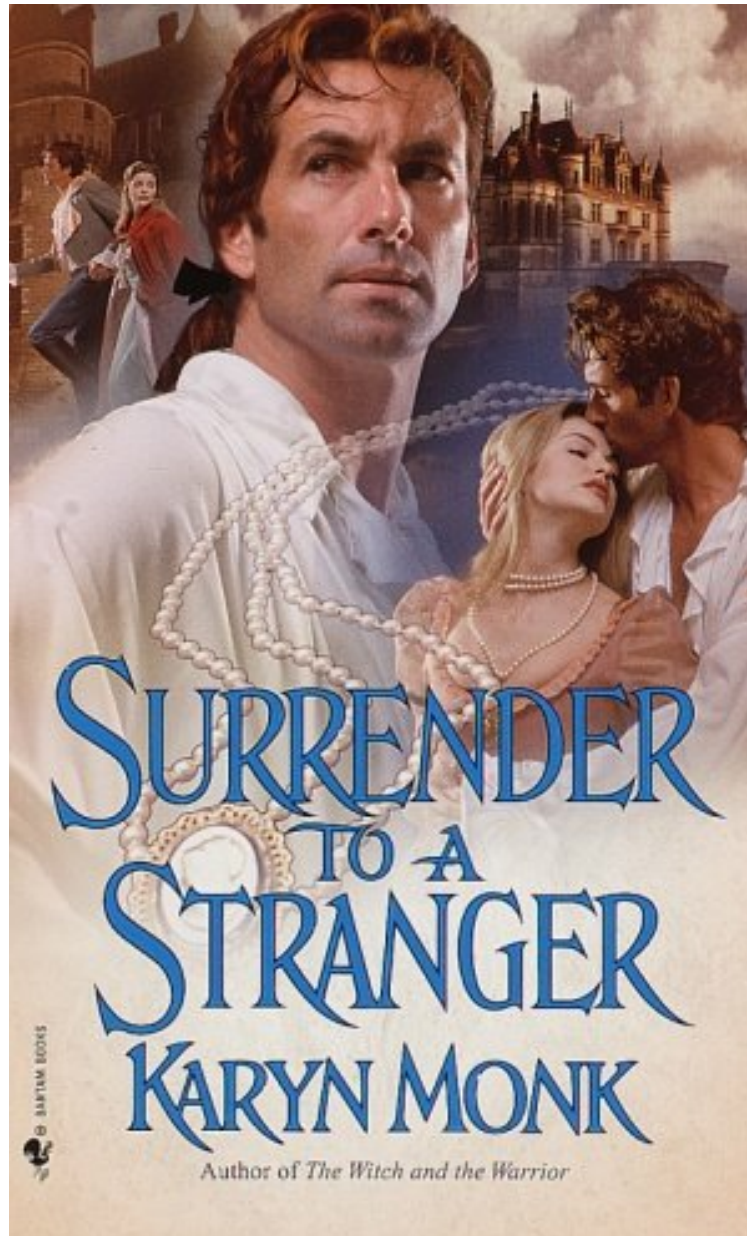


(Download) Surrender to a Stranger

Surrender to a Stranger

Von Karyn Monk

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Von Karyn Monk : Surrender to a Stranger before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Surrender to a Stranger:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen4 von 4 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Truly a

