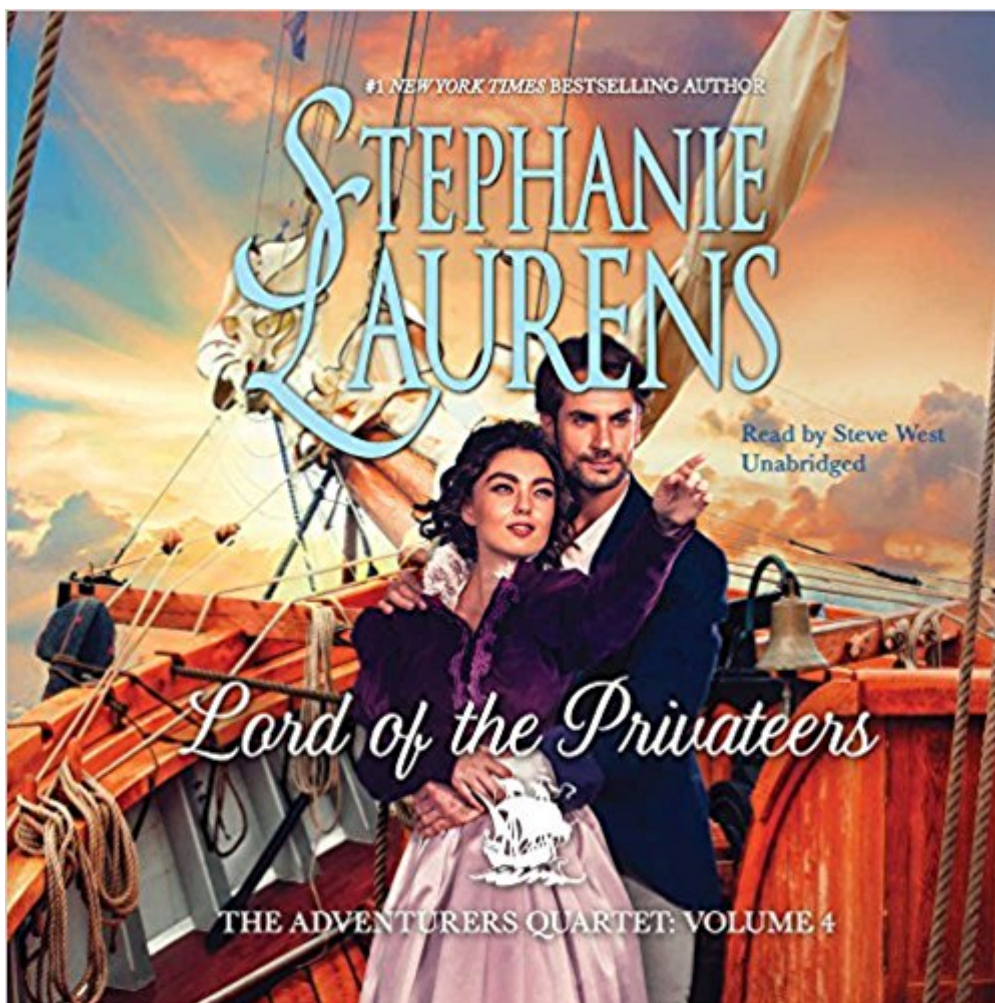


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Lord Of The Privateers (Adventurers Quartet, Book 4)



