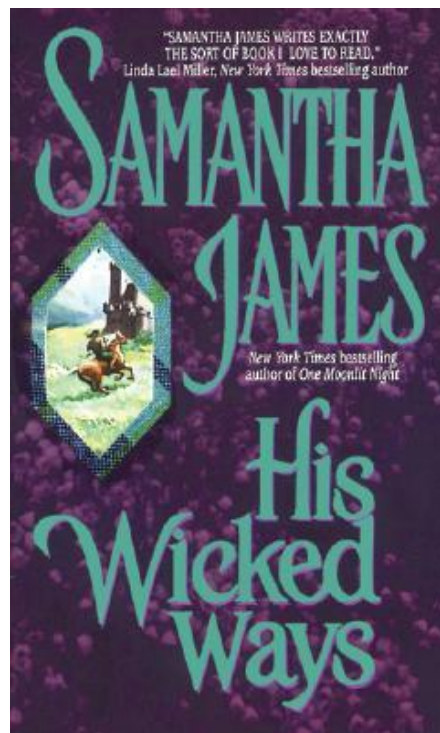




His Wicked Ways

Samantha James

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From across the Scottish Highlands strides Cameron McKay, the last member of the once powerful Clan MacKay. Handsome, fearless, and determined, he is a man who catches the eye of many a woman.. yet he has but one goal--to find Meredith, last daughter of the Clan Munro..and force her to provide him with an heir. When Cameron MacKay kidnaps Meredith from the gentle confines of the priory where she has sought refuge, he discovers that he is powerless to resist her tender beauty and is captivated by her bold bargaining for her freedom. And although she is the precious daughter of his sworn enemy, Cameron finds himself tempted to abandon his quest to bend her to his will.

Meredith had vowed long ago never to trust any man..for men and their ways cause pain to those they love. Her head told her not to give in to the dangerous desire she felt for Cameron; but her heart hoped that he had finally abandoned his wicked ways...

His Wicked Ways Details

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Author : Samantha James

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From Reader Review His Wicked Ways for online ebook

Lovetoread says

I have read the romance, His Wicked Ways by Samantha James, now 3 times. First time in 2011, second time in 2012 and most recently November 14 2014. I just love the premise of this romance story.

Cameron McKay, the last member of the once powerful Clan MacKay, who watched his father and four brothers butchered by a warring clan decides he wants revenge. Handsome, fearless, and determined, he is a man who catches the eye of many a woman.. yet he has but one goal--to find Meredith, last daughter of the Clan Munro, and force her to provide him with an heir. When Cameron finds Meredith in a priory to eventually take her vows to become a nun he is speechless in seeing her beauty. The Church and living a life of prayer with the nuns is where Meredith has sought refuge, from the terrible and shameful crime that someone has done to her. Cameron discovers that he is powerless to resist her tender beauty and is captivated by her bold bargaining for her freedom. And although she is the precious daughter of his sworn enemy, Cameron finds himself tempted to abandon his quest to bend her to his will. Poor Meredith had vowed long ago never to trust any man, for men and their ways cause pain to those they love.

I strongly recommend this novel. Samantha James is an incredible author who spins a very strong story with likable characters. Rating the sizzle factor for this story I would rate it a 7.

Cherise says

*spoiler!!!! *

trigger rape experience mentioned

Just an ok read for me. The proportion of this book seems right considering it is a romance but somehow seeming quite wrong for this book. The unknown factors were not revealed till the last 15 or so pages and were so quickly wrapped up it was a bit anticlimatic, considering how these issues were hanging over the head of the whole book. Given that the mystery part was dealt with so quickly, it would make sense to have a very satisfying romance taking up the rest of the pages, alas, both protagonists were just too prideful and stubborn to do much on their own, hence the pace was pretty slow and boring with the same old same old circle of argument, distrusts and accusations instead of having some real loving and tender moments.

The premise isn't bad at all, and kidnapping and loving the enemy is a well written plot for this period and

could have a lot of potential. Unfortunately we seem to have a H that is so willing to overlook everything except for his lust for the h. He doesn't like introspection or facing facts, is pretty opinionated and isn't willing to change his mind once it is made up. This coupled with the mischieves going on in his holding and with his callous treatment of our h don't endear him much to me. He doesn't seem to be able to find out what is going on in his land, making him pretty weak as a leader in my eyes, to be honest. While I initially understand his stand regarding our h, he also didn't wise up to his feelings quick enough for me, and when he finally did, his inaction just makes me all the more annoyed. All in all, too passive a H that did a really dishonorable thing in my mind to the h and it never even occurred to him till someone mentioned it, which I found quite a joke, to be honest, seeing the time period and code of morality then.

Our h showed promises when she stood up to our H, but this only comes in bursts and a lot of times, she seems to ruin things between them with her defiance (ok I understand she could have been a bit moody then given her situation...) and when it matters to me, she folds quickly at the oddest time, and after holding out or up for so long, I couldn't really understand her sudden acceptance of her situation. While she is a kind and gentle person with a backbone of steel that I really admire, the progress of the story makes her to be forever in the weaker position, and this makes it very hard to see her as something more than a victim making the most of her situation.

