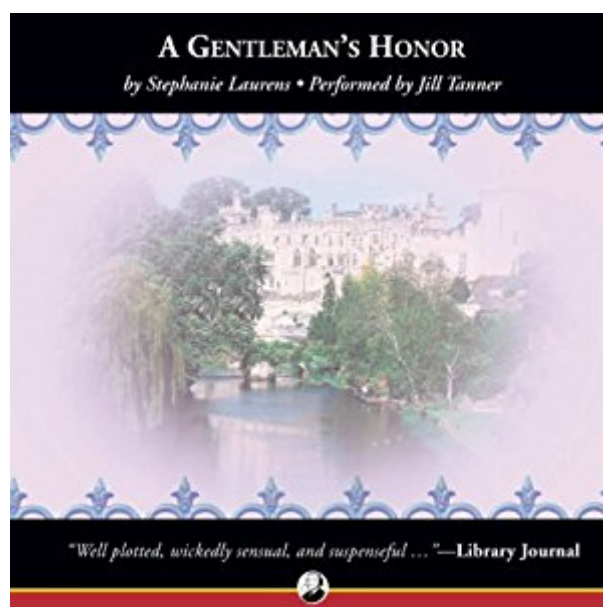


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A Gentleman's Honor



Synopsis

The Season has yet to begin, and the second member of the Bastion Club, tall, handsome Anthony Blake, Viscount Torrington, is already a target for every matchmaking mama in London. None of their flighty daughters can fix his interest, but a certain lady does...Alicia is living a deception. Desperation has caused the determined but penniless lady to boldly launch her ravishing younger sister into the ton and have her make a spectacular match. By masquerading as the widowed "Mrs. Carrington" Alicia can act as the perfect chaperoneâ |but fashionable ladies are not accused of murder...When Tony Blake discovers Alicia standing over a dead body in his godmotherâ™s garden, every instinct tells him she is innocent. His connections allow him to take control of the investigation, his social prominence provides her public support, but it is more than honor that compels him to protect her and to do everything in his seductive power to make her his. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I have read all Stephanie Laurens' books. Some have been hits, some have been misses. This one is a hit! Book One of this new Bastion Club series was a good story and a good heroine. Book Two combines a great heroine and a sensuality that begins in chapter one and doesn't miss a beat throughout the entire novel. The series revolves around seven English spies, now off-duty, who bond over finding their own wives instead of letting society matrons manipulate their choices. Naturally, each book will be about one of the men, his wife search, and a mystery he solves using his spy skills. It works for me! The only three drawbacks of this novel are characteristic Laurens' style: the

"mirror sex," the heroine's "teach me" excuse to have sex, and a mystery that takes a little too long to resolve. With that said, however, the mirror sex in this novel does not seem contrived as in some Laurens' novels, and the heroine's confidence and ability to defend herself against the villain is inspiring. I liked Alicia's spunk, resourcefulness, determination, self-preservation, leadership, and tenderness -- a great character! This book even brings back Jack and Kit from "Captain Jack's Woman" -- a book that causes second-degree hand burns while reading it! Laurens gives "A Gentleman's Honor" the same sizzle treatment...minus "Jack's" table sex!

"A Gentleman's Honor" is the 2nd Book in the Bastion Series. Though I enjoyed the 1st book in the series, A LADY CHOSEN there was a lot of background needed to get the reader up to speed. I feel with the second book, this book, that SL was able to focus on the story line and the hero and heroine more. As always Alicia is a strong and independent SL Heroine and is not likely to let our hero Tony come in and just save the day, not without her knowing what is going on. We get to know more of the members of the Bastion club, sort of wetting our appetites for the books to come. SL also brings back characters from her Cynster series, nice to see characters we love before they are married, as well as the hero and heroine from her book "Captain Jack's Woman" Though it's nice if you have read CJW it is not necessary to enjoy "A Gentleman Honor." If you like SL you will more than like enjoy this book too.

Stephanie Laurens keeps concentrating more on the sex scenes than in the actual plot of her novels. I don't have anything against the sex scenes, actually, I think she writes some of the best ones in the genre, but they would be much better if they complemented a strong plot, instead of just being the plot. The intrigue was entertaining enough, nothing too deep, but I wasn't expecting that, after all this is a romance novel, not a mystery one, but the problem is that there is not any other plot in the novel. There is no conflict between the main characters, no emotional tension, no heart wrenching separation, no fear of loss, not even a small misunderstanding that would cause a rift between them. The only problem to work out was catching the killer of Ruskin. Other than that, there was only the sex scenes to keep the book going. I'm not saying that the book was bad. Stephanie Laurens is a great writer, and the book is amusing, but I know it could be better, I know this author could give much more. Her heroes are delightful, without exception, I just know that if she spent more time in the relationship between the hero and heroine, she could create a great novel. One thing I did like about this book, is the presence of characters we know from her other novels. I hope the Cynsters continue to appear throughout this series, and maybe even have a bigger role, like

Jack Hendon had in this book. I'm thinking he is from the book "Captain Jack's Woman". I haven't read it yet, since other experiences I have had with Laurens' pre-Cynsters books are not good, but now I think I might go and read it. And there is Dalziel. This character gets more interesting by the minute. He really reminds me of the Marquess of Rothgar, from Jo Beverley's Malloren series. I would like to read his story soon, but I realize it may be some time before it is released, since probably all the Bastion Club members have to come first, and now Laurens is going back to the Cynster series with the story of Michael, Honoria's brother from "Devil's Bride". This I don't understand. Why writing the story of Michael while in the middle of another series? He is a likeable character, but not one that was screaming for his story. Anyway, if you are a big fan of Stephanie Laurens, and enjoyed the Cynsters books, you probably will like this one too. I will certainly continue to read her novels, as they are better than most of the stuff out there.

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