



The Courtesan

Julia Justiss

Download now

Read Online ➔

The Courtesan

Julia Justiss

The Courtesan Julia Justiss

After surviving Waterloo, Captain Jack Carrington returns home to take up his family duties and find himself a wife. Until he encounters Lady Belle, the most beautiful and celebrated courtesan in all of London.

After the death of her long-term protector, Belle intends to spurn the entreaties of her London admirers and retreat to her country manor. Then a fencing match gone wrong with the arresting Jack Carrington upsets all her careful plans.

Who is the mysterious Belle? A jaded Cyprian seeking a new protector? A kind friend who helps those in need? A mistress of sensual delight who can lead a man into irredeemable folly? Though Belle is a woman Jack can neither afford to keep nor dare to marry, he is willing to risk everything to find out.

The Courtesan Details

Date : Published December 1st 2005 by HQN (first published January 1st 2005)

ISBN : 9780373770823

Author : Julia Justiss

Format : Paperback 379 pages

Genre : Romance, Historical Romance, Historical, Regency

 [Download The Courtesan ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Courtesan ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online The Courtesan Julia Justiss

From Reader Review The Courtesan for online ebook

Liz says

Beautiful story, heart wrenching at times.

Elisa Vangelisti says

È un romanzo adatto a chi ha pazienza. In breve, lei è una cortigiana (The courtesan è il titolo originale), ma anche un'abile spadaccina. Lui la sfida e lei, senza volere, lo ferisce. Quindi lo porta a casa sua, per curarlo. Ovviamente lui è infatuato di lei, mentre lei non vuole più avere a che fare con un uomo. Senz'altro si ricrederà, ma non ho voglia di aspettare un altro mezzo romanzo per scoprirlo.

Lynn Calvin says

headless woman cover

Shanna says

Finally, a romance with a great plot, believable characters, strong female, and just enough romance! I've never read a regency novel. Thanks to this book, I've ordered a lot more of her books.

Melinda says

Loved the female protagonist - strong, intelligent, warrior woman.

Olga says

libro flojo, el personaje masculino se desinfla a las pocas paginas de leerlo... el libro promete pero a las pocas paginas se queda en nada y no remonta en el fin...

Feathzzz says

read while in jail. Actual rating: 2.7

Gemma says

I decided to try a full-length novel by this author, since I'd enjoyed her novella AN HONEST BARGAIN in Harlequin's Officer's Bride collection. After reading the back cover description, I was a little worried that this would be a lust-fest book, but I was pleasantly surprised.

If you're sick of domineering men who ignore what the women want, then you'll love this book, because Jack was so wonderfully respectful of Belle. He was kind and gentle, yet never appeared weak. I really like that he wanted Belle to come to him willingly, or he was prepared not to have her at all. So many romances are filled with men who have an "I love you and you're going to do what I say" attitude, so Jack was a really refreshing change from that kind of nonsense.

I was also worried that I wouldn't like Belle, since she was basically a one-man prostitute. But Belle had been forced into that life, and had never wanted to become any man's harlot. I ended up really liking her and feeling for her. I felt that she and Jack really complimented each other, and it was easy to cheer for them to be together. The attraction between them was based on more than sex, which is also a welcome change in the romance world. I could see why these two should be together.

I also like how the problems keeping them apart were more compelling than just stupid pride or big misunderstandings. There were real issues to be dealt with, and obstacles that seemed insurmountable.

My only complaint was that I felt the ending was a little too good to be true, which is where the book lost a star. I found it a little hard to believe that Belle would have been accepted by society, no matter who was supporting her or who her relations were. The tone was very unforgiving! But that's a minor flaw, and I still think the book is worth a read.

I will be on the lookout for more books by this author!

Coral says

Poor Belle. Hasn't that poor woman been through enough? And Jack is just too perfect: perfect soldier, perfect family, perfect gentleman. Couldn't really get into this one.

Netanella says

Both a sweet romance with a fairy tale ending and a dark story of rape and abuse, The Courtesan is a well written regency historical. Our heroine, Constance, is a well bred girl left abandoned at an inn after the death of her mother. Tricked into living with a licentious peer, she becomes his courtesan for 6 years, blackmailed into staying at his side or risk exposing her sister to scandal. When Bellingham dies, the "Lady Belle" seeks to escape all men's notice, which of course makes her more noticeable, especially to returning war hero Captain Jack.

Penny Hampson says

This is the first book I have read by this author. The period depicted was well researched and the characters were well drawn and believable; the plot was also a little different and gripping. My only complaint is that the ending seemed a bit rushed and the tying up of loose ends seemed overly contrived. However, I will definitely read more books by this author.

BRNTerri says

This novel was published by HQN (Harlequin) in 2005. It was mentioned on a romance forum/message board that the heroine was raped in this. That caught my attention because I had no idea that authors were still putting rape in novels. I didn't know it was 'allowed', for lack of a better word. So I got the book, started reading it sometime in 2006 and quickly got bored with it. I traded the book without having gotten very far in it and later regretted it. Three years later I got it again and just now reread it.

The story takes place in England in the 1800s. Belle, 22ish, blonde, blue eyed, is a courtesan prostitute to noblemen) and her lover died less than a month before. The hero is Jack.

I must say this was one of the slowest and most boring books that I've ever read. Words can't really describe how let down I feel. The first two thirds or so was just Jack recovering from his wound at Belle's. To me, that just wasn't believable. There was no reason at all for Jack to have been taken to Belle's when he could have gone to a friend, or family members, home to recover. Why would you stay at a known prostitute's home? And adding Jane to the story was pointless simply because it did nothing for it. Jane wasn't mentioned much after she came to live with Belle. And the stuff with Kitty thinking her sister dead, well, it just wasn't needed. I do think the rape was thrown in just for shock value and the strange thing was, it wasn't shocking at all.

She could have had the rape take place midway though the story and the rest could have been Jack helping Belle 'recover' and them falling in love with each other.

I won't be trying this author again. Overall, I was terribly disappointed with the story. It could have been such a great love story; man falling for ex fallen woman and all that pretty stuff. This wasn't a bodice ripper though it did have one bodice ripper-like scene near the the end, with the rape.

Anni says

This is a good book. It is well written and the characters are interesting, although I found myself thinking that perhaps Jack was a little too good. Belle's story reveals itself slowly and keeps the reader interested. One major problems I had with this book, however, is how it "tells" you rather than "shows" you how the characters are feeling. There's a lot of "telling" - page after page in each character's head, but sometimes I'd like to see that for myself, and there wasn't quite enough of that.

Cristina Contilli says

"Quando si passa attraverso l'inferno e ci si ritrova ancora vivi, non si può fare a meno di interrogarsi sul

senso della vita. Forse è giunto il momento che io mi sposi e assolva ai miei doveri."

La protagonista di questo rosa non è una giovane vergine, ma una cortigiana, apprezzata anche per la sua bravura come schermitrice, ora bisognerà vedere come Jack che il primogenito di una famiglia nobile riuscirà a far "digerire" ai suoi familiari una sposa così insolita... essendo un romance anche se sono ancora all'inizio è logico che ci riuscirà, ma l'abilità o meno dell'autrice si vedrà da come riuscirà a rendere credibile questo passaggio.

In alcuni punti (come temevo) è effettivamente un po' forzato, ma come si fa a non innamorarsi di un uomo che ti dice "I nostri cuori battono all'unisono. E' questa l'intimità, Belle. Tra me e voi non potrà che essere così."
