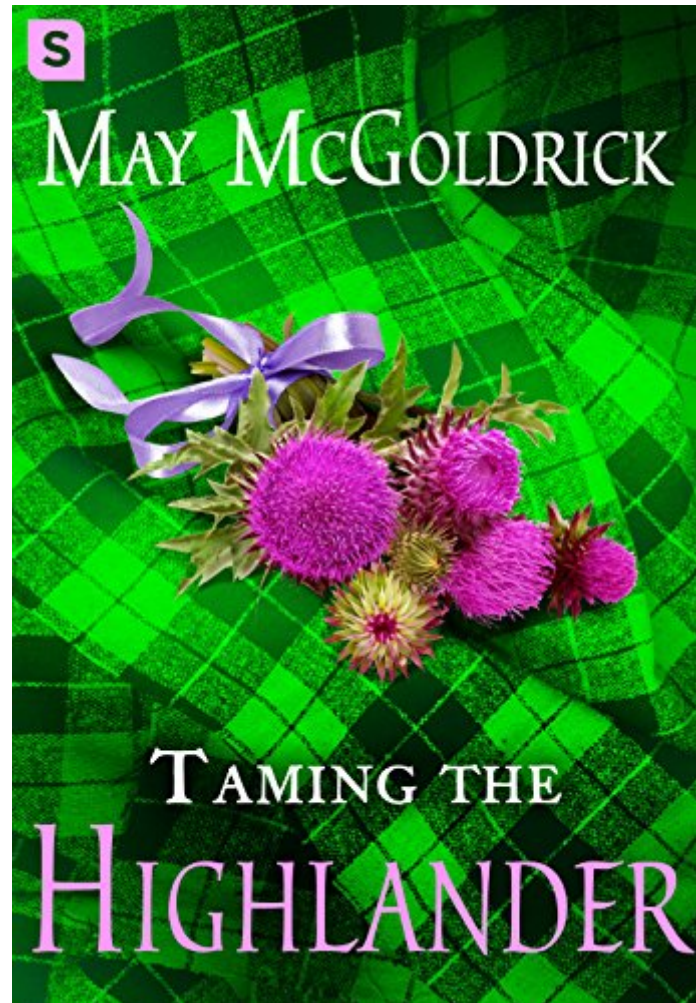


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Taming The Highlander (The Scottish Relic Trilogy)



Synopsis

This new historical romance from May McGoldrick pits one spirited lass against her biggest challenge yet: a Highland lord who has no desire to lose his heart. Innes Munro has the ability to "read" a person's past simply by touching them, but her gift comes with a heavy price: her freedom. Forced to stay at desolate Castle Girnigoe, Innes never expects to be drawn to the wounded warrior who haunts its dark passages and challenges her at every turn. Conall Sinclair, the earl of Caithness, carries the scars of battles with the English and the lash marks of their dungeons, but the wounds that fester within give him even greater pain. Isolating himself from his clan and the rest of the world in a tower perched on the wild Scottish coast, Conall is reluctant to let the spirited Innes close to him, however neither can deny the growing passion that ignites with every look, every touch. But can Conall ever love a woman who can read his darkest secrets and feel the pain he hides... and can love really tame all fears? As dangerous forces close in, Conall and Innes must take the ultimate leap of faith and forge a bond of trust that will save them both...or lose each other forever.

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Customer Reviews

Powerful magic can be a huge blessing as well as a dangerous curse. There are 4 stones in Scotland which provide the people who carry those stones with great powers. An English villain has found out about the stones and intends to gather all 4 of the stones. He believes he will become the most powerful man on earth. So far, he has murdered one man for a stone and stolen the second stone from a young woman. He and his invaders have murdered and created havoc on the quest for power and the search for the final two stones. Innes is a young woman who has inherited one of the stones from her late mother. Her power allows her to touch a person and see into their minds as well as see their past. It is a huge responsibility to unearth secrets which belong to others. Innes is certain her life will be one of separation from others because people would be too uncomfortable if they knew her secret. When her sister is betrothed Innes travels to attend the wedding. A new world opens up for both sisters. This branch of the Sinclair clan welcomes them with open arms. Connall was severely wounded in a battle with the English. He was then captured, tortured and imprisoned. It was nearly a year before his clan found him and were able to ransom him and bring him home. But, it was not before he had lost a hand and become a guilt ridden survivor. Connall has never discussed his past with anyone. This is the second in a series. But, it works as a stand alone read. The story is complete. The plot and character development are well done. Any reader will be able to enjoy the story. Ms McGoldrick has produced a book which brings the reader into the world of historic Scotland. The plot is interesting as well as informative.

Having absolutely loved *Much Ado About Highlanders*, this NetGalley reviewer was thrilled to be gifted an ARC in exchange for an honest, unbiased review for the next book in this series, *Taming the Highlander*. Though both books can be considered stand-alones, because each one focuses on one main couple, you will enjoy/understand the mysterious backdrop involving the stone relic more if you read book 1 first. Trust me, you also won't want to miss out on Alexander and Kenna's journey to their HEA. Innes and Conall take center stage in book 2. She is the eldest sibling of a woman who has been brought to Conall's castle to marry his younger brother, the laird. Conall turned down the lairdship after being ransomed for a large sum of money when he was severely wounded in battle/taken as prisoner. The guy is actually missing his right hand. Since he was believed to have been killed, his brother not only assumed the role as laird but had to honor Conall's previous betrothal agreement to a woman who is now deceased. Fortunately, neither men seemed to have been in love with her, so her ghost isn't haunting their hearts and keeping them from finding their true love. In fact, it is implied she wasn't a particularly nice person. There were circumstances involving her death though that eventually are explained. Innes is gifted or

cursed, depending how one chooses to look at it, with the ability to read people's thoughts/feel their emotions/even experience physical pain from their memories by simply touching them. Wearing head to toe black, including gloves, makes her a very mysterious character, indeed. She prefers solitude and to remain in the shadows whenever possible. Her idea of fun is sketching and solitary walks, preferably in moonlight.

Amazing story with a great story line! Taming the Highlander continues the concept of the magic pieces of the Wheel of Lugh introduced in Much Ado About Highlanders. Taming is a great standalone, but is even better read as second in the series. Innes Munro has one of the four tiles received from her mother on her mother's deathbed. Her tile allows her to know and feel the past of those she touches. To protect herself and to not intrude on the privacy of others, she always wears gloves. Each of the bearers of the four tiles does not know who has the other tiles. They just know the tiles cannot be brought together because disaster would follow. Each of the bearers of a tile has a unique gift. There is a chronicle telling the tale of the wheel. At the beginning of each chapter you as the reader are given a tidbit from the chronicle to let you know the history of the tiles. Innes is at Castle Girnigoe, home of the Sinclairs, with her sister, Ailein, as Ailein is about to marry Bryce, the clan Sinclair laird. Bryce is the second son even though his brother Conall is the eldest and should be laird. Bryce is marrying Ailein to rebuild the clan's coffers with her dowry. The clan is basically broke due to paying the ransom for Conall to be released from prison. Bryce tells Conall he is not suffering by marrying Ailein as she will be good for him. Ironically, Ailein and Bryce have a huge fight that in time plays into the manipulation of Innes and Conall. Bryce only became the laird because it was thought Conall had died in battle the previous year. Bryce gave all the funds or wealth the clan had to procure his brother's release from prison. Conall had thought and accepted he would die in prison. He lived through a horrible battle in which he lost his hand and his army.

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