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A Man To Call My Own



Synopsis

A Man to Call My Own introduces us to a charismatic pair of twins, Amanda and Marian Laton, who, after the sudden death of their father, are sent to live with their aunt on a sprawling Texas ranch. As the twin sisters—none of whom is nasty, the other nice—both find themselves pursuing Chad Kinkaid, the cowboy son of a neighboring ranching family, Lindsey skillfully charts the intoxicating course of first love—and all of love's attendant twists and turns—that ends in one of the Laton twins winning the heart of a man she can call her own.

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Customer Reviews

Amanda and Marian Laton are identical twins who couldn't be more different. Amanda, the apple of her father's eye, is a spoiled, jealous young woman; sweet-hearted Marian, in an effort to be as unlike her sister as possible, strives to make herself plain and undesirable. Set in the 1870s, this historical romance by the prolific Lindsey begins when Amanda and Marian's father dies in their hometown of Haverhill, Mass., and the twins are shipped off to Texas. Under the provisions of their father's will, they cannot claim their inheritances until they are married, and in the meantime they must live with their aunt, Kathleen Dunn, a widowed rancher nicknamed Red. Life on the ranch is much too rustic for Amanda, but Marian enjoys the country living—and her brushes with Chad Kinkaid, heir to a ranching fortune, who is lending Red a helping hand. Hiding behind thick-lensed spectacles she doesn't need, Marian tries to deflect Chad, afraid that if she shows an interest in him her mean-spirited twin will lure him away. Slapstick catfights and anachronistic language ("it wasn't

just the jealousy issues") give the novel a farcical slant; on the plus side, there is plenty of western kitsch: a train robbery, an attempted kidnapping and an old-fashioned barbecue. Concluding with an improbable surprise ending that is most unsatisfying and rather bitter for a historical romance, this is a clunky if occasionally entertaining effort that nonetheless will sell as Lindsey is wont to do—that is, a lot. Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Twists and turns galore and a Wild West setting make for a delightful romp by veteran romance writer Lindsey. Identical twin heiresses Marian and Amanda are as different as night and day. Amanda has been spoiled rotten by their father; Marian has been ignored. Marian has rendered herself as unappealing as possible to avoid having Amanda destroy the life of any man who might find her twin alluring. Their father's will specifies that they cannot claim their inheritance until they marry with the approval of their Texas aunt, a rancher called Red, so off they go on an eventful journey complete with stage robbers, train robbers, and a bounty hunter. Along the way, they are rescued by Chad, Red's foreman, the son of a local cattle baron. Marian falls for Chad but thinks that he is infatuated with Amanda. Marian's attempt to learn how to ride a horse turns into a session of passionate lovemaking with Chad, but Amanda claims that she was the one involved, making Red order Chad to marry Amanda. Then, when Marian is kidnapped from a barbecue, things really get cooking. Diana Tixier HeraldCopyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Surrender My Love is book #3 in the Viking series. It can be read as a stand-alone, but I recommend reading Hearts Aflame (book #2) first. The characters in Hearts Aflame have a significant role in this book and it's nicer to have read their story first. Besides, Hearts Aflame is a much better book. This was an odd relationship. Selig wandered to Erika's home asking for help. He wasn't being himself due to injuries and fever. Erika had him lashed. He is soon rescued but wants revenge. So he asks his people to kidnap Erika which they do. For most of the book Erika is Selig's prisoner. He keeps her in chains in his bedroom. Selig makes threats and wants to punish her but he never does. She feels guilty, doesn't say much, and wants to leave. This set up was no fun. They don't get to know and like each other. They just have this tension between them for most of the book. Selig thinks he hates her. Then all of a sudden toward the end Selig and Erika are having sex and like each other. I didn't get to see why or how

they changed their feelings. It was empty romance. Didn't do anything for me. DATA: Narrative mode: 3rd person. Story length: 403 pages. Swearing language: none that I recall. Sexual language: mild. Number of sex scenes: 1. Setting: 879 England. Copyright: 1994. Genre: historical romance, Vikings.