The imbalance of the whole plot just bugs me a lot, our h is more or less not in a position to do much except accept the situation. I would have felt better if H quickly empowers her in some way by showing his emotions, but this didn't happen. Quite honestly, if I were this girl, I would have done something quite drastic or just totally gave up, despite H being kind to her, as he himself admitted, he didn't really notice her emotional state or her happiness until much later, and even when he acknowledges it, very little still was done about it. And h never really has the ability to do much to change her untenable situation until towards the end. Both seem to be ok to just bob with the current for the longest while semi content...

Sexy times were well written, yet it is v hard to credit these two can love each other given the great issue that neither is willing to address throughout the book, it just left something bad in my mouth to see this issue totally ignored even in both their minds throughout, as if there really isn't much between these two shown except a few sentences described by each party.

As the relationship is so subdued with so many things left unsaid, we are informed a lot via monologues, which when coupled with the same old same old topic of vengeance, distrust, unhappiness with the status quo, really makes this book a huge bore.

All in all, I really only finish this one with a huge sigh of relieve in order to find out the mystery bit, as I couldn't have cared less if either really love each other, seeing as both are willing to ignore unpleasant things and stay together without much affirmation in any case.

Pam says

This was a great story and very well written. I enjoyed the struggle Cameron had not to show his affection and then love for Meredith. He was so upset with himself because how could he love her when her father killed his father and 6 brothers? He was so very gentle and kind to her even though he kidnapped her in the middle of the night and was so cold to her at first. The story has a few mysteries in it too. I was pretty sure who was doing the bad stuff at Cameron's castle. I wasn't sure who really murdered his family until the end.

lily waheed says

He wanted revenge!!!! ? ha?? Instead he fell in love with a wonderful woman ?

Kitty Unpretty says

This book is overall okay, but definitely not great. There is a LOT of hackneyed stuff in this thing. I am not a big fan of the whole 'I will seduce his daughter for REVENGE' stuff, because I think it is a silly way to move the plot forward, so I am biased against. However, between the damsel in distress, the moving emotional speeches, the constant praying, and the fact that the female protagonist was overall just an enormous ninny, I do not think I would have liked it even if the plot devices had been better. I guess if you are really into Scotsman (which a lot of romance readers are, apparently), you might get a good deal of enjoyment out of it. As long as you don't mind useless, helpless females whose only function is to give stirring speeches that would get her laughed at in real life, there is not a whole lot to object to here.

Wyrddness says

I can't decide if I've read this one before somewhere or if it felt like that because it seems medieval Highland Lairds do nothing but steal each others daughters for vengeance.

I think I'd have enjoyed this more if the "heroine" hadn't spent so much time weeping and wailing about how weak and cowardly she was even though her actions and behaviour were anything but. I can't stand stories where people seem to almost revel in their status as victim (real or imagined). Also the "heroes" behaviour left me pretty cool towards him too. He kidnaps the heroine and takes her back to his castle where she's watched around the clock, forced to share his bed (even though she's spent the last 2 years as a novice intending to take vows), and shunned by everyone who sees her as a hateful enemy, then doesn't seem to understand why she'd be so lonely, miserable and defiant all the time.

I also thought the ending was a pretty hurried affair. Things bumbled on with the main characters secretly loving and misunderstanding each other until about 10% before the end where suddenly the author seemed to realise that she'd need to wrap this all up somehow. I knew all these things were going to happen, but it was rather unsatisfying to have them told to us instead of seeing them happen (view spoiler).

Overall I'd say this definitely deserves the okay-but-boring shelf. There's nothing *wrong* with it as such and the writing is actually pretty good, but the plot is really a whole lot of "seen it all before" and didn't even attempt any real twists or surprises.

Fani *loves angst* says

Cameron MacKay abducts Meredith, his enemy's only daughter, from the convent she stays in. He plans to take her back to his castle, leaving her father thinking her as dead, thus getting revenge for his family's deaths. He expects to hate Meredith, known as shy and timid, but during their journey back to his lands, which takes several days, he discovers her courage, her innocence, her kind heart and is swayed. When they arrive in his castle, he's not sure what to do with her any more. His people hate her and display their feelings

openly, but he doesn't feel that she's his enemy anymore and treats her more like a guest which doesn't go well with everyone. There's mischief, jealousy, passion and tenderness a lot, a fast paced story and lovely three-dimensional characters, besides the heroine and the hero, making this story a delight.

Highlander romance is not my favorite genre but I thoroughly enjoyed this one and recommend it to everyone.

Zoe says

This is a typical highland romance, slightly above the average. I like Cameron and Meredith as characters and the relationship. I think Cameron's revenge idea was kind of dumb but hey, without the idea there is no book. Maybe I should take the period element into account, impregnating your enemy's daughter probably was fitting revenge for people in the medieval times. I could live with that in a fiction.

