



Beyond the Highland Mist

Karen Marie Moning

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He would sell his warrior soul to possess her...

An alluring laird...

He was known throughout the kingdom as Hawk, legendary predator of the battlefield and the boudoir. No woman could refuse his touch, but no woman ever stirred his heart—until a vengeful fairy tumbled Adrienne de Simone out of modern-day Seattle and into medieval Scotland. Captive in a century not her own, entirely too bold, too outspoken, she was an irresistible challenge to the sixteenth-century rogue. Coerced into a marriage with Hawk, Adrienne vowed to keep him at arm's length—but his sweet seduction played havoc with her resolve.

A prisoner in time...

She had a perfect "no" on her perfect lips for the notorious laird, but Hawk swore she would whisper his name with desire, begging for the passion he longed to ignite within her. Not even the barriers of time and space would keep him from winning her love. Despite her uncertainty about following the promptings of her own passionate heart, Adrienne's reservations were no match for Hawk's determination to keep her by his side...

Beyond the Highland Mist Details

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Author : Karen Marie Moning

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From Reader Review Beyond the Highland Mist for online ebook

????π?? says

Pues me ha gustado muchísimo...

Ha tenido momentos de mucha tensión de la buena (como momento café entre Hawk y Ari) y momentos de muchas risas. No se me ha hecho una lectura pesada y ya se ha visto que tiene relación con la otra serie Fever. Pues seguiré leyendo esta serie.

Lady Gabriella of Awesomeness (On Hiatus) says

★★★★★5 Love&magic stars★★★★★

Bedevil the devil and devil be dammed. I fear no devil and bow to no man.

This book was truly an absolute delight ! Passion & seduction,love & magic,secrets & mystery;This book truly had it all !**Beyond the Highland Mist** was like an unexpectedly tasty morsel ,I just had to finish at one go!Which I so promptly did ;)

I know with all that exclamatory marks,I'm probably coming across a bit unhinged and bouncy,(*Is that even a word?*) right now but I promise you,it's only from the absolute high this book left me with...A endearing side-effect.

“What did you wish for, Grimm?”A slow smile slid over Grimm’s face. “A lass who doesn’t want you. A lovely, nay, an earth-shatteringly beautiful one, with wit and wisdom to boot. One with a perfect face and a perfect body, and a perfect ‘no’ on her perfect lips for you, my oh-so-perfect friend. And I also wished to be allowed to watch the battle.”

Hawk smiled smugly. “It will never happen.”

“The wind gusting sweetly through the pines carried a disembodied voice that drifted on a breeze of jasmine and sandalwood. Then it spoke in laughing words neither man heard. “I think that can be arranged.”

The plot-line stayed solid and entertaining throughout the book.I love how the author took a far-fetched concept like 'Time travel' and used just the right amount of 'Magic' to make the story seem a bit more believable.

With that said I loved, **each and every character of this book**,even the book's main antagonist,*The Queen's Fool*.All of them were well written and left strong impressions of their character's on my mind.But *Hawk&Adrienne* probably did end up being my favorites.(Even though she gave me a migraine with all the *Yes and a No* attitude for probably 60% of the book,*grimace*.But don't worry darlings,She makes up for it in the end.*Secret smile*

“My heart. I didn’t just pick a sweet turn of phrase to name you, but spoke from my soul when I named you thus. Without my heart I couldn’t live. And I couldn’t breathe without you.”

“Are you a man who has more than one heart?”

“Nay. Only this one. But it’s bitter and dark now from the pain I’ve brought you.”

At first,I was actually quite hesitant to pick up this series.This book had earned a couple of 2 stars from a few of my close GR besties. A friend of mine told me that almost all of these books can be read as a standalone and to dip my leg into this 'Series pond' by trying out one of her favourite first,which was book 4 **Kiss of a highlander**(which I ended up loving btw).

So yes,I skipped a few books initially but I feel like maybe,I might have started off in a good place,to enjoy the rest of the series.

I steamrolled my way to book 6 but before I finished this series (thanks to my O.C.D like tendencies) I just had to go back and give BOOK 1 a Go first and....

And Viola ! 24 hours and so many minutes later,here I am raving about a great read,blissfully high and stated on what could only be described as an *Amazing Story* Rush ;)

I know,my review will NOT be the only review you read.But if by any chance you feel that small nudging feeling telling you to read this series.Don't ignore it,it's the *Fae's strange magic* ;) or maybe it's just my awesome reviewing skills.*Smiles* Maybe just maybe.*Winks*

This series in Ratings :

#1 Beyond the Highland Mist - 5 Stars ! (Review=<https://www.goodreads.com/review/show...>)

#2 To Tame A Highland Warrior - 1 Star :([The ONLY book in this series I rated so low.]Here's why->(Review=<https://www.goodreads.com/review/show...>)

#3 The Highlander's Touch - 3 Stars (Not bad but not that great either.*Shrug*)

#4 Kiss of the Highlander - 5 Stars !!

(Review = <https://www.goodreads.com/review/show...>)

#5 The Dark Highlander - 4 Stars :)

(Review = <https://www.goodreads.com/review/show...>)

#6 The Immortal Highlander - 4.75 Stars !

