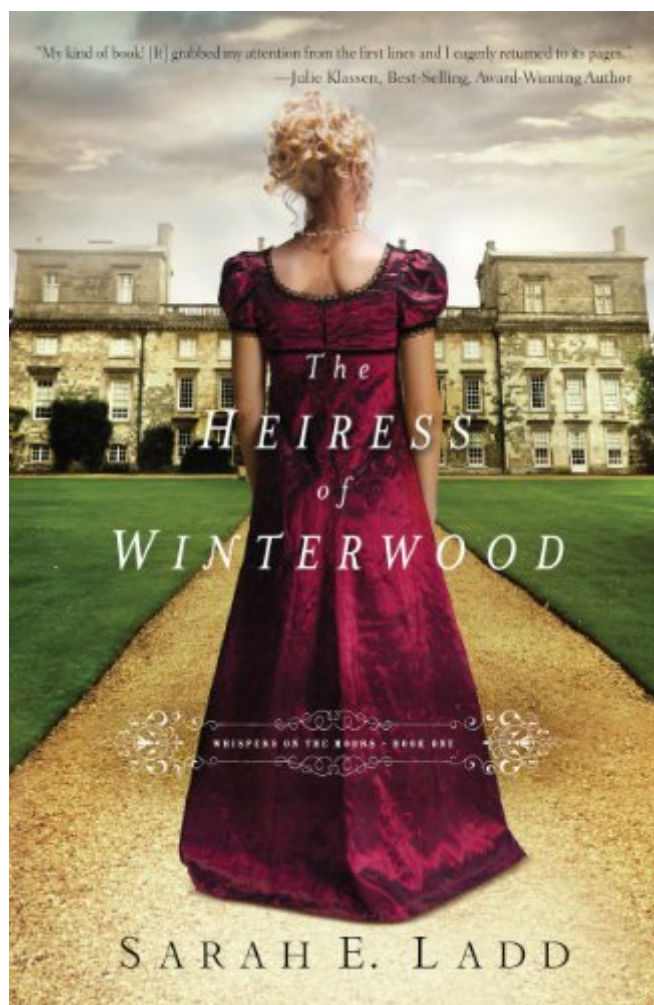


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The Heiress Of Winterwood (Whispers On The Moors Book 1)



Synopsis

Darbury, England, 1814 Amelia Barrett gave her word. Keeping it could cost her everything. Amelia Barrett, heiress to an estate nestled in the English moors, defies family expectations and promises to raise her dying friend's baby. She'll risk everything to keep her word—even to the point of proposing to the child's father—a sea captain she's never met. When the child vanishes with little more than an ominous ransom note hinting at her whereabouts, Amelia and Graham are driven to test the boundaries of their love for this little one. Amelia's detailed plans would normally see her through any trial, but now, desperate and shaken, she's forced to examine her soul and face her one weakness: pride. Graham's strength and self-control have served him well and earned him much respect, but chasing perfection has kept him a prisoner of his own discipline. And away from the family he has sworn to love and protect. Both must learn to have faith and relinquish control so they can embrace the future ahead of them.

“My kind of book! [It] grabbed my attention from the first lines and I eagerly returned to its pages.”
—Julie Klassen, Best-Selling, Award-Winning Author
“If you are a fan of Jane Austen and Jane Eyre, you will love Sarah E. Ladd's debut.”
—USAToday.com

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

As far as Christian regency romances go, this was a good book. The villain was not a surprise, and the story was a little predictable, but it was written well. I was intrigued by the mystery of Graham Sterling's past and how he had hurt himself. I do admire Amelia... taking care of her deceased friend's baby daughter. However, she did not listen. Graham told her he was going by himself to Liverpool. She did not listen. He told her to stay in the Sutlers' house. She did not listen... she went to the market and I know how well that turned out. She did, though, apologize to Graham and I suppose that made it okay... her overcoming her pride and finally falling in love with the man she had proposed to.