book worth reading. Von Sarah When a (romance) book comes on the market written about the French Revolution, it usually written from the perspective of England and their struggle against Napoleon, or some sort of spy thriller, again written from the perspective of England or the victors. Once in a while we will stumble upon a book set in New Orleans about a displaced French aristocrat, but very rarely are we introduced to the French view of their Revolution or to the period of time known as The Reign of Terror. Granted, this is not a very romantic setting, with all the death and what we think today of as nazi-like paranoia against your fellow "citizen". Thousands upon thousands of people were killed in the name of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity. Karyn Monk takes this time period and weaves a wonderful tale of two lost souls. It is not easy to balance the darkness of the time period and the classical happily-ever-after ending of a romance, but Ms. Monk succeeds. Jacqueline is a spoiled elitist, who nevertheless learns and grows throughout the story. I always find character development to be key in any good book, and Jacqueline definitely develops. One might not agree with her thoughts and views, but is given the opportunity to see why she thinks like she does and how she rises above her beliefs to truly be "noble". Armand, our "Scarlet Pimpernel" is motivated by his own demons (as most of our romantic heroes are), but this doesn't detract from his character. He is a master at disguise and uses his various "counterrevolutionary" contacts (which are convenient though never truly explained) to help him rescue the unfortunate victims. The secondary characters, Jacqueline's sisters, Philippe, Nicolas, and various others, add even more depth and interest to the book. I have but a few criticisms. First, the amount of times, and with seeming ease our hero and heroine escape prisons and France. If it were so "easy" more people would have done it. Ms. Monk gives a great description of a prison wardens thoughts and worries with overcrowding and rushed paperwork. This is terrific insight on how tired and over-worked the bureaucrats were, but doesn't allow for such ease of escape for two such wanted people. I also didn't like how characters seemed to appear and then we hear nothing about them. What happens to Jacqueline's ex-fianc, to Justin and others we meet along the way? This is a great book so don't miss reading it!

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Very Disappointed Von Christine H. Having read Ms. Monk's other books I was very disappointed with this one. Try as I might I could not like the heroine. She was not only spoiled but stupid. Throughout the first half of the book she constantly refers to her being from a privileged family as "god's will". She even goes beyond being naive and believes everything she is told which ultimately puts the hero in danger. If you want a good Karyn Monk book try reading "Once a Warrior". The characters flow together and you actually feel like your part of the story. My second choice would be "The Witch and the Warrior". Good supernatural storyline.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. This story will leave a lasting impression Von Suzanne Laurie I first read this book, at my friend's insistence, in 1995 while away on a vacation weekend. For the whole weekend I walked around with it under my nose- simply unwilling to put it down. It was the first paperback romance that I had read and I was, quite frankly, not expecting to find any substance to it - feeling superior as I did, to the kinds of people, who I imagined must read this frothy frivolous type of "literature". (I'm sure other romance readers are familiar with this condescension from those who would never be caught reading a book of this genre.) To my chagrin, I found the book completely fascinating, and for quite some time afterwards, my thoughts returned to the lead characters, and to the images formed from the many intricately detailed descriptions depicting that terrible time in European history. And so, five years later, on the reissue of *Surrender to A Strange*, I find myself highly recommending this book. In fact, I give it the highest recommendation. This recommendation does not, however, come without warnings: First of all, be prepared to be disturbed. The macabre evil images of shocking cruelty; of horrific degradation suffered by so many, at the hands of the confused masses gone mad - these images of the most base despicable actions of mankind .may not put you in a light-hearted mood. Are you ready for this darkness? Secondly, be prepared to not immediately like the young heroine. While she, Jacqueline, is admirably strong-willed, brave and dignified from page 1, she is also unattractively haughty and her self-assured belief that she is a superior creature endowed with noble virtues because of her aristocratic birth and upbringing is sure to irritate many readers. But for me, this allowed a most interesting development of character to take place and so added further richness to this moving story. By the latter half of the story, we find the heroine's thinking about "the filthy common peasant" and the vulgar profit-driven bourgeoisie profoundly altered. Jacqueline's testy and passionate relationship with the magnificent wiser and older hero, plus her encounters with a common street urchin bring her a new understanding of what makes people decent, worthy and honorable. And in learning this lesson Jacqueline's true and glorious colours are ultimately revealed. Brilliantly done. It is also possible, that some readers will not approve of Jacqueline's desperate need to avenge the wrongful deaths of her father and brother - because it means abandoning perhaps forever, her two young sisters. This obsessive need for revenge seems unconscionable to us, as most of us have not been raised to believe, as the noble classes of that time were, that vengeance and honor -killings were obligatory actions, duties of the highest order to family, country and king. These days most of us admire those who are strong and compassionate enough to "love thy enemy", and who fight for causes, not with bloodshed, but perhaps using the passive-resistance style of say, Mahatma Gandhi. Not so then. In my opinion, a good part of what makes this story so worthwhile is Karyn Monk's understanding and portrayal of the very different views of honorable behavior that existed in society at the close of feudalism in Europe. A final warning to the reader who may take this book to a public place to read, - beware the first love scene! Here are images so tantalizingly exquisitely erotic, that you would