#7 Spell of the Highlander - 4 Stars.

(Review= <https://www.goodreads.com/review/show...>)

#8 Into the Dreaming -4 Stars :)

♥ Sam ♥ ~S2~Im made of awesomness says

Beyond the Highland Mist - First of all I have read this series out of order, intentionally. I was told by a dozen fellow reviewers that the first three in this series were pretty flat. So I read 4-7 and *FREAKING LOVED THEM*, but then my gal pal, Nissie and I decided that we should pay the first three in the series homage. After reading the first one, I'm going to have to swing my vote in favour of this one not being anywhere near as good as books 4-7. The only compensation being that I got a chunk full of Adam Black **Excuse me while I wipe the drool from my chin*.*

Now I'm not going to lie, KMM has a way with her words. She has a nice knack for making things from the lick of the lower lip to talking about Falcons, pretty darn sensual. And can build sexual tension to a boiling point!

Sidheach James Lyon Dougal, (whoa! Wrap your mouth around that one a half dozen times) aka HAWK, is the 16th centuries version on Brad Pitt, or whatever you consider the epitome of perfect. Okay so imagine the most perfect man ever in your head....got it?.....hold it..... okay, so that's, Hawk.

Adrienne is the 20th Centuries version of a 'man hater' – she herself is pretty stunning. But because of her 20th century loathing of pretty men, she is by no fault of her own sucked back through time to be used as a pawn against Hawk. Adrienne finds herself married to Hawk and stuck in the 16th Century, the roll she seems to slide into a little too smoothly. No freaking out about time travel, no 'OMG IM IN THE LAND BEFORE TOILETS AND *GASP* TOILET PAPER!'.

This is where Adam Blacks worms his way into the equation – he wants to get revenge on Hawk after the Queen Fairy Aoibheal made her King Finnbheara jealous with her tales of Hawk. And so the story begins.

Time travel, romance, seduction, fairies, Rom, danger, action, love are only snippets into what we get in this book. But in saying all these things there was still something lacking in this story that was there in the other books. I didn't like that to Hawk there was never a question as to if he, himself would go to Adrienne's time to save her; it was always she had to come to him. Also Hawk was really quite full of himself and well Adrienne didn't fare much better. I guess this book has a case of what's been come to known as FITSI – FIRST IN THE SERIES ITIS.

But I will be reading on because I already know the series ends up to be magnificent.

Not Now...Mommy's Reading says

I love historical romances - especially those featuring pirates, knights, and highlanders - so I was excited to discover Karen Marie Moning's "Highlander" series. "Beyond the Highland Mist" is the first in the series and I am so glad I picked this book up!

Sixteenth Century - Sidheach (Sid-hawk) James Lyon Douglas is known as Hawk, legendary lover to countless women. His sensuality just oozes off the pages. He is well-aware of the hold his beauty and his sexuality holds over the women who are lucky/unlucky enough to share his bed. As he so arrogantly brags to

his best friend and captain of the guard, Grimm, "There is not a woman I can not have." A wish upon a star by his friend soon finds the legendary lover eating those very words.

Twentieth Century - Adrienne de Simone has had enough with beautiful men. Finding her world turned upside down by a failed and almost fatal relationship with a gorgeous playboy, she swears off beautiful men forever. Finding herself the pawn in a game between the mortals and the fae, Adrienne is thrust back in time to the sixteenth century where she is to be wed to the man who is the very epitome of everything she has sworn off in men.

Things start getting very interesting when the first time Hawk sees his wife, who he was determined before to ignore, she's checking out the blacksmith, Adam Black. Once so sure of himself, Hawk finds himself treading the very unfamiliar waters of jealousy. Determined to not lose his bride to a blacksmith, Hawk sets out to seduce her only to find his every plan thwarted by the not so easily won Adrienne.

I laughed until I cried at these two! Hawk's jealousy towards Adam was hilarious...and touching. The secondary characters were just as enjoyable, too! From Lady Lydia, the Hawk's mother to Tavis and his "I'll say" to the Rom and their superstitions - all come together to form a wonderful story of wit, mayhem, and magic!

By the way, I found myself just as enchanted by Adam Black the blacksmith as the heroine and after a quick search on Amazon.com I found that he has his own book! *squeal Of course it comes much later in the series and so I'll have to wait patiently until I've finished the others before I can find out what happened to my favorite "prankster". *wink

Emily May says

3.5 stars

I'm having mixed feelings about this one as a whole but I would just like to say that my 3.5 star rating is, in this case, a rather positive one. I actually enjoyed reading the majority of this novel and I also wouldn't mind checking out Moning's other Highland novels as I've heard this is the least popular of the series. It suffered somewhat from the inevitable comparisons that I simply had to make to the Fever series, it was nothing like those and I'm starting to believe nothing ever will be.

