

The Highlander's Bride

Amanda Forester

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A staged fourteenth-century marriage turns into abiding love in this beautiful romance. Amanda Forester weaves a simple plot into a gorgeous tapestry in *The Highlander's Bride*.

Gavin Patrick, a warrior from Scotland, must deliver Lady Marie Colette to the waiting clutches of her fiancé. They leave France under the guise of marriage so he can keep her safe. In a period when women were merely chattel, this secure yet undercover handoff is the norm. Powerless, concerned about losing her late mother's belongings, and facing no future despite the fact that she is an heiress, she travels willingly but realizes her bodyguard may be her soul mate.

The lady adores her escort, but a big problem looms on the other side of the English Channel. She belongs to a brute with self-centered desires, and Sir Gavin will need to make a difficult decision.

Strong characterization and superb description create a distinctive sense of time and place. Love scenes are tender and sincere:

She should have struggled to break free, but instead she gave in to grief and sobbed onto his broad shoulder. He held her gently and made calming noises in some language she did not understand. He blocked her from view, and Colette knew he was intentionally protecting her from prying eyes.

JULIA ANN CHARPENTIER (Fall 2015)

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