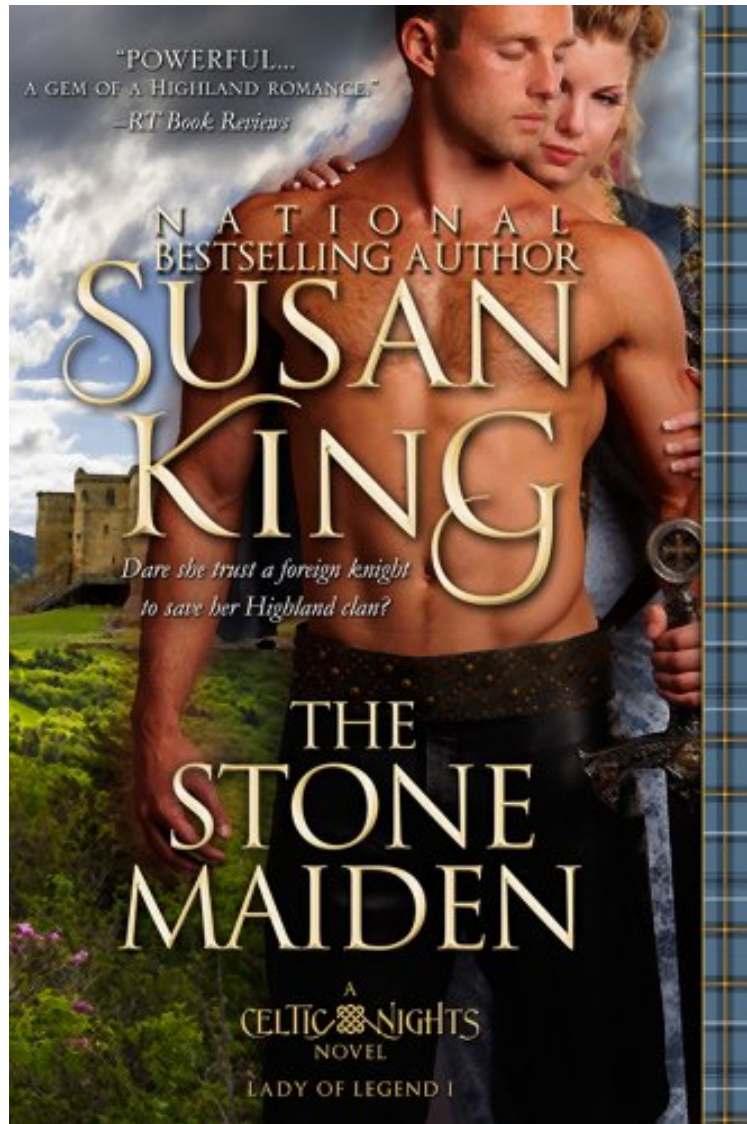


(Free and download) The Stone Maiden (The Celtic Nights Series, Book 1) (English Edition)

## The Stone Maiden (The Celtic Nights Series, Book 1) (English Edition)

Von Susan King

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**Von Susan King : The Stone Maiden (The Celtic Nights Series, Book 1) (English Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Stone Maiden (The Celtic Nights Series, Book 1) (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A beautiful storyVon EireenneThis is the second book I read by Susan King (I've also read "The Heather Moon"). This

period of history has always been a favorite of mine. What I liked most about the book (excluding the powerful love that Alainna and Sebastien felt for one another) was that I really felt that I was there. I felt the emotions that the characters were feeling while envisioning the beautiful landscape of the Scottish highlands. One could feel like they were part of the story. That is how Susan King makes you feel. I just could not put it down. I strongly recommend this book to anyone who has yet to read anything by Susan King. I look forward to reading more Susan King novels in the future.