But my first impressions of the novel were good, I found it to be a kind of fae version of Outlander, where the female protagonist ends up time-travelling several centuries back into a Scotland complete with kilted men, feudalism and sexism. There she is forced to marry a Scot who she grows to love against the odds - yeah, definitely sounds very Gabaldon-ish, minus about 600 pages. This Scot is a 16th century manwhore, to put it plainly, 'womaniser' is too kind a word for him; and he naturally falls for the spirited, independent 20th century woman who refuses his advances.

I found the historical aspect both interesting and enjoyable, even though this will never be the Fever series, Karen Marie Moning is still a very good writer and I like the way she tends to use the less-explored folklore and mythology, rather than just following the pattern of countless other writers who have jumped on the

vampire/werewolf bandwagon.

This book did have a heavier focus on the romance than her other series did, but it wasn't unexpected and the romance worked for the most part. I lost confidence in Hawk (the hero of the novel) somewhere in the middle but he managed to win it back again towards the end. But I will whine about what I didn't like - this is my review after all - and say that his behaviour during his own insecurities was ridiculous. In pretty much every romance story you will find at some point that one or both parties will experience an element of self-doubt relating to their partner. You know: *does she really want me or is she thinking of someone else?* or *am I just another one of his numerous conquests?* It comes with the genre. But... jealousy I can take, anger, brooding, revenge I can take... what I can't take is "oh, well, if she doesn't want me I'm going to lock her in a room, take away her freedom, until she does". When the so-called 'hero' does that I don't find it attractive... I simply think something along the lines of "pathetic, desperate control-freak". Not sexy, not good at all.

I am relieved that these tricks didn't work and Hawk felt bad about them afterwards, and he got better as the novel went on. Though, I still have problems accepting how most of their attraction to one another was based on beauty; for me, if an author creates a hero well enough I will fall for them just as much as the heroine in the story but, seeing as aesthetically a book leaves something to be desired, looks are one of the least important things! Take V'lane from the Fever series, he could never compare to Barrons because he was little more than a pretty face... a face that we couldn't see! I'm sure these men are orgasms for the eyes but I'm reading a sodding book so it's not really working for me. Give me personality please.

And let's not forget the sheer hilarity of some phrases from the book. If they had been said in jest then I would have applauded:

"They say his manhood at half-mast would make a stallion envious." - Ouch.

"Perhaps you have something in need of a heated shaping and molding? Or perhaps I might reshape my steel lance in the heat of your forge, milady?" - How I LOLed.

Don't be put off, seriously it's quite enjoyable in a way that makes you feel dirty for enjoying it, haha. Yeah, I will read more, for smut and laughs if nothing else :D

Kitty (I solemnly swear that I am up to no good) says

Fans of Mac and Barrons STAY AWAY from this offensive pile of dung.

This is the fantasy story of the beautiful, man hating (*but not really*, ***do not read this if you have any pro feminist views at all***) orphan 'Adrienne De Simone' who travels back in time and right onto the lap of a violent laird, all because of the jealousy of the fairy queen's lover.

This is actually convenient for both the creepy old laird and Adrienne; for him because he just inexplicably killed his mad daughter right before she was to be betrothed to the infamously handsome man called 'the Hawk', it was convenient for our 21st century heroine because she had just killed her boyfriend (*sounds exciting right? Well it is not*) and was therefore some sort of felon (*conveniently she has no family or friends or life at all so she doesn't miss her home*).

So the old fat laird marries her off as his own daughter 'Janet'...But although Adrienne deals with the time travel very pragmatically (*apparently because she was brought up in New Orleans*), she can not deal with being married to a beautiful man. God no. This is because she had her heart broken once before by a very mean man who was also presumably very attractive.

Her new unbelievably handsome husband, who has a very chiseled jaw line, and hard as wood abs, falls instantly in love with her, not only because of her astonishing beauty but also because she says no to him (*no woman has ever done this before*). So as you can guess the rest of the book is about 'Hawk', with his long dark, sexy flowing locks over his beautiful face, as he tries to break the implacable will of his wife, (*using the force of sappiness*) apparently much like one breaks in a falcon but much less sexy.

Part 'Midsummer nights dreams' part, 'Highlander fanfiction' and mostly 'offensive literature that will make you want to smash up your kindle'. I would recommend this to any one who feels the need to self induce vomiting or severe book rage.

Things that pissed me off with this book (may contain spoilers):

Well the whole style of writing, the plot and the characters reminded me too much a fanfiction. It was not convincing, well rounded and the story just seemed like some woman's lame fantasy.

Adrienne:

She had potential, she was an orphan who had to fight to get what she wanted. When she found out her fiance was deceiving her he ended up dead. This all sounds great, but somehow Karen Marie Moning has created a totally insipid dumb ass with a weird fetish for fifth century bedding (gross. just gross).

Adrienne has no friends, she falls for her fiance because he was rich and good looking and then acted totally naive during the relationship. Not that she deserved what happened, but I basically had no sympathy for her on that front. The whole relationship seemed artificial.

Her 'vow' never to love a good looking guy again is just stupid, although she going for men based on their looks alone is equally lame...she is just far too inexperienced and has no insight at all.

