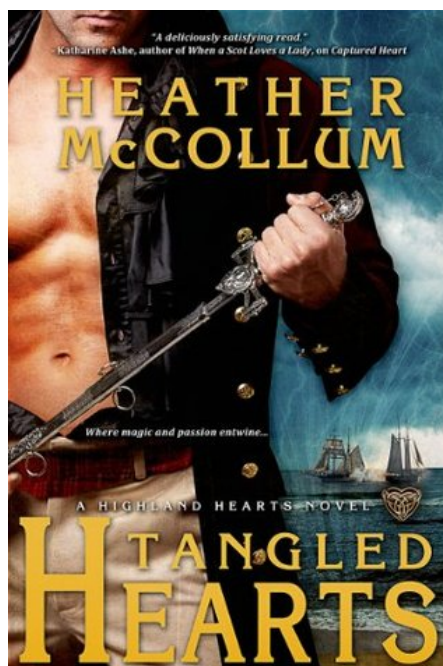




Tangled Hearts

Heather McCollum

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Growing up on a pirate ship, every day was full of adventure for Pandora Wyatt. It was also the perfect place for her to use her magic without persecution. But after her surrogate father is imprisoned in the Tower of London, Pandora leaves the safety of the vessel to rescue him before he's executed. She expects her mission to be difficult, but what she doesn't expect is to have her life saved by the sexiest man she's ever met.

Highland warrior Ewan Brody always wanted a sweet, uncomplicated woman by his side, but he can't fight his attraction to the beautiful enchantress who's stumbled into his life. He quickly learns, though, that Pandora is not only a witch, but also a pirate and possibly a traitor's daughter--and though she's tricked him into playing her husband at King Henry's court, he's falling hard.

Soon, they begin to discover dark secrets leading to the real traitor of the Tudor court, the one Ewan was hired to capture. Now, Ewan and Pandora must uncover the truth before they lose more than just their hearts.

Tangled Hearts Details

Date : Published January 28th 2014 by Entangled: Select

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From Reader Review Tangled Hearts for online ebook

Talking Books says

Tangled Hearts by Heather McCollum, book two of The Highland Hearts Series,

Dory is on a mission to save her Captain Bart and almost brother Will from the Tower of London.

Ewan has one mission: to return the traitorous corpse to the King. But along the way he sees Dory in distress and leaps to her protection, which starts a series of events that neither could have foretold.

The character interactions were intense and the way Ewan and Dory worked together to just survive the Kings court was exceptionally well written! Between the King, his advisor, the hanger ons, past enemies, along with the unexpected arrival of compatriots, and not forgetting Ewan's trusty stead Goath, the story just twists and turns in directions you couldn't imagine, with many challenges abound!

Tangled Hearts was the first book I've read by Heather McCollum and I was not disappointed.

The characters were a good pairing in their strengths and views, with action, suspense, romance, intrigue and laugh out loud moments plentiful in this book! A magnificent read that I thoroughly enjoyed and recommend!

Five Stars ??????????

ARC received for an honest review.
www.talkingbooksblog.net/?p=1255

Linda says

Scot Ewan is on a mission for his clan, to bring the body of a traitor to the King in London, and return safe and sound. Along his way, his path crosses with Pandora, a woman bound to find her way to save her Captain from the Tower. That the corpse in Ewan's custody happens to be her father, must be chance. Historical Romance with smutty fluff, action and suspense. Twists and danger will keep you on your toes to the end.

Lynn Reynolds says

I received a copy of this book from the Entangled Publishing and the author in exchange for an honest review. I was not compensated in any way.

I think you will find that this is going to be a light-hearted tale. Heather writes a scene where Dory comes upon a woman who reminds me of a certain actress – but make sure to read to the very end. Our author puts in a “Historical Note” that explains more about this lady (but I still thought of the actress which gave me a great character reference while reading).

There may be times where you may not want to be reading on a full stomach or even eating. Our author's descriptions are that realistic. You can just about picture everything that's going on – as well as the smells.

Heather has given our couple a grand adventure but it's not all serious – it kept me laughing that's for sure. I think that if you've never read any of her work before, this is the perfect introduction.

Heather gives her readers the perfect ending. And she continues the action almost to the very end. She is one of those authors that makes me enjoy a historical romance. She turns something that wasn't very interesting when I was in school into a history lesson that I thoroughly enjoyed. This is a book that can be read as a stand-alone but I found that I wanted to know more about a couple of her characters. In order to do this, I will need to go back and read book one.

Shelly Lewis says

I was absolutely captivated by this book! A rich story with absolutely adorable characters: the heroine of the story is a badass, don't-mess-with-me kind of girl with a kind heart whom I love! The story draws you in from page one and takes on a literary ride chock full of danger, intrigue, humor, and romance. I highly recommend this book!