2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A special romance  
Von Ein Kunde  
In 1170 in the Highlands, Clan Laren is dying after generations of a feud and raids from Clan MacNehton. There are no young people left except for the clan leader, Alainna MacLaren. The legend of the nearby STONE MAIDEN is that after seven centuries of protecting the Laren clan, their safety will end unless Alainna marries a warrior willing to adopt her name by the spring. Desperate for help, Alainna petitions King William for a heroic Scottish husband. William sends Breton Sebastien Le Bret, who has a beloved son living in Brittany, a good enough reason in his mind not to adopt Alainna's name. As Alainna and Sebastien fight with each other and war with their common enemy, they fall in love. However, the surname remains an issue as she believes in the legend and he loves his five-year-old son.

THE STONE MAIDEN is an exciting Medieval Highlander tale that centers on duty, honor, and love. The story line is filled with excitement that picturesquely provides the audience insight into clan life, survival and period politics. The lead couple is a warm pair even though Sebastien's patience with Alainna seems stretched. The support cast augments the tale with a feel for the twelfth century. Susan King shows why she is considered by fans and critics to be one of the monarchs of the sub-genre.

Harriet Klausner  
1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The Land of Angels  
Von Catherine Asaro  
The Stone Maiden is a lyrical novel set in twelfth century Scotland, a tale of Celtic clans and Norman knights intertwined with the legend of an ancient maiden. With grace and style, Susan King weaves together the threads of fantasy, romance, and historical fiction. After her father and brothers are killed in a feud with Clan Nechtan, Alainna MacLaren becomes the sole heir to Kinloch, a vast but impoverished holding that sits like a gateway to the mountains of the western Highlands. Her clan is dying, with only her elderly kin surviving after so many generations of violence. The feud began in the fifth century, after a MacNechtan accosted a MacLaren woman. When faeries discovered the woman dying, they caught her spirit inside a granite pillar and raised it on the shore of the loch near her beloved home. For centuries, the Stone Maiden has protected Clan Laren. However, the spell can last only seven hundred years. Soon Alainna will chisel the final mark upon the stone, where the years have been counted. No one knows what will happen then. Will the feud die, will it rage anew, or will Clan Laren simply fade into the mists of time?

King William, the Scottish monarch, wishes to establish a Norman military presence in Kinloch to ensure his authority -- so he sends Sebastien le Bret, one of his Norman knights, to wed Alainna. Author Susan King skillfully uses Alainna, Sebastien, and the Stone Maiden as a metaphor for the uneasy alliances among the Normans and Celts in twelfth century Scotland.

Fantasy can be thought of as lying along a continuum. At one end are works told in broad strokes that emphasize events. These are big stories, often epic in scope, with characters moving within the framework of the plot like chess pieces on a board. At the other end are character-driven tales that focus on individuals; their personal stories inform and offer insight into the larger context. Although I enjoy fantasy drawn from all along that continuum, I tend to prefer works centered on personal relationships among the characters. The Stone Maiden weaves a romantic story around Alainna and Sebastien that brought the Celtic history and legends alive for me. Celtic folklore abounds with legends that involve stone. In this book, those themes provide an allegory for the political backdrop of the story and act as a symbol of human spirituality. The stone also becomes a metaphor for Alainna, who is a skilled stone carver. King's subtle blending of mythology and the art of stone carving create a poetic mood, one enhanced by her evocation of the stark beauty in the Scottish countryside. The Celtic poem from Alexander Carmichael's *Carmina Gadelica* (Charms of the Gaels), which serves as a theme for Sebastien, embodies the story's mystical quality: I am weary, and I a stranger, Lead me to the land of angels. Be my eyes in time of darkness, Be my shield against hosts of faery, Be my wings till I find my home.

The Stone Maiden is a magical tale of love, fantasy, history, pride, and honor. It offers to take the reader home on its wings of enchantment.

Kurzbeschreibung  
Desperate to save her diminished clan, Alainna MacLaren, heiress to a vast Highland property, seeks a warrior to protect her people but he must agree to marry her and take her clan's surname. When the king sends a foreign knight to wed Alainna and gain control of her lands, Sebastien le Bret vows to lend his sword but not his heart nor will he sacrifice his name and honor. Yet he is powerfully attracted to Alainna, a stone carver of mystical talent whose pride and passion more than match his own. But a local legend predicts disaster as time grows short unless the warrior and the maiden can conquer stubborn pride and give in to the power of love.