Inexperience. I can not. I will not read another book about a friggin totally beautiful college educated virgin. I just don't like it, or think it is any sort of virtue that I can relate to. Furthermore I find it entirely implausible.

Despite saying otherwise over and over, all she really wanted the whole way through the book was to be married and have lots and lots and lots of babies. Which is also what 'Hawk' wanted the whole way through the book. bravo guys! Basically the fairies planned to ruin some lives but actually ended up love-matching to annoying but very good looking people together. Their babies will be very aesthetically pleasing.

She has no personality. I can't think of one personal attribute I like that she can lay claim too, and there is no growth of character for her at all.

Hawk:

Well he is clearly very good looking, and he has had many many many many many lovers. And he really knows how to have great sex. But underneath it all he just wants a wee wifey to have lots of babies for him.

Basically he is a fucking sap under his rock hard, bronzed body. Despite his rippling muscles he is an emotional wreck with no idea of self worth and a crippling lack of confidence. This is why he carries on obsessing over his new 'wife' that he doesn't know at all, despite her apparent interest in another man.

His love for the beautiful Adrienne is instant and annoying. He never stops and I JUST DON'T GET IT! Maybe it is because she has long golden hair and a tiny waist, with a perfect 'bosom'.

His stupid fucking nursery he built years ago made me puke into my mouth. That sort of shit should not happen. Does any one honestly like that years ago he built a perfect nursery with lots and lots of cribs and toys for when he got married???

Anyone? No? I didn't think so. Why doesn't he go around fighting, more like they do in highlander? There is only one fight scene and it is with an effing fairy... and the sex scenes were so awkward they had to be skipped.

Grimm and the rest...:

Hawks side kick is a douche bag. He thinks it is his fault that Adrienne is there cause he wished on a shooting star. He gives her a really hard time for being cold to hawk...**BUT NOT ONCE DOES HE, OR ANYONE ELSE, ACKNOWLEDGE HOW HARD IT MIGHT BE FOR ADRIENNE TO BE RIPPED FROM HER OWN TIME, LEAVING HER WHOLE LIFE, FAMILY, TECHNOLOGY, COMFORTS, LOVERS AND JOB AND THEN BE FORCED TO MARRY SOME DUDE WITH A NAME LIKE 'THE HAWK'! WTF!** Luckily for Adrienne she has no life back in the 21st century because she is an insipid mollusk with a very attractive outer shell.

The weirdest/worst thing is nobody is even interested in what is going on in the future, or how she can help them with the medical advancements we have in our age or the military tactics we have learned etcWTFUCK

Maria Clara says

Tengo que reconocer que me ha decepcionado un poco este inicio de saga. No sé, esperaba algo más...

Loederkoningin says

What will be your reason for picking this one up?

If it's anything like: "Mmm, I really like KMM's *Fever* series...Mac 3.0 was alright and Mac 4.0 kicked some ass. And Barrons..oh Barrons! That hot, carnal, cantankerous badass... So why not try KMM's other series?" Well, let's say you're in for a surprise. *Beyond the Highland Mist* is nothing like the *Fever* series. Evidence to substantiate this bold statement you ask? How about this?

"The thing about the room that struck her so hard was that it seemed to be waiting. Open and warm and inviting, saying, fill me with laughing babies and love. All was in readiness, the nursery was merely biding time - until the right woman would come along and breathe into it the sparkling life of children's songs and dreams and hopes."

Barrons would have babies for breakfast.

I occasionally love to indulge in the guilty pleasure of finding out how the heap of misunderstandings will miraculously lead to THE deflowering scene. It's always exciting to find out whether:

- 1) the heroine - however often almost thirty, married and divorced and ridiculously hot - turns out to be a Surprise Virgin after all;
- 2) and when that fact will become obvious to the hero, when he 'thrusts' his 'shaft' - or rather his 'engorged phallus' (KMM's words, not mine!) - into her and suddenly stumbles upon a 'barricade' somewhere halfway up.

At which point the hero and I will both gasp and, while the hero bravely thrusts on, I cry out in wonder: "Could it be..a hymen? In such a strange location? Has it travelled upwards in a "You shall not pass, Flame of Udun!" sort of way? It cannot be!"

But believe me, in romance novels it certainly can.

Anyway, *Beyond the Highland Mist* is not the best that the genre has to offer. I vaguely expected something different from the usual fluff. Especially since I know how KMM can write ridiculously hot and intense scenes. What's interesting is that she experiments with the fae realm, so you get to see a little of the creative process that ultimately led to the successful *Fever* series. But in this novel, that experiment is merely distracting. The story-line itself follows a bumpy road and brings us to a corny deflowering scene. One that goes cringe-worthily wrong three to four times due to various bizarre reasons (view spoiler), before we actually get some lukewarm action.

The characters just aren't that incredible either. The hero simply purrs too much. And I'm just not a fan of continuously purring men...it's a tad..creepy? The heroine, well..she's the type of woman who *"fully intended to have half a dozen of babies"* and she said something silly about preferring to live in the Middle Ages as well. As a female, yes. And after several late attempts *at murdering her had failed*. So she must've had a damn good reason for wanting to swap the late nineties for the 'comforting safety' of 1513 right?