be well advised to read them in a setting where any sighs or heightened color in your cheeks are not noticed by passers-by! It is testimony to Karyn Monk's superb finesse as a descriptive writer that she can create such a moving vicarious experience for her readers' pleasure. I imagine that the obligatory love scenes required by this genre of story, could be easily turned farcical by the wrong choice of words (think of the stereotype of the sex scenes in such books- all heaving bosom and rising manhood - often ridiculous). Ms. Monk's portrayal, on the other hand, is pure poetry. Enough said, I recommend this book to anyone who wants a challenging worthwhile story to read. See for yourself. I predict it will leave a lasting impression.

KurzbeschreibungFrom Karyn Monk, author of *The Witch and the Warrior* and *Once a Warrior*, comes an enthralling love story that is as passionate as it is suspenseful....She trusted him with her life....Sentenced to death, Jacqueline never expected to be rescued from her filthy cell by an unlikely visitor--a man whose disguise hid a devastatingly handsome British agent. Now the two were on the run--and for as long as he was there to protect her, she felt strangely safe....But could she trust him with her heart?They called him the Black Prince, and to save the unjustly condemned he took hair-raising risks, slipping in and out of courtrooms and prisons, brazenly defying the threat of capture and death. The reckless spy tried to tell himself that Jacqueline was just another prisoner to be spirited away to safety. Yet there was something about her fierce dignity, her unrelenting sense of honor, her unbreakable spirit that made him never want to let her go....HE RISKED HIS LIFE TO SAVE HERS....She thought she was about to die when her family's farm came under attack.Instead, a handsome stranger rode to her rescue and took a bullet to save her.But when the bloodshed and terror were over,Josephine Armstrong discovered that the man she owed her life to was a British soldier.She could not betray Lt. Col. Damien Powell -- not after what he'd done for her.But she would pay dearly for harboring the enemy, forced to prove her patriotism by becoming the rebels' most beautiful spy....BUT WOULD SHE GIVE HIM HER HEART IN RETURN? When he saw the lovely young woman struggling with her captor, Damien didn't care which side of the bloody war she was on.He only knew that he had never seen such an incredible mixture of extraordinary beauty and raw courage in his life.Yet Damien couldn't know that one day this innocent farm girl was destined to betray him.She would become Charles Town's most irresistible spy, dazzling officers with her charms even as she stripped them of strategic secrets.But when a twist of fate brings Josephine back into his life again, Damien will gamble everything on the chance that he can make this exquisite rebel surrender...if only in his arms. --From the Paperback edition.Pressestimmen"What a riveting and passionate story!"--Jane Feather"Newcomer Karyn Monk, stand up and take a bow.This talented author has gifted readers with a first-rate historical romance that will not soon be forgotten.Surrender to a Stranger is one of those rare gems that will have 'addicted' readers going back time and time again for yet another heady dose of fantastical reading."--The Talisman"Such a fascinating tale, it kept me mesmerized from beginning to end.A wonderful reading experience."--Rendezvous"You will relish this historical romance."--Affaire de CoeurDon't miss Karyn Monk's other spellbinding romances:*The Witch and the Warrior*: "Monk spins a fascinating, readable story of passion and magic that will charm readers who like their historicals laced with humor and appealing characters."--Library Journal"An enchanting and delightful read."--Rocky Mountain News*Once a Warrior*: "Monk grips the reader with her powerful images of Scotland and of war, witty dialogue, strong characters and Arthurian undertones."--Publishers Weekly*The Rebel and the Redcoat*: "Karyn Monk...lives up to her promise as a strong, vibrant, versatile voice in romance. *The Rebel and the Redcoat* is not only a fascinating portrait of the Revolution, but a marvelous love story and a pulse-pounding adventure that will win readers' hearts."--Romantic TimesAnd look for *The Rose and the Warrior* in spring 2000KurzbeschreibungFrom Karyn Monk, author of *The Witch and the Warrior* and *Once a Warrior*, comes an enthralling love story that is as passionate as it is suspenseful....She trusted him with her life....Sentenced to death, Jacqueline never expected to be rescued from her filthy cell by an unlikely visitor--a man whose disguise hid a devastatingly handsome British agent. 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