The Heiress of Winterwood could have potentially traveled from the realm of good to great if it had contained more pages of copy. The book's basic plot is explained in the product description section of this page, so I want rehash that, but I will say that it isn't a plot one familiar with this type of work would not have seen before though some variations on it were pretty original with the introduction of more sinister elements usually found in suspense novels. Because of a bit of predictability in the story, this was a fast read that one would generally consider a beach worthy title. I think if Sarah Ladd had written more pages, or as is more likely, had the opportunity to contribute more pages to the final publication, we could have had more fleshed out characters in Amelia and Graham. As it is, Edward Littleton, the man Amelia Graham is engaged to at the beginning of the story, seemed to be the person with the largest personality on display as his character did not have to overly engage in dialogue and was often reflected upon by others in the book which gave him added dimension. I felt like I only knew a few major things about Amelia at the end: she had long blonde hair, she had a fortune, and she loved Lucy, and those are the things I was introduced to or could guess based on the cover and its description. It is obvious when reading the book that Sarah Ladd can dream up an interesting plot and write well. I hope that in the future releases in this series that there is more opportunity for the story to move without the somewhat consistent dialogue or action present in this text.

The plot itself was pretty good, even though the villain was pretty obvious with absolutely no redeeming qualities. The back of the book gives the plot summary, but it takes SO long to get there (with not a lot of pages left), the ending feels rushed. You're waiting for that climactic moment where everything turns, but because the back of the book has already ruined the surprise, you're not left with much. Just seems like it takes forever to get where you already know it's going. That being said, there were a few other plot twists that were unexpected, but there wasn't much time to flush them out, again because of the aforementioned issue. This book needed to be another 50-100 pages to flush out the ending and have it be as thorough as the first part... that or the people writing up the summary need to revisit what they wrote so they don't spoil the book. Dialogue was pretty good for the most part, but faltered towards the end sounding very modern. It's not a horrible read, but I'd almost suggest NOT reading the back of the book or plot summary so it can be enjoyed more.

I liked the story but it seemed to drag on forever. I found myself skimming over many parts to just get to the end. It was a pretty predictable story line and told in an uninteresting way. I just couldn't engage with the characters and I felt like there were a lot of unnecessary details. I think I'm in the minority. It was clean so it has that going for it but I probably won't reread it. I will however, read more by this author because the story itself was good there were just too many details that bogged it down.

I have wanted to read this book for a while now. The cover is beautiful and the description captured my interest. It took some time to get to it, but I am glad that I read this book. This is a Christian Regency Romance. The main characters are people who have loyalty and values. They are brought together by an adorable baby and have to figure if it is enough to keep a relationship. I enjoyed the writing and the story. This book has all of the elements that I enjoy in a regency romance.

This story hooked me from the first page and would not let go. It is spun so wonderfully, weaving together the regency culture along with a heart-pounding, sit at the edge of your seat mystery adventure. Amelia is a wonderful character. Yes, she is an heiress of a large estate and fortune, but she also has a heart of gold. The beginning shows her at her friend's bedside, caring for her just before her death, and then takes in her friend's child, helping to care for the infant as if she were her own. She is born to privilege, but is willing to work, not to mention she has a lot of courage and spunk. That is a refreshing character trait, to see a woman

actually fight for what she wants, to go after it herself rather than wait on others to do it for her. Then you have Graham, a naval captain, who is out of his element on land, and as a father. He is adorable in his slight clumsiness, but I love how he opens up to his infant daughter. And I love the interaction these two have! From the beginning that is genuine and mutual respect for each other, something that's very enjoyable to watch, even when they beat heads a bit. And the supporting cast was wonderful as well! Each character was unique and gripping, and many held great surprises. This story just took one turn after another, dragging me along with eager anticipation. (And yes, this is one of those stories that I couldn't put down until I finished it around 3am lol.) I loved the surprises, and the relationships between the multiple characters, not to mention the message of trusting God woven through it. This is definitely a book I highly recommend to anyone who enjoys a good regency-romance and adventure.

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