

The Captain's Lady Book Reviews by Lorhainne Eckhart

I have never been a huge fan of romance novels, but Eckhart's book has made a fan out of me. The tale is gripping, romantic, and vivid...read the entire review:

<http://LorhainneEckhart.com/Feedback/>

Reviewer: Dominique Rambert

August 2009

Founder of Mommy Writers

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The first chapter of *The Captain's Lady* drops us in the Northern Arabian Gulf in 2004 with Abby Carlton. She's obviously hot, thirsty, and in pain. And just to make things more interesting, she's pregnant.

What is she so afraid of? Who's coming? And how in the world did she end up stranded on a dinghy in the middle of the ocean? You'd be hard-pressed not to give in to your curiosity to answer the questions sure to be ignited by the mysterious opening chapter of this love story. First-time novelist Lorhainne Eckhart baits the hook with surprising skill. She does an impressive job developing the characters you will grow to love (and those you will grow to hate as well). And with a razor-sharp descriptive voice she expertly weaves the plot and pulls the reader right into the story. I felt like I was on the ship watching the intrigue between knight-in-shining-armor Eric and damsel-in-distress Abby unfold.

From the moment Abby is brought onto Eric's ship they seem to be fated; when given a brief peek into their pasts we learn why. They both have familial baggage that affects them profoundly. The reader learns that they are far more alike than it would seem on the surface. Neither of them has their parents in their lives, nor have they ever formed any strong romantic attachments.

Eric's firm opinion of gender roles sets the stage for Abby's brief stint as heroine. Once our antagonist sets her sights on revenge, everything Eric knows is suddenly in jeopardy. Abby is then faced with the opportunity to repay her hero for saving her and her baby, and rises to the occasion.

Eckhart has achieved something special here; her gripping, modern-day fairy tale has made a romance fan out of me. The novel will send you to bed dreaming of your own knight in shining armor . . . if you can put it down to go to bed. Suggesting that your husband read this book with you would probably be futile. But any of your friends who has a romantic bone in her body will fall in love with it. If you're looking for a sweet escape, *The Captain's Lady* is a must-read.

<http://balancingactzine.webs.com/bookreviews.htm>

Lorhainne Eckhart delivers a wonderfully written debut novel!

Now onto my review of her debut novel, *The Captain's Lady*, which is a contemporary military romance that is full of information about the Navy part of the US Army that I learned so many new things just by reading it. The hero of this novel, Captain Eric Hamilton, is a powerful force in the U.S. Navy and even though having earned himself a reputation of being a hard-nosed chauvinist is still a man who commands respect from his fellow officers and staff. He's also the commander of the USS Larsen, a destroyer, currently deployed in the Persian Gulf during Operation Iraqi Freedom. He expects that every officer and staff on his ship to obey his every command though he isn't all that interactive with the female officers and staff since his views of females in the Navy is clear that he thinks they should be housewives. Now for the heroine, Abby Carlton, she has been through so much before she met Eric and it starts when she finally escaped from the man who held her captive for a year. Abducted while traveling in Paris, she was given to an Arab man as a gift, until one night she makes her desperate escape that might have saved her very life. While on patrol one morning Captain Eric Hamilton discovers a dinghy floating aimlessly and that is how Abby is found, battered and in an advanced state of pregnancy, lying in the bottom of the dinghy. From the moment she was laid on the deck of his ship her innocence finds a way to penetrate his hardened heart. But time is running out and Eric is falsely accused of sexual assault while at the same time the CIA wants Abby and the baby for bait to flush out her captor. As I read this novel I could help but fall for both the hero, Eric, and the heroine, Abby, who I think have such similar characteristics that make them such a wonderful couple but have their own quirks that keep them on their toes. And though I'm not a feminist I sometimes didn't like Eric's attitude towards the women officers and staff but that didn't take away from his strongness, loyalty and honesty that really kept me from full-on disliking him. As I finished reading this novel is just under a day I really loved it because it kept me reading because I never knew what would happen next for Eric and Abby, which is great and on top of that I learned so many new things about the U.S. Navy that I never knew. So this novel gave me a great read on top of that I learned many new things that I could use in my own writing if I were ever to write about a Naval hero. Lorhainne Eckhart has delivered a wonderfully written debut novel that will keep you reading from start to finish as well as teach you about the U.S. Navy that you may not have even known about.

Reviewed by Phoebe Jordan (Queens, NY)

August 26, 2009

The Captains Lady is a captivating story. It grabbed my attention from the beginning. The twists and turns kept eagerly turning pages. The dialogue is well done and flows smoothly. *The Captains Lady* is filled with romance and suspense. Don't miss this delightful read.

Captivating!

Reviewed by Readers Favorite "Readers Favorite" (Hawesville, KY USA)

August 25, 2009

Hi, I just finished reading *The Captain's Lady*. I found it very interesting and exciting. It had everything going for it that a reader (like myself) looks for: flowing dialogue, drama, suspense, and romance. It was quite a journey that Abby and Eric made into each other's arms. I've read over a thousand same-type stories from sites such as Allromancebooks, Samhain, and Ellora's Cave. This being said; I know what good is and *The Captain's Lady* is certainly in the top ten percent of the books I've read. It's a story I'll read again and again in the coming years.

Thank you so much for writing it and sharing it with us readers!
Take care and keep up the fine writing.

Most sincerely,
Colleen
Goleta, CA