Landy Jimenez says

I like Ewan but not sure I like all the scheming it felt it dragged a bit.
I'd like to see more on building Dory and Ewan relationship.

Shauni says

Originally Reviewed For: Tea and Book

A while back I discovered Heather McCollum, yes once again thanks to NetGalley, and with each book of hers I read I fall deeper under her spell. My first book of hers I read was Captured Heart and I of course immediately fell in love. I mention Captured Heart because it seems lightening really does strike twice. Since I am a huge fan of Ms McCollum's when I see one of her books on NetGalley, I snatch it up. Tangled Heart had her name attached and the premise and blurb sounded amazing. What I was slow to realize was this was another book in the outstanding Highland Heart Series.. Whooooo Hoooo!! Talk about a win/win situation.

In Captured Heart we faced the feuding Highlands and found peace with the help of a witch. In Tangled Hearts we are caught up in the intrigue of King Henry VIII's court. Full of romance, passion, greed, revenge and vengeance. Overlapping all of that is the goal of one Highlander to stay alive and one pirate wench to save her father. We do get to meet, many of the more famous residents of Henry VIII's court. Ms McCollum gives a unique twist to some of history's more famous characters.

Pandora Wyatt was born and raised on a pirate ship. Her mother was escaping the evil that was her life and only wished that her child be raised in a safe and secure environment. And she picked a pirate ship... just goes to show you how immoral Henry's court was. But now, Pandora is back in London and on a mission. She has to secure her adopted father and brother's release from the tower.. via fair means or fowl. Of course being captured by local villagers and being accused of witchery really doesn't help her cause. Literally rescued in the nick of time, Pandora or Dory, finds herself in the arms of a highlander on his own mission. Returning the treasonous body of her natural father to King Henry's court. So, no help from dear old dad.

Ewan Brody is a born protector. After failing to protect his mother from an abusive husband (he was like nine at the time) Ewan has vowed to spend his life protecting those that need help. Finding the very beautiful and ever so mysterious Pandora Wyatt being burned at the stake seemed to be one of those times. Only to find out that this baffling and confusing woman has ties to the dead body in his wagon. Unwillingly he promises to help Pandora with her "family issues" if one can call helping someone escape the tower a simple family issue. What he doesn't count on is his fierce need to protect his Dory. From rogues and lecherous kings and all manner of things in between.

Ms McCollum tells a tale of history and highlanders. We see into King Henry's court in a way that makes these characters come alive. Cromwell is an insidious toad constantly seeking his own power and using any means available to do so. Ferreting out who the "third" traitor was is his entire purpose.. one would think. King Henry is portrayed as the lech he was. Charismatic and smarmy all at once.. constantly on the make and yet maybe honestly in love with Jane Seymour.. no one will ever really know, she died so young.

Throughout it all, we see Ewan's dissatisfaction with life in London. His desire to return to the Highlands but his acceptance of the fact that he must remain in London. His loyalty to the clan keeps him retrained in some dark and trying times.

Once again I found myself lost in the story.. standing right beside Ms McCollum's fascinating characters, cheering on Ewan and Pandora while booing and hissing at the King's Court and the evil that lurks. Watching how family "honor" can be contorted to such a degree that it allows for all sorts of hideous behavior. Seeing how true families can be made rather than born. An absolutely wonderful story..

Shauni

This review is based on the ARC of Tangled Hearts, provided by netgalley and is scheduled to be released on January 28, 2014

Linda S. Henry says

A real Pandora's Box

Ewan Brody of the Scotland Highlands must deliver a traitor to the English crown. Doing so he discovers a first lass being tried as a witch. Ewan helps her escape not realizing she is the perfect lady for him! He quickly discovers her many talents while in the midst of English Intrigue!!
Fantastic tale of love and intrigue!!

Farrah says

A thrilling, action-filled romance, Tangled Hearts was a wonderful read. This book was great and I really enjoyed reading it.

Dory was a good heroine. She was very strong and extremely loyal to her loved ones. She was definitely not someone to mess with. My only problem with her was that she tended to be a bit shrewish and manipulative. But, overall, I liked her.

Ewan was wonderful. He was so sweet and utterly determined to protect his loved ones, even if it meant he

was on the chopping block. I really liked him. He was perfect.

The romance was lovely. Dory and Ewan were wonderful together. I thought it was so sweet how, despite all the chaos going on and despite their previous expectations about what they wanted, they still managed to fall for each other. And, there was some hot chemistry between them. I thought they were a lovely couple.

My favorite part of this book was the truth about Dory's "pirate" family. I thought that was well done and I really liked that unexpected twist.

The plot was okay. For some reason, I couldn't get totally hooked. Even with all the action and thrills that I was interested in, I still wasn't completely drawn in. And, there were some parts that I skimmed because they started to drag. But, I was still kept interested. I enjoyed the story and I thought the ending was lovely, particularly with what happened in the epilogue.