"Actually, I was thinking about how nice it is here. In the 1990's, my God, people were just out of control! Children killing parents. Parents killing children. Children killing children. They've all got cell phones stuck to their ears and yet I've never seen such distance between people trying so hard to be close. And just the day before I left you should have seen the headlines in the papers. A boy strangled a little girl when she wouldn't get off the phone and let him use it. Oh, I was thinking bitter thoughts of that time and comparing it to (my new) home (1513) and home was definitely winning!"

Someone must have been asleep during history class, ha!

update

Soooo...for those who weren't really impressed with this book, but don't want to write off the Highlander series just yet. Book 4 was actually remarkably good.

XX Sarah XX (former Nefarious Breeder of Murderous Crustaceans) says

I read this over two years ago and never wrote a proper review for it. I've never been a romance fan so this didn't go very well for me. My friend Kate did enjoy the book so you should check out her **review** , it might convince you to give this a try!

Spread the love people, we all deserve to be famous!

Awesome badge courtesy of awesome Kat!

Original review (November 2012):

This is not the type of book I usually read but once in a while I feel like a change and try a something different. Well, picking this up was definitely not a good idea.

I still can't believe how ridiculous this book is and what possessed me to finish it. Granted, I skimmed through most of the pages, but still... The writing is awful and repetitive (get rid of every passage where the heroine says she "hates beautiful men" and those where the hero's flawless body is mentioned and half the book is gone), the characters are beyond clichéd.

I thought that A Knight in Shining Armor was bad but after reading Beyond the Highland Mist I am actually tempted to give it two stars instead of one...

Brigid says

Looks at her notes. Looks at all her friends reading good books. Feels embarrassed for reading this.

Takes a deep breath.

I hate highlander romances!

Historical inaccuracy regarding kilts and language, forced seduction, territorial disputes that don't involve geography, unexplainable time travel, TSTL heroines, lairds who have balls the size of an elephant, and smoochy talk that would make Barry White ashamed.

I couldn't even get on board with Outlander. It's like it was created to repel me personally. Yes, that's the reason.

Time Traveling Delivery Service: get your own beauteous lass!!! Order today!

Adrienne:

- judges people based on their looks.
- vengeful
- likes to do the opposite of what she's told even if it's just to piss people off
- doesn't know shit about the 16th century
- makes excuses for men who treat her like shit
- has the hots for hunky highlanders
- she likes coffee

Hawke:

- called the "king's whore"
- he tames falcons and uses it to excuse forced seduction
- angry accent involving burrs and doonas.
- barbarian
- caveman
- douche
- phallicist
- rape-beast
- crusader for the holy virgin conquest
- Likes to say MINE

It's a match:

One silver haired, silver eyed virgin for one Hawk.

What a beautiful ~~barbarian~~ highlander romance.

I should have known what I was getting myself into. Look at the original cover:

There's almost a certain formula for highlander time travel romances:

Usually it involves fairies or some weird rocks in the middle of nowhere. The heroine dramatically falls out of the sky into the brawny hero's arms. He tries to stake his claim. She pouts and pouts and pouts sticking out her chin whenever possible. She runs off to prove she's a smart and independent woman because what intelligent woman wouldn't run into an unknown land she knows nothing about? The brawny laird runs after her and they have sex on his plaid in a field. The book becomes ridden with historical inaccuracies like coffee and kilts and King James court politics. Recipe for a highland romance. You're welcome.

Only reason I read this again is because I recently discovered that I like Moning. I wanted to see what I thought of her historicals now. And then there's the sex. You take that out and I won't read it at all. It would be like giving birth to a pineapple. It would hurt a lot. That's a really bad visual.

Moning's writing should not be judged solely on this novel. She's actually quite a talent, but this novel doesn't show her real talent. It's the Fever series that does that. This novel is just...bad. It's like putting your hand in the fire expecting to get burned. You will get burned.

Kristen says

2 1/2 to 3 stars

I'm glad I read this series out of order (these books can be read out of order). I'm honestly not sure if I would have continued the series had I read the first three books in the series first. Personally, I don't think the series was particularly engrossing until after the third book. Books four, five, and six are my favorite, with book six, *The Immortal Highlander*, my favorite of the series. You must, however, read books four, five, six, and seven in order.

I recommend reading the series in this order: *Kiss of the Highlander* (#4), *The Dark Highlander* (#5), *The Immortal Highlander* (#6), *Spell of the Highlander* (#7), *The Highlander Touch* (#3), *Beyond the Highland Mist* (#1), *To Tame a Highland Warrior* (#2)

Erin says

"*Beyond the Highland Mist*" is the first book in Karen Marie Moning's "Highlander series." Stubborn and lusty Scottish warriors have been a literary delight of mine since I first read Diana Gabaldon's *Outlander* series when I was 19. While I would say that each series is in a class separate from one another, both have been quite enjoyable reads for me.