AUTHOR: JOHANNA LINDSEY is a Romance, Historical Fiction, Fantasy writer. Book (1) FIRES OF WINTER took you from the Celts of Wales to the Vikings of Norway. Book (2) HEARTS AFLAME from the Vikings of Norway to the Saxons of Wessex. This book SURRENDER MY LOVE from Saxons of Wessex to East Anglia the home of Danes & Saxons. SEXUAL EXPLICITNESS ***compared to the previous two books, this was LightWeight** (marital relationship) "....his manhood was revealed...." (and) "....pleasure drawn from each thrust..." GENRE: Romance, Historical Fiction. SETTING: Wessex and East Anglia 879 A.D. CENTRAL CHARACTERS: SELIG HAARDRAD is first born to Garrick and Brenna Haardrag. His features are more like his Celtic mother as opposed to his Norwegian father. He spends his time traveling between Norway and his newly built residence near his brother-in-law and sister's Wessex manor. ERIKA HARALDSSON, a Dane, lives with and manages her brother's manor in East Anglia. Her personality is civil as compared to being authoritative and she is exceptionally beautiful. SYNOPSIS: Selig voluntarily travels to the Danish King on a mission for Saxon King Alfred. His group is attacked on the way and Selig is left for dead. Having been revived, he seeks shelter at the Haraldsson manor where he is tortured and accused of being a spy rather than being welcomed. Selig's sister rescues him and takes him severely wounded back to Wessex along with Erika Haraldsson by way of a knife at her throat. WHAT I LIKED: Erika's shadow is a great person to know IF you want your neck broken. Kristen is a handful (just like her mother). Sexual descriptions toned down as compared to previous (2) books in this series. WHAT I DID NOT LIKE: Did not like the way that the circumstances surrounding Selig's initial rescue were written. I give this book (4) stars. This series continues to be on my fav list. This author is on my fav list. I appreciate that the author chose to lessen the powerful sexual narratives in this book as compared to the previous (2) books.

Johanna Lindsey certainly knows how to write...and her writing is very good as always, but this third in the Haargard family trilogy was disappointing from a story standpoint compared to the second one ("Hearts Aflame") to which I gave 5 stars. This one tells of Kristen's brother, Selig, a womanizing and very handsome Viking now living with his sister and her husband, Royce, a Saxon and friend of King Alfred. He has decided to stay in Wessex and build his own house there, but

while he has time on his hands, he agrees to serve as a Danish interpreter for King Alfred's mission to propose marriage alliances to some Danish noblemen to seal the peace. But the small group that departs with Selig is set upon by thieves and all are slain save for Selig who gets a nasty bump on the head and ends up being mistakenly thought a spy. Worse, while suffering from his head injury, he seeks help from Lady Erika of Gronwood who orders him to be lashed. Staved, fevered and nearly dead, Kristen comes to his rescue. She captures Erika so that Selig can have his vengeance on her once he recovers. Selig is not really capable to much more than embarrassing Erika and due to King Alfred's intervention, Selig must set her free or marry her. He decides on marriage. At this point I was stymied. I could not see any chemistry between the two nor any great developing romance. It just wasn't believable. Selig seems a bit shallow and Erika was uninteresting and at times an unreasonable shrew. When Selig finally declares his love for her, I was bored. So sorry to see a great series end like this as I loved the Haargard family.

I liked this series but poor Selig the Blessed; not sure how blessed he is. He gets almost killed in Hearts Aflame and now again poor guy can't get a break. Anyhow I did like the story of how Lady Erika is sorry once she learns that Selig was telling the truth. Selig is a ladies man for sure but doesn't really know any other way since women fall at his feet because of his looks so now he finds a woman that doesn't. Her guilt and then her embarrassment when he seeks his revenge keeps her from falling right away. Loved the back and forth between these two and Kristen's sticking up for her brother; I also love that Brenna & Garrick; and Kristen & Royce are in the story also. I like reading how the characters from previous books are doing. Diamondgirl

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