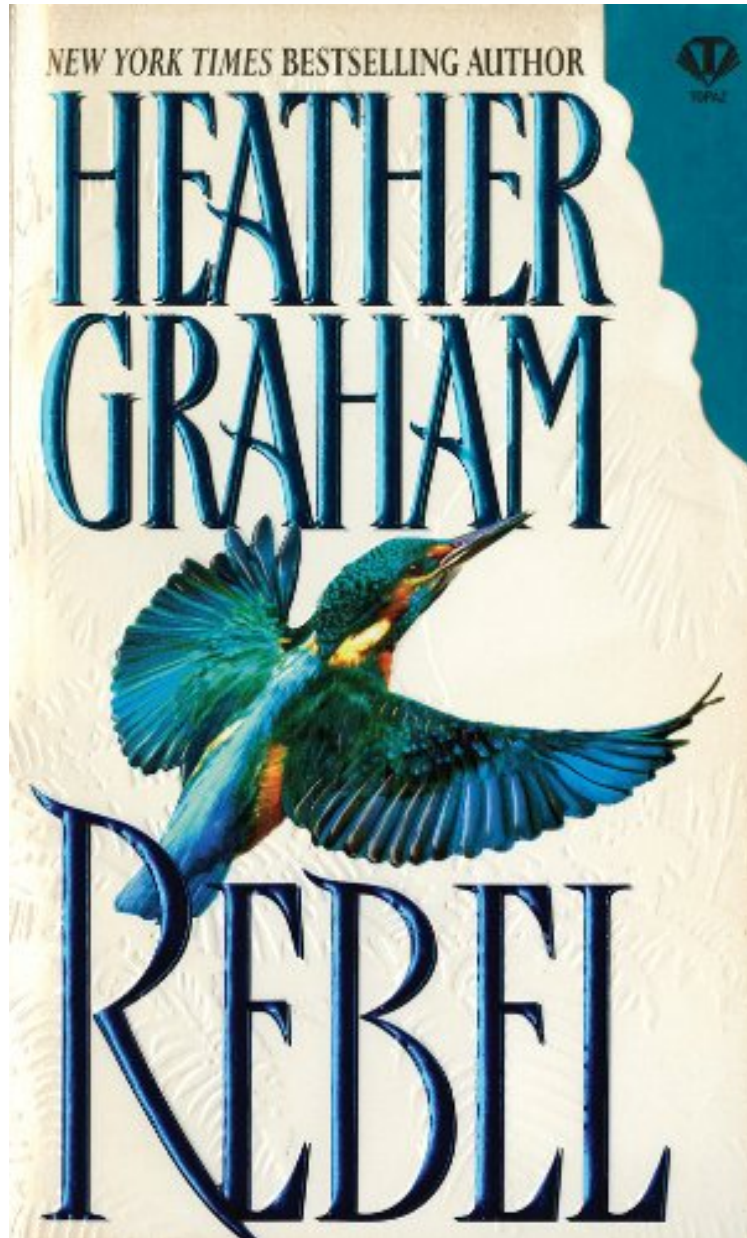


[E-BOOK] Rebel (The Florida Series)

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Von Heather Graham

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Von Heather Graham : Rebel (The Florida Series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Rebel (The Florida Series):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.
Disappointment on a moderate scaleVon Ein KundeBefore reviewing this book, I asked myself-Can a male reader,