The plot here is nothing new in the romance novel genre world. The male protagonist, Hawk is a Scottish warrior and laird of the Douglas clan. Women love him due to his legendary prowess in the bedroom and also for his rock hard abs and other physical attributes. Our female protagonist, is Adrienne de Simone, a 20th century fiery spirit who finds herself time traveling to 16th century Scotland. Her time traveling adventure is due to the mischievous Adam Black, known by many names in cultural legends but perhaps for those who read Shakespeare, none other than the loveable Puck.

Of course, sparks quickly fly between the male and female protagonist. Of course, the female protagonist resists the male's raw sexual magnetism. As per usual, the foreplay goes on for about 100 pages until our female can comfortably give in. The female is a virgin(of course she is!), the male is hung like a horse(of course, he is!) and provides the female with the longest lasting and most powerful orgasm of her life(well, of course he would!). They enjoy a couple of great nights of sensuality and then things go awry(Duh!). But don't worry the two protagonists will find their way to each other after the villains of the story are defeated.

Despite all this typical clichéd plotline, I liked the book because KMM makes it work and writes in a way that lures a reader like myself in. It even caused me to overlook the historical inaccuracy of the male heroes wearing kilts. The kilt would have been worn by only a handful of Scots in the 1500's according to the Scottish history sites I have checked out.. But like the Braveheart movie, we love that stereotype of the Scots so much it just has to be there. But that doesn't make it any less desirable as a book.

I am now reading book 2!

Limonessa says

What did I think? I thought thank god I read the Fever series before this or I would have never picked it up and would have mocked anyone who recommended it to me.

There isn't much to say about this book except the fact that this is not the Karen Marie Moning I am used to. Yet, some things have actually acquired a certain clarity; she is certainly a veteran in writing hot steamy sex scenes and the Highlander series has been, for all intents and purposes, her training camp, leading to the Fever series.

I decided to read these books - yes, I was planning to read the whole thing - to fill in the gaps that Shadowfever left me with. Who is Adam Black? Where do the MacKeltars come from and what is their story?

I knew this was much more on the paranormal romance side, yet I did not expect it to be bordering on erotica.

Let me make an example taken right from page 1, the Prologue:

"They say his manhood at half-mast would make a stallion envious."

or imagine my shock when I read these words coming from the mysterious Adam Black's mouth (who is really none other than Puck/Robin Goodfellow, FYI), right on page 45:

"Is there a service I might perform for you, my fair queen? Perhaps you have something in need of a heated shaping and molding? Or perhaps I might reshape my steel lance in the heat of your forge, milady?"

From here on is an escalation of bodice ripping scenes and infuriating similies - woman/mare, woman/falcon to tame, woman/ whatever animal to mount comes to mind, and believe me, if I never hear the words *silken nub* or *throbbing shaft* ever again, it'll be too soon.

So yeah, this book was *so* not for me. I think I was hoping to find Jericho Barrons hidden somewhere in the pages, but alas, he appears to be unrepeatable.

Follow me at NightReader

♥Rachel♥ says

2.5 Stars

I adore the Fever series, so I thought I'd have success with Beyond the Highland Mist. No so much. I adored Hawk, but for a lot of the story I was completely frustrated with Adrienne. So illogically stubborn and prejudice against "beautiful men". I know Adrienne was burned by a "beautiful man", but how can someone be so shortsighted to judge every good looking male for the sins of one?!

I think the story would've benefited by some editing down, as well.

As for the narration, Phil Gigante's male voices are so rich and seductive! Man oh man, he could talk the panties off a nun! His Scottish accent was lovely! The female voices are another story. Lydia wasn't so bad, but Adrienne came off as whiny and peevish, and maybe that was on purpose somewhat, but it made me think she was even more of a brat when I already wanted to shake her.

UniquelyMoi ~ BlithelyBookish says

Beyond the Highland Mist is my first read by this author, and not a bad start to the Highland series, though only loosely tied to it.

Those who know me know that I suffer from a sometimes debilitating disorder known as MRBIOs, Must Read Books In Order syndrome. It's important that you understand this about me because I'm about make a shocking statement, here: In order to enjoy this series, it isn't necessary to read the first book. Yes, I really did say that, and no, I'm not on medication. Just stating the facts.

As I said, this isn't a bad start to the series, though it definitely suffers from a case of the FITS – First in the Series syndrome. My overall feelings about this story have nothing to do with the fact that I'm not a fan of time travel, rather everything to do with the hero and heroine.

Hawk has all the characteristics of an amazing hero, and I adored him! In ways, he reminds me of Gaston from Disney's Beauty and the Beast because he's extremely good looking and enjoys reaping the reward of

women in his bed because of it. He's a powerful laird, physically and mentally, and his clan has great respect for him. He's a man of honor and integrity and can be trusted to always do the right thing. Was he perfect? No, and by the end of the story I wanted to shoot him and end my own misery.

What prompted my brush with charactercide? Read on.... (view spoiler)

Adrienne, on the other hand, bothered the heck out of me right from the start and I never really cared about her one way or the other, except for how she affected Hawk's happiness. I found very little about her to be appealing, and by the end of the story there was really nothing she could have done to redeem herself enough to be deserving of Hawk.