Synopsis

[Read by Steve West] Can true love die? Or, neglected, does it lie dormant until the object of true desire is again within reach? Denied, does passion smolder, like embers waiting for the right conditions to flare into an all-consuming conflagration? New York Times bestselling author Stephanie Laurens delivers the thrilling conclusion to the acclaimed Adventurers Quartet series, a passionate Regency-era drama played out on the high seas and in the sweltering heat of tropical jungles, reaching a scintillating climax in the glittering ballrooms of Mayfair. The eldest of the Frobisher brothers and widely known as the lord of the privateers, Royd Frobisher expects to execute the final leg of the rescue mission his brothers have been pursuing. What he does not expect is to be pressured into taking with him his emotional nemesis, childhood sweetheart, ex-handfasted bride, and current business partner, Isobel Carmichael. But is it Isobel doing the pressuring or his own restless, unfulfilled psyche? Isobel, resolute, determined, and an all but unstoppable force of nature, has a mission of her own: find her cousin Katherine and bring her safely home. And if, along the way, she can rid herself of the lingering dreams of a life with Royd that still haunt her, then well and good. Neither expects the shock that awaits as they set sail aboard Royd's ship, much less the new horizons that open before them as they make port in London and then embark on a full-scale rescue and assault on the mining compound buried in the jungle. Yet even with the support of his brothers and their ladies and all the rescued ex-captives, Royd and Isobel discover that freeing the captives is only half the battle. In order to identify and convict the backers behind the illicit enterprise -- and thus protect the government from catastrophic destabilization -- they must return to the ballrooms of the haut ton and, with the help of a small army of supporters, hunt the villains on their home ground. But having found each other again, having glimpsed the heaven that could be theirs again, how much are they willing to risk in the name of duty? Learn the answer and revel in the action, drama, intrigue, and passion as the Frobishers -- with help from Wolverstone, the Cynsters, and many familiar others -- steer the adventure to a glorious end.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Laurens' Adventurers Quartet delivers all the fast-paced action, dangerous intrigue, vividly etched characters, and sexy romance her fans have come to expect."-Booklist
"Laurens successfully brings her Adventurers Quartet to a resounding conclusion. The broad literary canvas, swashbuckling adventures, dangerous intrigue, and steamy romance of these novels are rare treats for readers who miss those old-school historical romances by Shirlee Busbee and Katherine Woodiwiss."-Booklist on Lord of the Privateers
"Filled with beloved characters, exciting escapades and sweeping landscapes, the conclusion to Laurens' Adventurers Quartet is just what her fans want. Lord of the Privateers is the last piece of the puzzle that fans have been excitedly piecing together. Significant characters from the series are brought back one last time for a wholly satisfying read." -RT Book Reviews
"Laurens's rich characterization and well-thought-out plot make for a captivating adventure romance and provide elements of danger and surprise throughout the story. The vivid narrative, combined with quick cuts from scene to scene, make for an engrossing read with an ending poised to continue the adventure with yet another Frobisher brother." â "Publisher's Weekly, starred review, on The Daredevil Snared"
"Laurens deftly balances action with dialogue and description, creating an intriguing and suspenseful novel that is equally effective whether read as a sequel or on its own." -Publisher's Weekly, starred review, on A Buccaneer at Heart
"Laurens launches her new Adventurers Quartet on a high note, with a fast-paced tale that is jam-packed with dangerous intrigue and red-hot passion.... Readers looking for something a little bit different than the usual Regency historical will be delighted with the exotic African setting of the book as well as its swashbuckling plot."--Booklist on The Lady's Command
"Stephanie Laurens plays into readers' fantasies like a master and claims their hearts time and again."-RT Book Reviews
"Stephanie Laurens never fails to entertain and charm her readers with vibrant plots, snappy dialogue and unforgettable characters."-Historical Romance Reviews
"When it comes to dishing up lusciously sensual, relentlessly readable historical romances, Laurens is unrivalled."-Booklist
"Laurens's writing

shines."-Publishers Weekly --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Stephanie Laurens, a New York Times bestselling author, began writing as an escape from the dry world of professional science. Her hobby quickly became a career, and she has been writing historical romance novels for more than twenty years. Currently living outside Melbourne, Australia, with her husband and two cats, she spends most of her days writing new stories in her signature "Errol Flynn meets Jane Austen" style.

This is a pretty good book. The main characters are fully developed and the interaction between the H/h is believable - even the reason for the estrangement. I read the 1st book (so-so), then I borrowed the other 2 from the library. But I decided to give this one a try. And I am glad I did. Stephanie Laurens CAN write and she was definitely on her game with this book. It is the best I have read from her in quite a while. So, why 4 stars instead of 5? There was way-y-y too much detail about the rescue and too many characters. They became so confusing that I did not even try to tell them apart. The rescue scene was well thought out (not like that Black Cobra mess). Another pro for me was the really well written (and SHORT) love scenes. She managed to restrain herself and NOT write 20 page love scenes as usual. Twenty pages is interesting if you are one of the participants!

