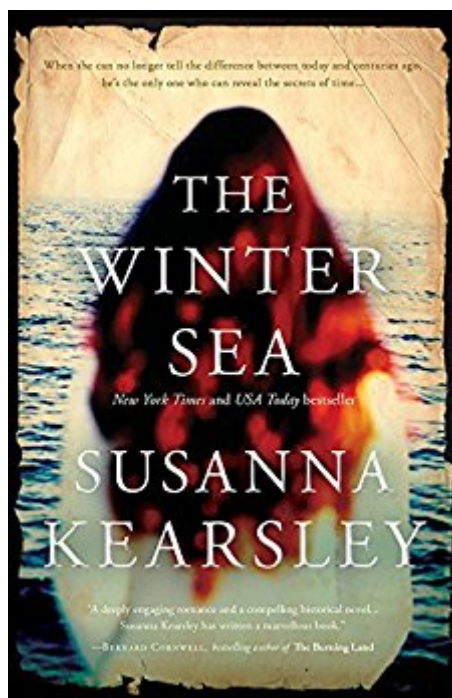


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The Winter Sea



Synopsis

A New York Times and USA Today Bestseller!"Fascinating and immersive... I love a novel that deals with the many ways in which people keep their secrets."?Diana Gabaldon, #1 New York Times bestselling author of Outlander on A Desperate FortuneFans of Diana Gabaldon's Outlander series will devour this hauntingly beautiful tale of love and time travel by New York Times and USA Today bestselling author Susanna Kearsley.History has all but forgotten...In the spring of 1708, an invading Jacobite fleet of French and Scottish soldiers nearly succeeded in landing the exiled James Stewart in Scotland to reclaim his crown.Now, Carrie McClelland hopes to turn that story into her next bestselling novel. Settling herself in the shadow of Slains Castle, she creates a heroine named for one of her own ancestors and starts to write.But when she discovers her novel is more fact than fiction, Carrie wonders if she might be dealing with ancestral memory, making her the only living person who knows the truth— the ultimate betrayal— that happened all those years ago, and that knowledge comes very close to destroying her..."Powerful, atmospheric, enthralling, and simply mesmerizing, [The Winter Sea] is one of the best books you'll read this year!" — Singletitles.com "Susanna Kearsley's obvious love of history is infectious... The Winter Sea is an acknowledgement that so many of us are haunted by the deeds of our ancestors, perhaps literally..." — Gail Anderson-Dargatz, international bestselling author of A Recipe for Bees

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Customer Reviews

The story of a Jacobean spy with a price on his head, an orphan girl taken as ward of a countess, an enduring love that faces death, loss, and happiness with equal measure of passion is passed down the centuries supernaturally. In the process of writing their story new love is found. This novel was slow moving occasionally, but I thought the characters more than made up for that. If you want to find out more about Anna read Firebird.

Such a great read, I love how the story goes back and forth between the woman she is writing about and herself. It's a little slow to start but you end up really getting into it. Also the accents are a little difficult but try to use your imagination when you're reading those pieces I feel that helps. I read this with a book club at work and most of the ladies were just use to simple romance novels with not too much of a narrative. So they didn't really like it, I think this story has everything from history to romance to a little bit of suspense even! Great read, totally recommend it!

I have been tempted by reading one of Susanna Kearsley's novels for awhile, but I thought it might have too much romance for me. I saw a review by someone I respect so I decided to read this one. I was sold by the fact that it takes place in a castle on the Scottish shores. This was decent historical fiction with a bit of supernatural as the contemporary character, Carrie, a writer of historical fiction starts to feel she is writing her story from memories, not research. The historical story about Sophie, an orphan living with a wealthy relative who is part of a conspiracy to bring King James II back to his rightful place on the throne of England. The history was interesting, the story compelling. There was romance and I even enjoyed it. This is a great weekend read. I think I will read another by this author.

True to her talent for combining history with endearing romance, Kearsley interweaves the story of an actual event in which King James attempts to return from France to take back his crown and the story of romance between the two historians dedicated to learning details about this event. She paints beautiful word pictures of the Scottish coast, builds character who are real, and, with a touch

of supernatural, blends the stories perfectly. Again, and excellent read from Ms Kearsley.

This is my first book by Susanna Kearsley. I actually purchased it as an ebook and audiobook. I loved it in both formats - in fact, I often read along on my Kindle while listening to the audiobook (narrator: Rosalyn Landor). I truly had a difficult time taking breaks because I was so caught up in the story - or stories - of both modern-day Carrie and Jacobite Sophia. The characters were so real to me, as were the relationships - some true and faithful, some deceitful. I enjoyed the intensity of the love relationships of the couples whose stories are told, without all the unnecessary details. I also thoroughly appreciated learning more of the true history of the period. I have happily recommended this book to others and do so again here. It is a story to think about long after the read is done.

by Susanna Kearsley. Susanna is one of those extraordinary talented writers who is able to pull the reader into a different world of reality while bringing characters to life. She also has an amazing gift of weaving, in a supernatural way, two different stories from the past and the present seamlessly together while giving the reader a history lesson. I have learned quite a bit about Scotland's supporters of King James Stewart - the Jacobites. At the end of this book, Susanna explains about her research and the liberties she took for the story. I was able to find many of her 'past' characters' history online. There are two main characters - in the present there is a historical fiction writer - Carolyn (Carrie) McClelland and in the past - Sophia is Carrie's main character based on her ancestor. Carrie soon finds herself so caught up in Sophia's story that she has a hard time telling what is real and what she is making up for the story. Sophia is living at the Slains Castle north of Edinburgh during the Jacobite uprisings. The Jacobites are fighting to return their king to his throne in 1708. There is intrigue, spies, and romance with a little supernatural to keep me turning the pages. The characters are strong and in depth. I like the way the women are portrayed as being thoughtful, strong, and aware of the political conditions they are living in at the time.

So compelling - simply draws you in.....by the end you so love these richly drawn, complex characters you simply don't want to give them up...

For a historical romance, it was a little heavy on the history. There were a few too many very long passages that read like a fairly stiff lecture for me. The story within a story device works, but I would have preferred the characters on both sides of the isle be a little less stock. Engaging they were,

just not terribly original. All that said, she's a good writer. She just needs to break out of the mold and take some chances.

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