For those who, like myself, aren't fans of time travel, that element in this book is very minor and I don't think it takes too much away from the story. Although I suppose it could be argued that it had a huge impact on my rating because Adrienne being from the future and her over the top "I have rights" attitude throughout the book ruined the story for me. I'm giving this 2.5 stars because Hawk was hot.

Again, this book is not necessary to the ongoing storyline of the series.

Blacky *Romance Addict* says

What a difference an audiobook makes...

And especially one with a fantastic narrator!!!

Let's just say that from my original 2 star rating I jumped to 4 stars in my reread with audiobook. Phil Gigante makes everything interesting, the first half was absolutely amazing and I would've given it 5 stars if the main woman wasn't such a moron, but oh well it can't be perfect.

Anyway, all I have to say for the readers: Grab the audiobooks of this series!!! You won't regret it!

First review:

This is quite a rant, I'm not usually up for writing bad about books, but I gotta voice my opinion on this one, sorry KMM fans, don't take it personally. I will continue reading her stuff though :) Just hope the stories will be better than this one.

Spoiler alert ahead!

I've watched a lot of soap operas, and this book was just like one. And a bad one at that. I just couldn't like it much.

The writing style was ok, this is a new writer for me so it took some getting used to, but I didn't mind anything about it.

The story - well that was the biggest problem. You know, when you watch a soap, at the end of every episode there is a :O moment. The main pair always ends up fighting about some terrible misunderstanding, or some bad guy tries to off them or something... Well that was basically this book from the start. Every single scene between the H/h, if it started good, ended bad, there were soooooo many misunderstandings I can't remember them all, more than I have fingers on my arms AND legs. When there wasn't a misunderstanding in question, there was a bad guy/woman to stirr things up and make trouble, or attempt a murder or some blackmail or another form of badness. I think there was just one scene, only one between H and h that didn't end in a fight or in any bad way, and that was when they had sex for the first time (might I mention, the only sex scene in the novel, not including some foreplays that were waaaay sexier than the actual sex). Oh yes, and in the story the hero got 2 potions from a gypsy. One was an aphrodisiac, and another some viagra alternative that leaves a man up for hours and hours. You'd think that was a good thing? Noooo. He uses the viagra stuff, but doesn't have sex with her because it made him feel distant from her, not emotionally involved, so he goes away and suffers till it wears off. Then she drinks the aphrodisiac and becomes horny as hell. But noo, he can't have sex with her because HE didn't make her horny, and until he does that - no hanky-panky. So I guess now you'll know what I mean about every freaking scene not ending as it should. Always some stupid excuse for it to go bad. It drove me crazy.

The heroine was irritating as hell. I couldn't stand her. The main problem is that I just couldn't relate to her in any way. She hates beautiful men because her ex was beautiful and he did some awful things to her. OK I get her, hate the ex. But he didn't do those things because he was gorgeous. He was just bad. And to hate all men who were good looking because you had an experience with a good looking man is just silly. I couldn't get that. So she helped a lot with those scenes that never ended good, because she ruined 2/3 of them all by pushing Hawk away because he's so gorgeous (hmmmmm no comment)

The ONLY good thing about this was Hawk. I actually liked him, even though I cannot understand how he could fall in love with a woman like Adrienne, but hey, each to his own. I fell in love with Scottish Highlanders a long time ago, and I love them still, so Hawk holds a soft spot for me here :) Although there wasn't much brogue here except for some "aye" and "lass" involved, I hope it'll get better in the next books.

It's just too bad for a character who's hung like a horse (literally, she really does say that in the novel and the heroine sees and thinks he really is horse-like-hung) to have only one sex scene. I expected some more (yes I'm bad I know, but still, it tickled my imagination XD)

So, I guess I'll follow the advice and move to book 4 lol

Sorry again for the lovers of this one, I just couldn't help myself XD

Jessica ❀ ➡➡ Silverbow ➡➡ ❀ Rabid Reads-no-more says

4.5 stars

Reviewed by: Rabid Reads

Beyond the Highland Mist by Karen Marie Moning was the first paranormal romance I ever read.

10+ years ago the only books I'd read that could even remotely be compared to PNR or UF were Anne Rice books (and if any of you have read Anne Rice books, you know that they are *so* not the same). I don't think I even picked up my first modern (not *Narnia* or *LOTR*) fantasy until my freshman year of college (*The Eye of the World* by Robert Jordan).

I'm sure that all the Vivian Vande Velde, Robin McKinley, and Christopher Pike books I read when I was a teenager set the stage for the love of all things supernatural I developed as an adult, but for whatever reason, there was a five(ish)-year gap after high school in which I never managed to stumble across anything that could pass as either of my favorite genres today (the aforementioned PNR and UF).

And I was so bored.

Enter one of my sisters who was always reading the historical romances that she began filching from our maternal grandmother (not the fairy tale-reading grandmother) at WAY too early an age. She was always trying to get me to read some bodice-ripper or another, but it just wasn't my thing. Then she brings one that she swears I'll LOVE.

squints in disbelief

"No, really," she says, and then explains that this is not *just* a historical romance, this is a *paranormal*/historical romance. A *paranormal*/historical romance in which a hot, evil version of Puck drags a woman scorned from the modern world back in time 500 years to the Scottish highlands.