unversed in the genre of Historical Romance, maintain objectivity, shelve the narrow-minded prejudice regarding this decidedly "female-oriented" offering and judge the plot and the prose on their own merits? Yes, I told myself, I am an author of Civil War fiction—who has tossed into his own work a modicum of "love scenes"—and the premise of "Rebel," set during the early years of the Civil War, had interesting possibilities. Therefore, I determined, I would not judge a book by its cover... But when the cover art features a bare-chested Fabio-type holding in his muscular arms a blond bomb-shell in skin-tight leather pants (right, like ANY woman during the Civil War dressed like that) I had my doubts whether I could do so. (Who commissions these artists, anyway?—and why?) Anyway... "Rebel" is the tale of the young and beautiful Alaina McMann, a headstrong woman in Florida who, for a variety of reasons, comes to detest the Union army and sides with the South when war erupts. Unfortunately for Alaina, her husband, the dashing and equally bullheaded Ian McKenzie, is an army officer who stays true to the United States, despite his own Southern upbringing. The story opens in May of 1862 as Union Major Ian McKenzie (known as the Panther for his daring escapades along Florida's southeastern coast) and his small company of men find themselves hot on the trail of the Mocassin, a rebel spy who has, thus far, eluded capture. I'll give you just one guess as to the Mocassin's identity—don't worry, I'm giving nothing away that isn't clear by the end of the Prologue. Which brings me to my first problem... This revelation, I wholeheartedly believe, was a major error on the part of the author. By showing us almost from the first page that Alaina McMann McKenzie is the dreaded Mocassin, Graham robbed her readers of the opportunity to ask themselves "Is she or isn't she?" I, for one, missed the tension and suspense that would have accompanied the "not knowing." Instead, what we have sandwiched between the Prologue and the final chapter (which, apart from a few additional scenes, is basically a replay of the Prologue, including much of the same words and dialogue) is one long series of flashbacks. Unfortunately, to sustain the tale, Graham relied too heavily on the sexual tension between "husband and wife" when a healthy dose of mystery would have truly set this story apart. Aside from this, I do have additional problems with Rebel... Although the research is adequate at best, several errors slipped through the cracks—the most glaring is the mention of President Van Buren instead of Buchanan. For shame! Now let's discuss believability... Within hours of their initial meeting, Alaina and Ian are forced into a hasty marriage, brought about when they are caught in a compromising situation (that situation, in and of itself, was far too coincidental for comfort—laughable, really). Now, come on, we have two supposedly intelligent characters, and they could think of no alternative to avoid a scandal except by taking the plunge (for anyone who has read "Rebel," this play on words was definitely intended). As a reader, I will buy many scenarios, but not implausible scenarios. If, when reading, I find myself groaning aloud, then something is definitely wrong. I'm certainly not saying everything in "Rebel" is groan-worthy—indeed, both Alaina's pro-Southern sentiments and Ian's pro-Union feelings have a ring of truth to them, and in this respect, Graham should be commended for laying such fine groundwork—but the unbelievability of the aforementioned scenario, as well as several others, left a bad taste in my mouth. To present and future authors, let my final problem with "Rebel" stand as a lesson in what NOT to do when writing your masterpiece. Apart from Alaina and Ian, I had trouble with the character names. A minor quibble, you might say, and you'd usually be correct, but not when you find yourself utterly confused and hardpressed to follow the story. (I should have been warned—it is usually a bad sign when a "Family Tree" is included.) For instance, we are confronted (occasionally in the same scene) with a Jarret, a James, a Julian, a Jerome, and a Jennifer. Then there's a Tara, a Tia, a Teela, a Rose and a Risa. Surnames also pose a problem, with a McMann, a McKenzie, and a Magee. (More than once, Graham, herself, called her leading lady by the incorrect surname, which makes me wonder whether the author did not have access to her own family-tree diagram.) Regardless, it created a problem, an irritating one, and authors should avoid falling into this trap. I suppose you will probably surmise that I was not too crazy about this book. You would be right. Mind you, it was certainly not the worst novel I've ever read—overall, the descriptions and dialogue were fairly tight, and though I thought I would scream if I encountered yet another version of the word "fire" during the love scenes, Graham does well in developing her characters. It's simply the implausible scenarios I question, and the forfeiting of rich suspense in favor of the all-too-easy sexual tension. This might be enough to encourage readers to seek out more of Graham's work, but, frankly, I'll pass.

Trace Edward Zaber, Owner/Editor - Of Ages Past Magazine
1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. This is by far the worst book that exists on this planet.
Von G. Woodruff
This is by far the worst book that exists on this planet. Heather Graham seems to think being forced into marriage and then being systematically raped by your husband is romantic. Remove the sex/rape scenes and you have an incredibly boring boilerplate story. The civil war backdrop provides the only fleeting element of interest. Not only did I find this book disgusting, I found it's suggestion that marital rape is somehow arousing morally offensive. The only reason to have this book in your possession is to destroy it, which is a public service.
0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. An Enjoyable Read!
Von Ein Kunde
Being an avid Heather Graham fan and a passionate American Civil War historian, I found 'Rebel' slightly disappointing. The opening definitely displays the typical Heather Graham style of writing, the character reflecting past occurrences leading up to the present. I find it difficult to accept that the two characters, Ian and Alaina, could have fallen in love due to the fact that they were seldom together. Due to Ian's commission with the Union and Alaina's devotion to the Confederacy, the two clashed each time they were together but were cold and distant even during their most intimate moments. But Ian's strong and protective character appealed to me; while I

found it difficult to relate or share the passion that Alaina felt for her cause and actions. But she did love Ian and had enough sense to fear being heartbroken. And she was brave, stupid at times, but brave all the same. 'Rebel' does not include the intrigue, the passion, nor the mystery that the more recent contribution to the saga contains. 'Surrender', the more recent of the saga, is far more exciting! Rebel rates in my opinion a disappointing 3 1/2 stars but one worth once starting, eventually finishing.

KurzbeschreibungFrom the New York Times bestselling author comes a story of love forged in the flames of the American Civil War, and a betrayal that threatens to tear it apart. Alaina McMann's honor is compromised when she finds herself in the brazenly sensual arms of Union Major Ian McKenzie. Despite her loyalty to the Southern cause, she has no choice but to marry the Northern soldier. Their convictions keep them distant and cold from one another, until love begins to melt their hearts. But when Major McKenzie is dispatched on a mission to capture the most notorious and seductive spy in the confederacy, known only as the Moccasin, he realizes that the rebel he is hunting may be his own wife.

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Synopsis Alaina McMann fears she will succumb to the brazen sensuality of Union Major Ian McKenzie, who is ordered to capture the Confederacy's most notorious--and seductive--spy, known as the Moccasin, who also happens to be his wife.