REVIEWS: "King strongly draws readers into the plot and her characters' lives." ~Publishers Weekly "Exhilarating... Demonstrates why fans and critics cherish her novels." ~Affaire de Coeur "Filled with excitement." ~Midwest Books "Every part blends seamlessly... I could feel the mist and smell the heather." ~Laurie Likes Books.com

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orderThe Raven's WishThe Raven's MoonThe Heather MoonOTHER TITLES by Susan KingThe Black Thorne's RoseABOUT Susan King:Susan King is the bestselling, award-winning author of 22 historical novels and novellas praised for historical accuracy, master storytelling and lyricism. Learn more about Susans books at [www.susanfraserking.com](http://www.susanfraserking.com), [www.susankingbooks.com](http://www.susankingbooks.com) and [www.wordwenches.com](http://www.wordwenches.com)..deSetting: Scotland Highlands, 1170 Sensuality Rating: 7 The last surviving member of her family, Alainna MacLaren is heiress to the rich properties of Kinlochan and chief of Clan Laren, whose ranks have been decimated by a centuries-old feud with a neighboring clan. Desperate to protect her clan, she asks the king to choose a husband for her who is both a mighty warrior and one who will consent to take her surname so that her family name will not die out. Though sympathetic to her plight, the king has the security of all of Scotland to consider and orders a Breton member of his honor guard, Sebastien le Bret, to wed the lady, govern her lands, and build a castle at Kinlochan to secure the western Highlands. Alainna and Sebastien are powerfully attracted to each other, but each has commitments to clan, family, and king that compel them to place honor first and love second. Despite the pledges, the treachery of Clan Laren's enemies, and threats to both their lives, neither can deny the deep love that grows between them. Whether they will survive and save the clan is another matter. Strong and true, King's voice resonates with the lyric rhythm of Highland poetry. The Scotland of 1170 comes to life with vivid color, and each character, from the hero and heroine to the smallest player, is sharply drawn and unforgettable. Hearthside tales, the legend of the stone maiden, and the heroine's artistry with stone cutting are only a few of the fascinating details that make this novel unique. --Lois Faye DyerKurzbeschreibungDesperate to save her diminished clan, Alainna MacLaren, heiress to a vast Highland property, seeks a warrior to protect her peoplebut he must agree to marry her and take her clan's surname.When the king sends a foreign knight to wed Alainna and gain control of her lands, Sebastien le Bret vows to lend his sword but not his heartnor will he sacrifice his name and honor. Yet he is powerfully attracted to Alainnaa stone carver of mystical talentwhose pride and passion more than match his own.But a local legend predicts disaster as time grows shortunless the warrior and the maiden can conquer stubborn pride and give in to the power of love.REVIEWS:"King strongly draws readers into the plot and her characters' lives." ~Publishers Weekly"Exhilarating... Demonstrates why fans and critics cherish her novels." ~Affaire de Coeur"Filled with excitement." ~Midwest Books "Every part blends seamlessly... I could feel the mist and smell the heather." ~LaurieLikesBooks.comTHE CELTIC NIGHTS, in series order The Stone MaidenThe Swan MaidenThe Sword MaidenLaird of the WindTHE BORDER ROGUES, in series orderThe Raven's WishThe Raven's MoonThe Heather MoonOTHER TITLES by Susan KingThe Black Thorne's RoseABOUT Susan King:Susan King is the bestselling, award-winning author of 22 historical novels and novellas praised for historical accuracy, master storytelling and lyricism. Learn more about Susans books at [www.susanfraserking.com](http://www.susanfraserking.com), [www.susankingbooks.com](http://www.susankingbooks.com) and [www.wordwenches.com](http://www.wordwenches.com).