, yet after his recent experiences, he feels safe in her company—for him, an unusual and comforting experience. Indeed, everything about Nimway Hall is calming and soothing. Then Richard makes the connection between what he saw in the wood and the Hall's recent water shortage and leads Jacqueline and her men to the diversion in the wood. Subsequently, he learns of the various men pursuing Jacqueline, and recognizes the danger to her and to the Hall. Although self-protective instinct presses him to travel on, his lamed horse has yet to recover, and despite all inner warnings, Richard feels compelled to step into the role of a supportive protector.

Aided and abetted by the household, the estate community, Balesboro Wood, and the ancient orb, propinquity works its magic, seducing Richard with a role into which he and his talents fit perfectly, and tempting Jacqueline to hope that her champion has finally found his way to her side. If the tales told of those snared by Balesboro Wood and sent to the Hall are true, then...

Yet true love never runs smoothly, and both Richard and Jacqueline must search within, embrace their destinies, and find the courage to seize their heart's one true desire—all just in time to foil a dastardly plan that would wreck all they and the Hall's people hold dear.

First in series. A historical novel of 73,000 words interweaving romance, mystery, and magic.

1750: Jacqueline Details


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From Reader Review 1750: Jacqueline for online ebook

Donna says

A little on the magic side and not her usual Regency style, this first in a series by multiple authors is endearing and well told. She protects the hall and her people and lands. A true suitor for her hand must assist her instead of look for the usual selfish property rights of the time or merely her wealth and beauty. Enter our hero who is reluctant to get permanently involved, but he too comes under the magical spell of Nimway Hall. Delightful cast of characters and a plot with some tense moments made this a fun read.

Marti says

The Legend of Nimway Hall 1750: Jacqueline by Stephanie Laurens is the first book in an unusual series. The series is about a place in Great Britain called Nimway Hall. Each book is about a different generation and written by a different author. Luckily I fell into the first one of the series first, so I can read them in order!

Jacqueline is the lady of Nimway Hall. The land and house are passed down through the female line - unusual for the time. There seems to be legends and old wives tales told about the woods and the land. The hall only prospers when the land is taken care of by the lady of the hall. Jacqueline watches her land with love, however the stream that runs through the property and is depended on by many has slowed to a trickle. They have found another source of water and found an unusual orb while digging.

Richard Devries was cutting across country heading toward his uncle's house. He is tired of the fortune hunters mamas out to force him into marriage with their daughters. However, he managed to get lost. He runs across two men who seemed to be discussing how they diverted the stream from the neighbors. Richard follows the stream and finds Nimway Hall.

Both Jacqueline and Richard end up spending a number of days together and find they have chemistry. Richard has no problem letting Jacqueline take the lead with her people. Jacqueline had no problem with Richard helping her avoid the various suitors vying for her hand. He solves the stream problem and together they resolve the question of the orb (sort of) and the reason behind the stream blockage.

But there is more at stake. Are Jacqueline and Richard meant to be together? I enjoyed the storyline and did not mind the mystery, magic and romance all woven together. I did download the next book and look forward to continuing the series. The Legend of Nimway Hall 1750: Jacqueline was a good read.

Sharlene says

Both the hero & heroine had been pursued for their wealth and/or property & both were marriage shy and untrusting. The legendary orb worked its magic to bring them together. Although the romance happened over a short period of time, it was a believable friends to lovers romance. Looking forward to the rest of the series!

Lynn Smith says

I found this a likeable read and could have been a bit shorter.

Mary says

Jacqueline Tregarth is the Guardian of Nimway Hall. She is besieged by suitors but all have an eye for her property while having no understanding or interest in the special properties of her role or of Nimway Hall.

Richard Devries is handsome and rich as Croesus and the natural target of matchmaking mamas and ambitious debutantes. When a particularly unscrupulous plot nearly sees him kidnapped to the altar, his friends assist him to get out of town. On his way to safety he is waylaid by Balesboro Wood itself and finds himself accepting Jacqueline's hospitality at Nimway Hall. He immediately feels at home and develops a partnership with Jacqueline who appreciates a man who doesn't think she needs telling!

But Richard is determined to leave and Jacqueline is unaware that there are dark forces determined to take advantage of her.

I am a big fan of Stephanie Laurens but I found this disappointing. It seemed to me to be a retelling of Richard and Catriona's story without the excellent interplay of the two main characters. Maybe because Richard is a bit clueless? It was also quite short. It is the first of a series but the rest are written by other authors.

Janet Scott says

Excellent love story!

I thoroughly loved this book. It tells the story of true determination and excitement in youth and courage. It shows that love can happen between any walk of life and it could be just around the corner. A very magical read!

Barb says

Magic

I love the new series. It reminds me of Richard and Catrinia from Scandal's Bride. Where she is the guardian Lady of Vale.

Richard was determined to avoid marriage escape London. Only to end up in woods by Nimway Hall the magical woods which snared him to meet Jacqueline the guardian of hall.

Jacqueline always knew she would find her perfect partner when the time was right. Being the guardian of Hall and woods she knew her partner would have to be someone who understood she was the caretaker of Estate. She and females in line would always inherit the estate.