I really like Stephanie Laurens, ever since I first picked up Devil's Bride, and generally will preorder anything new that I can afford, just on the strength of her writing skill. (Frankly, she's one of only half a dozen authors whom I WILL preorder, I've been burned by several others, and mostly don't trust the concept.) But, not Laurens. She never disappoints. In this case, she builds to a stunning four-book climax, with a few twists that I didn't expect. And she does it so Gracefully, it's like watching a professional dancer.

Evidently this was the wrap up for this 4-book series; but since there's a Kit Frobisher who caught the bouquet, I'm guessing we'll hear more about this family in the future. For those of you who love pages upon pages of angst--should I trust him or shouldn't I trust him, etc, etc, etc--which in my opinion was about 1/3 of the book--and pages and pages of sex play, this book is definitely for you. I just wanted them to cut to the chase and solve the "problem". I didn't find this book as engaging as the first 3, but had to see who the bad guys turned out to be. Turned out to be a bit of a disappointment if you want to know the truth--predictable. I've read most of Lauren's books even

though she's never met an adjective she didn't like, and preferably in multiples. I've enjoyed most of her books, but have learned to just skim certain parts that have become fairly predictable. If you're an avid fan, you probably won't be quite as picky as I've been.

4 stars What a great end to the series, it perfectly wrapped up the ongoing story and still provided a truly touching love story. Royd (really unfortunate name) and Isobel have a past, eight years ago they were madly in love and handfasted. They spent 3 weeks together when Royd was called away on a mission. A mission he said would only be a couple of weeks, a month at most. He ended up being gone for over a year with no word whatsoever to Isobel. When he returned, she refused to see him and their relationship ended. Years later, they began a working relationship, but they never discussed their shared past (which honestly I found unbelievable) and neither has married. Now 8 years later, Isobel comes to Royd and demands that he take her to Freetown, she has gotten word that her cousin Katherine (aka Kate) is missing and she needs to go there and find her. This works for Royd because he has been tasked with rescuing the captives (which Kate is one of). He has also decided that it is time for he and Isobel to settle the past. He knows what outcome he wants and hopes to convince Isobel that she belongs with him. The first day of their journey, a huge secret that Isobel has been keeping comes to light and the truth about their separation is finally confessed. They decide together that they both made mistakes and that the feelings they once had are still there and agree to explore the possibility of a future together - but first, they must rescue the captives, catch the bad guys and shut down the mine. The first stop is London, where they hook up with Royd's brothers and their ladies. They plot and plan and then set off to Freetown. Once there, they enact their plan and are partially successful - they have rescued the captives and shut down the mine, but they only have captured 2 of the 6 backers for the mine. They return to England and plot some more and come up with another plan to draw out the remaining bad guys. The story was well told and flows nicely, it is a bit steamier than the other books in the series (no complaints from me), has a lot of action, a few twists and turns and finally closure to the ongoing storyline as well as a hard earned HEA. The reason for only 4 stars? The book is a bit wordy and even though everyone seemed to accept, forgive and understand Isobel's reasons for keeping her secret - I could not, what she did was pretty much unforgivable in my eyes. I would definitely recommend reading this series in order, because, I would not recommend this as a stand alone title.

Lord of the Privateers was a thrilling ending to this 4 part series. All of which can be read as standalones but with Stephanie Laurens as the author why would anyone want to. Royd has a

mission to accomplish at the request of the crown to rescue hostages in Africa while solving the puzzle of who is behind the scheme. While Isobel has a mission of her own for her family; the disappearance of a cousin in Africa. An "out of nowhere" secret is revealed early on that puts our hero and heroine on the path to reconnecting on a personal level while performing the rescue solving the mystery. To me this was the best of the series. I have been a fan of Stephanie Laurens since "Captain Jack" in 1997 and scooped up "Devil's Bride" the first day of its release in 1998. When reading "Lord of the Privateers" it became obvious as to why I truly love, and anticipate, each and every novel Stephanie Laurens writes, her use of language. How she describes a scene, whether it be a swashbuckling fight, a journey over land/sea or her sensual love scenes takes you right there in the moment. Not many authors have the ability to actually bring the reader to the point that they can smell the salty sea air, feel the breeze and see the wind whipping through the sails. This is what brings her fans back each and every time. If someone is reading this review who has never read a Stephanie Laurens novel before, don't hesitate please pick a novel, any novel and join the journey.

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