Tangled Hearts was a lovely historical romance. It wasn't perfect, but I still enjoyed reading it and I ended up liking it. Romance lovers, this is a book worth checking out.

*I received a free copy from the publisher in exchange for an honest review

Sophia says

Highlanders delivering the body of a traitor straight to England's royal court, pirates to rescue from the Tower, a magic wielding lady pirate to the rescue, a suspicious King, traitors at court, and ah yes, things are ripe for high adventure, intrigue and romance (and not necessarily in that order). I saw all these elements and I just couldn't pass up the opportunity for a fun, swashbuckling adventure with a bit of the paranormal to make things interesting.

Pandora Wyatt is alone in England for the first time, but she pushes aside her fears because she is on a life or death mission to rescue the only family she knows. She has enough magic running through her to bring down lightning on an enemies head or heal some one who is near death, but she doesn't dare use it unless she wants to avoid getting burned as a witch. She has to make her way to The Tower of London and counted on her real father to help her secure Captain Bart and Jim's release, but her kind heart gets her into trouble before she can work out her plan.

Ewan Brody and Searc Munro agree to take the dead carcass of Boswell the traitor to London because King Henry VIII ordered it and the proof turned over to him. Along the way, Ewan rescues an unusual woman with magical powers, a conniving way about her that has him committed to a certain death venture, and yet he doesn't say no.

On the road, the little party encounters Jane Seymour who is now to be courted by the King and the pretense of Dory and Ewan being married begins. Dory does sweet, fearful Jane a service that may turn out to reap a reward later. On arriving in London, Dory is declared to be a lost Wellington, a noble family or the court. The King and some in his court are suspicious of the new arrivals, but things really start to buzz when it comes out that Boswell wasn't the only traitor seeking Henry's life. Henry exacts a promise that Ewan and Dory will run down this third traitor or suffer a traitor's fate for themselves. Meanwhile, crafty enemies close in around them and the men they came to rescue. Dory's magic might get them in trouble first. Or there is the fact, that the falsely married pair might have started to feel that it was all too real and love is the most dangerous adventure of all.

This story was a fun romp with there always being an element of danger or intrigue. There was so many things in play that it was an extensive story. It was almost too much and having all of it going on got distracting at times. This was just a minor niggle.

Just as Dory's stubborn 'I can protect myself' attitude caused some eye rolls on occasion. She gets people into deadly danger due to her leap first attitude and heavy reliance on her magic, but then afterward feels the remorse. It didn't ruin the story and in truth Dory's danger-prone ways kept things mighty interesting and they certainly had big, brawny and brave Ewan looking the hero to the rescue many times. Dory is a woman of parts. She was raised at sea by a band of rowdy pirates so she has some street savvy, but Captain Bart also kept her isolated to a certain extent so that her savvy doesn't run to the strategic planning sort who can blend in at a royal court or the sort who gets the subtleties of love and being a gentlewoman. She's brash, has a sailor's mouth, but is also a woman's winsomeness that wants to be thought beautiful and attractive by the man she admires. She gets into trouble usually because she has a heart for others particularly exploited children of the streets. She was a very likeable heroine.

Ewan amused me and had me swooning in turn. His boasting confidence and demeanor about the ladies just had me snickering that he was so going down. Dory is the opposite of his ideal woman of course, but sure enough, it's not long before he has the 'mine' attitude about her. She frustrates him, drives him wild and has him so turned around after just a few days- you go girl. He soon learns that he might have met his match with this female. I loved the way his honor and sense of duty along with his warrior skills and courage shown through. He wasn't afraid of Dory's magic nor turned away by her illegitimate bloodlines or her rougher qualities. In fact, he loved her for her differences.

And together? These two were scorching. They could passionately fight or love equally wholeheartedly. A definite match.

The historical backdrop was great. It was balanced well in the story so that it didn't push aside the romance and adventure plots. Henry Tudor's court and Tudor England need little help to be made fascinating. I loved that real historical figures like Henry, Jane Seymour and Thomas Cromwell were included.

I should also point out that this is really the second book in a series and there are glimpses of a continued plot threat from the first book. I had no trouble reading it without the benefit of having read the first book so I suppose it could be read as a standalone. Personally, I'll be going back for Caden's book and going on to Searc's as well as the two novellas. I love the Highlanders and these braw lads all appeared in Ewan's story leaving me eager for each of their own stories.

All in all, it was a grand adventure into this historical romance with so much to please for a historical romance fan who loves a fiery couple and doesn't mind a paranormal element tossed in for fun.

My thanks to Netgalley for the opportunity to read this book in exchange for my honest review.

Bill Reynolds says

Great read

I loved the story line and complexity of the characters. The action and intrigue was very good. I'll read more of her books.