Any man who became their spouse would have to accept their rule of being the defender of guardian and the lands.

N.W. Moors says

Lord Richard DeVries is fleeing the marriage-minded women of London when he stumbles into a woods on his way to Wells and is lost. Eventually, he and his lame horse make their way to Nimway Hall, the home of Jacqueline Tregarth. She is the guardian of the estate, supposedly the ancestral home of Nimue. Neither she nor Richard are looking for love; both have been chased for their wealth and are understandably wary. But the spirit of the hall has other plans.

The story mirrors one of Ms. Laurens other books, Scandal's Bride. Set in Georgian times, the language seemed a bit stilted to me, but the story was okay. The inevitable consummation of their love was somewhat purplish, but Ms. Lauren's books can sometimes flow that way. Not one of my favorites of her books, but still an okay read.

Jackie says

I'm sad that this felt really dull and predictable :/

Kristina Deluise says

really seriously?

i am so very sorry.

i really love stephanie laurens but come on.....

1. really a short book

2. if i'd known that she was not going to write the whole series, i might not have bought this.

it took just a few hours to read.

sometimes you have to wonder if it's the editors that are pressuring these writers to put things out faster?

if your a fan and you have read the cynster and bastion club series and even the black cobra series or the buccaneer series and what QUALITY those books were and then wait 20 years for the next generation cynster books, and be honest they were not the quality and substance of her original books.

this book kind of falls into that category too, being very short in length and lacking the substance of those other books

and those other books were mass markets, these latest cynsters, and lady osbalstone's and this book were large paper back. meaning you paid more for them and got less.

seriously if you have not read the original cynsters, or the bastion club or the new adventures quartet. read those, the quality, the substance, the length and then come back and read this less than 200 pages, and tell me you think this is equal in quality, substance and value as those others.

i would hope that considering she is such a good author and has a substantial amount of publish works, that her editors are not pressuring her to produce smaller books, which they are charging more.

i'm sorry, i really want to say how much i love stephanie laurens but to be honest, i am not sure i will be buying any of the other books in this series.

if i buy another it will be the cavanaugh series.

oh and another thing,

what's with the abridged version of the book, in the beginning of the book,?

a synopsis is one thing, but all those reviews and a complete book summary in the beginning?

i felt like i read the book twice. sorry.....

but again, i do love stephanie laurens just not as much as i used to.

Leyla Caldwell says

New series

I love Stephanie Laurens. That being said, she is the author of this book, but not the rest of the books in this series on Nimway Hall. I'm looking forward to reading the rest of them.

Jacqueline Tregarth is the guardian of Nimway Hall. Richard Montague is the second son of a politically and socially powerful marquis. Escaping a rumored kidnap attempt in London, Montague finds himself lost in the woods outside Nimway Hall, and his horse is lame. He is offered rest at The Hall and while his horse is cared for, Montague falls into the daily routine of the Hall and the setup for the big market days. Would be suitors for Jacqueline's hand make themselves known, some more persistent or more dastardly (or both) than others.

This is a Laurens love story. You know how it ends when you start the book. However, as both a stand alone book and as a setup for the future series, I found it thoroughly enjoyable.

Paraphrodite says

3.5 stars.

This is a multi-author series penned by some of the most well-known historical romance writers around.

This first book by Stephanie Laurens introduces Nimway Hall and one of the female guardians of the Hall, the surrounding woods and lands during the mid 1700s. The H/h are SL archetypes, unflappable, devoted to their duty and their sense of noblesse oblige. The romance and their recognition of their connection to the Hall and each other is a slow-burn one, with a bit of a push by a mysterious orb, the woods and the nasty neighbor.

All in all, a good start to the series.

Iza Soares says

Rating 7 Of 7

sighs Another masterpiece from Stephanie. I'm having a hard time in life and when I realise it was available I went basically running for it. And I had a great time reading it and it helped me for a while so I could recharge my energies a little. Sweet and unstoppable.

On a side note, I'm having a little trouble with accepting the other won't be written by her and to be honest I don't even know these other authors so you can say that I'm afraid I won't like it that much but I'm also looking forward to knowing them.

Lise Nanette says

Outstanding Beginning!

I have so looked forward to the Nimway Hall stories as told by some of my very favorite authors! Stephanie Laurens sets the stage with a strong and intelligent heroine, and a swashbuckling, compelling hero. The sense of magic lends an appropriate air to Nimway, and the various characters are all engaging, making the story flow. I was filled with a desire to know 'what happens next?' I loved it!

Tiffany Dauzat says

This was beautifully written. A great story that introduces a little bit of the mystical.

Jacqueline is a proper lady and the guardian of Nimway Hall; a beautiful estate fabled to have been built over Nimue, Merlin's love and powerful sorceress.

Richard is a well-to-do younger son escaping London and the eager young ladies interested in his wealth and power, but not necessarily himself.

Richard and Jaqueline cross paths as he becomes lost in her woods and thus becomes a house guest.

The storyline evolves providing intrigue, power play, and fleshing out who exactly Richard and Jaqueline are.

I enjoyed the storyline and following the growth and relationship of the hero and heroin through the story.