Fairies, you say?

Back in *time*, you say?

Hmmm . . .

So I gave it a shot.

And I *loved* it. I read all seven books in the series, and then several years later, continued on to read the (loosely) connected *Fever* series (which I loved even more). Come to think of it, the *Fever* series was my very first foray into UF, so that makes a Karen Marie Moning book responsible for my introduction to *both* of my favorite genres. C-R-A-Z-Y. Anyway, loving the *Fever* books even more than the *Highlander* books made the *Highlander* books take a back seat in my mind. I don't think, in hindsight, that I fully appreciated how good they were. It was a finished series. I didn't reread them, like I did the *Fever* series, every time a new book came out.

That's my story and I'm sticking to it.

So fast forward to this past weekend.

I'm bored. I hate my ovaries. Historical romance is sounding good-*ish* to my nutso hormones, but not exactly right . . . I know! I'll reread those really good Karen Marie Moning historical/time-travel PNR books. YES!!!

Best idea I've had in a long, LONG time. It was hilarious. It was HOT. It was sweet. It was clever.

Our heroine is an orphaned hater-of-pretty-men who is on the run from her past. Our hero is just GAH—a

literal legend among men AND fairies alike (which is why both hero and heroine find themselves in their predicament, incidentally). There are crazy Gypsies, fairies in disguise as smokin' hot blacksmiths, AND (my personal favorite thing about PNR vs. UF) an absolutely *sublime* HEA—as it turns out, nutso hormones are all about the instant gratification when it comes to books.

Basically, if you've never read them, or it's been a while since you last did—READ THEM. It's an excellent way to spend an overcast (and cranky) weekend afternoon.

Lisa Jayne says

FOUR HIGHLAND STARS.

It was about time for me to read this new-to-me author. I wanted epic love, a toe curling romance, and a love that would sweep me off my feet and this book delivered. Moning provided me with the perfect escape and I couldn't have wished for more. An utterly dreamy start to a series that I know I'm going to fall in love with.

... Book two here I come.

Buddy read with the bezzie ...

Navessa says

It's time to admit defeat. I can't do this. Here's a meme explaining why:

[Blog](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Pinterest](#)

Bark says

Next up on the iPod.

This book has received many favorable reviews but this isn't going to be one of them. I feel like the Goodreads grouch but as I was listening to this on audio my overriding thought was, "when the hell is it going to end?" It seemed to plod on and on and if I heard the heroine exclaim "I HATE BEAUTIFUL MEN!" once more whilst drooling over two pretty men I was certain I was going lose the last thread of sanity that's holding me together.

I'm not going to waste your time (and mine) by rehashing the plot bit by painful bit. Basically, it's a time-

travel in which the modern day heroine gets flung back in time straight into the lap of a man in need of a daughter to marry off to “The Hawk”. Hawk is a beautiful man, with big beautiful man parts that he’s been using to give pleasure to most of the women in the area for years. He’s ticked off a jealous fey King and he’s in service to his King (because of something his father did) and both King’s have something to do with the time flippery of the heroine. Got it? No? I’m not sure I do either. The Hawk isn’t supposed to love whatshername (Adrianne, was it?), which is why the fey chose her (as punishment) but, imagine this if you will, they fall madly, truly, deeply, forever after in love, despite it all.

I’m being sarcastic because that’s how I roll when I’m grumpy after listening to this male narrator go on and on for what seemed like two months. He does a super sexy Hawk voice but his falsetto female voice just didn’t work for me and when he read the sex scenes I was more than a bit uncomfortable in a bad way. These two characters come across as a bit bratty for way too much of the story. She tries to make him jealous to push him away because, don’t forget (like the author would ever let you), SHE HATES BEAUTIFUL MEN! HATES THEM!! because she’s been scorned by one. She doth protest way too much and spends numerous pages flirting with a gorgeous-o (I dare not say beautiful) blacksmith and it was downright mean to Hawk and didn’t make me sympathize with her at all. The Hawk, of course, falls for it every damn time and stomps off in a huff determined to make her love him anyway, even when he thinks she’s slept with the other dude. Why, man, why?! There are lots of nice girls out there who would give you those babies you want and wouldn’t hurt you so!

I was so confused. I got the impression that she was a modern girl, who in her past, was treated exceptionally bad by an arrogant, beautiful bastard whom she had a relationship with and from the bits revealed it seemed as if she lived with the man. However, it is later revealed that she is a virgin. Twenty, living with a guy and a virgin still? Her ex seemed like a real worldly man and I just didn’t get this but maybe I just have too dirty of a mind? Yeah, that’s probably it.

Despite my many issues with this book I did love “The Hawk” and felt that he deserved better than Adrianne and her silly head games. This book made me so crazy and nattered on for eternity but because it made me feel something, even if that something was too often anger, I have to give it three stars for making me care. I’ll probably read the next one too because that’s how I am.