Kathleen says

Review posted at: Swept Away By Romance

Story Rating ~ 5 Stars

Hero Rating ~ 5 Stars

Heroine Rating ~ 5 Stars

Romance Rating ~ 4 Stars

Heat Level ~ 3 Stars

Ending ~ 4.5 Stars with an epilogue

Overall Rating ~ 5 Stars

Gosh, how I loved this book. It had everything that makes a fantastic historical romance.

The story line was VERY exciting and fast paced. I was glued to my Kindle as my fingers swiped to turn the pages as fast as I could read. I really enjoyed the fact that a large part of this story took place in King Henry the VIII's court. It was very well done and it added a lot of historical accuracy to the story. If that's wasn't enough, it also included pirates dealing with snatching children to sell into slavery, then add in pirates battling at sea , YEP, VERY EXCITING!

Dory the heroine was an extremely unique character. She's a pirate, a traitor's daughter, a possible heiress and had some VERY special magical and healing abilities.

I LOVED EWAN the hero; he was a sigh worthy Scottish warrior hunk. He was also strong and honorable, but most of all, he was really protective of those he loved.

There were only a few love scenes added. I thought they were done well and VERY sensual, just the right amount of heat to please me.

This book also grabbed me emotionally and I cried a few times while reading. I was totally invested in the story line and the characters throughout this book.

This book is the second in the Highland Hearts series. I have not read book 1, Captured Hearts and some of the characters from it were also included in Tangled Hearts, but I had absolutely NO problem reading this as a standalone.

Overall I felt this was an excellent read for me. I can honestly say that I would definitely be interested in reading more romances by the talented Heather McCollum.

This book was gifted to me for an honest review.

Amanda L. Spencer says

Damn good read! Keep them coming girl. I finally found someone who knows how to bring an adventure in a book!!! By the way.. I found my Highlander living in Cali?

Great book! Couldn't put it down..lol my husband wasn't happy that I gave so much attention to the

book..more please?

Aisha says

This book was better then the first book in the series. I did not like this book, either. I only liked Dory. I don't understand why authors create a male character who is a lady's man and the female to be a virgin. That is so common and old and annoying. Also, while the guy manwhore, he gets all growly, angry, and territorial about the idea that the heroine may not be a virgin. ugh.... I hate reading about men like that. This was a small part of the book.

Other parts of the book was ok, i guess.

Julie says

Tangled Hearts by Heather McCollum is a January 2014 Entangled Pubication. I was provided a copy of the this by the publisher and Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.

Pandora Wyatt was raised by pirates, is a witch, and is the daughter of an alleged traitor to the king. Ewan Brody is a Scottish Highlander on a mission to bring the deceased traitor to Henry the 8th. Along the way he rescues Pandora from certain death, as she was about to be executed for being a witch. Ewan gets more than he bargained for when Dory convinces him and his cousin to help her rescue the pirate captain that raised her, who happens to be imprisoned in the tower.

Passing themselves off as a married couple, things get complicated for the couple as Dory's true parentage is discovered, there is a plot to kill the king, and Ewan could be blamed. Amidst all the drama and intrigued Dory and Ewan fall in love.

This story has a mixture of fantasy, history, the paranormal, and romance but is set against the backdrop of actual history during the Tudor years. The author embellishes history and turns it into speculative fiction and it turns out to be quite a charming story.

Dory is an awesome character with magical abilities and fierce loyalty. Ewan is very honorable and a true gentleman. You will love Dory and Ewan as well as the secondary characters.

The only issue I had with the story was that it was little confusing at times, maybe complicated would be a better word. In other words I had to really slow down and read carefully or I would have lost the thread. A time or two the story lost a little momentum, but not for long.

Although this is the second book in the series, you will not have a problem reading it as a stand alone. If you like pirates, magic, history, highlanders, adventure, and romance you don't want to miss this one.

This one gets an A.

Andrea Murray says

I received a copy of this novel in exchange for an honest review.

Pirates, magic, and Highlanders—OH MY! I loved this novel! I haven't been able to say that in a long while, but really did enjoy this one. Set against the real of Henry VIII, this novel spoke to my not-so-hidden Anglophile like no other. The Tudor rule, fraught with intrigue, ambushes, and beheadings, is one of my favorite time periods, and when you mix that with a handsome Highland warrior and a witchy female pirate, well, how can it miss the mark? I enjoyed nearly every part of the novel.

The action is fast-paced, and the scenes are vividly painted. McCollum's characters are endearing and realistic, and her descriptions of court life are as laced with danger as the actual viper-infested period must have been. I found myself as anxious as Dory herself, and let's not forget about Ewan, the strapping, scarred Scots who swoops in to rescue his lady love (who rescues him right back before it's all done). While the story may have been a bit less than 100% historical, the plot remains viable, and the love is steamy though a little sedate by many romance novel standards, but overall, a fine read.

4.5 stars