I think Cameron was actually nice to Meredith. He set out to hurt Meredith and her father but fell in love with her instead. I imagine most readers would have problems with Meredith? She is kind of a crybaby but is not without pride. It is much better than a indignant woman who thinks the entire world, especially the hero, has wronged her. I did think it kind of odd that Cameron just kept Meredith with him without saying anything, anything at all. Everyone thought of her as Cameron's leman, and that she was. It was kind of insulting, no? But at least Cameron was open about what Meredith meant to him. He did not pretend that he didn't care about her. In fact everyone in his clan knew that he cared greatly about Meredith's well-being. So I guess that soothed my female pride. lol

Plot development is not great but also not awful. As I said I thought the revenge idea pretty stupid. To beget a son from your enemy's daughter? Wouldn't that bind you to the enemy forever? Why would you want that with your enemy?? But well people in Medieval times obviously felt differently so I will drop it. I thought the last 20% could have been much better. I mean for Cameron to avoid his wife and the marriage bed because of child birth.....I could see that but I think there could have been a little more struggle on Cameron's side. The reconciliation between the clans was also kind of blah, but at the same time, I also did not want to read about Meredith's father and uncle so much.

I love Scotland so I liked the story. If you don't like highland or medieval stories this will probably bore you. It's one of those "I may or may not read it again" books.

Chryssa says

When in doubt....always choose a Highlander book!

This book had all the right ingredients:

1. **a hot Highlander!**
2. a stubborn and possessive Highlander that has suffered the loss of his father and brothers from a rival clan.
3. **a hot Highlander!**
4. a redhaired, blue-eyed, kind-hearted beauty, daughter of the enemy chieftain, who has her own demons to vanquish.
5. **a hot Highlander!**
6. revenge subplot
7. **a hot Highlander!**

8. kidnapping of the innocent heroine.

9. **a hot Highlander!**

10. clansmen's hatred towards the heroine and the rival clan.

11. **a hot Highlander!**

12. interesting secondary characters with great potential for the second book.

13. **a hot Highlander!**

14. unexpectedly **HAWT SCENES** for a historical romance that upped the overall impression of the book! and...

15. **Did I mention a hot Highlander?**

(Sorry, I couldn't help myself!)

Though I had my ISSUES...

~>Punctuation & Rhetorical questions

For the love of spelling and commas and semicolons! WHY SO MANY EXCLAMATION MARKS, Ms James? From Ch 1, I felt like I was in the ancient amphitheatre of Epidaurus watching some Greek tragedy where the actors were high on pompous proclamations! (! Yes! I ! AM ! USING ! EXCLAMATION ! POINTS ! TOO ! it's contagious!)

How about the rhetorical questions? If a person in real life uses so many, then they must be either philosophers or highly sophisticated in the unbearable lightness of being!

~>Let's pray!

Though the issue of religion is omnipresent in the story (the heroine was abducted from a nunnery and she is highly pious), I fear that many times the story felt like a christian romance in which everything is considered a sin and only by praying absolution can come.

~>"I am a coward!" ...or not!

There were times that the insecurity and lack of self-confidence of the heroine could try even the saintest of people (not the hero but the poor reader). Her actions were constantly opposite to her inner thoughts of cowardice, thus making me love her the moment I wanted to roll my eyes at her words. **In the end, she won the man, the clan and the reader!**

...book satisfaction was achieved in the end!

Thankfully, just after the middle, the book picked up with heartfelt scenes (view spoiler) and unexpected turn of events (view spoiler) that led to a beautiful conclusion of this story.

Hart's Reader Group says

This was a re-read for me, but I love it just as much each time I do.

Emotional, engaging, enchanting, and hawt. This is one of favorite highlander tales.

Jenny says

Amazing book. Hero and heroine had so much chemistry. I adored the angst, the melodrama, the misunderstandings! Heroine was loving and caring and a real sweetheart. Cameron was an alpha male sexy and arrogant but I loved the way he loved Meredith. Some scenes were so emotional and sad. When Meredith almost died giving birth and hero started crying I was heartbroken! From enemies they became lovers and then husband and wife and soulmates and their journey was thrilling. Samantha James is a flawless wonderful author.

Holly Full Moon Bites Book Reviews says

When Cameron MacKay kidnaps Meredith from the gentle confines of the priory where she has sought refuge, he discovers that he is powerless to resist her tender beauty and is captivated by her boldness in bargaining for her freedom. Although she is the precious daughter of his sworn enemy, Cameron finds himself tempted to abandon his quest to bend her to his will.

I really enjoyed this book. And cant wait to read the next installment His Wicked Promise.

Lynsey A says

This was my first read by Samantha James and I enjoyed the book very much. The story was well written and the dialogue was wonderful. There were several tender hearted scenes between the H/h and even at times when it was simply the heros POV or the heroines POV.

The story was a bit predicatable but it certainly didn't take away from the story at all. There were moments where I cried and laughed out loud. Meredith and Cameron had a great love story and I'm looking forward to reading Glenda's story...once I get it.

Lover of Romance says

When Cameron MacKay, his brothers, and his father are ambushed by what they think are the Munro Clan, Cameron vows vengeance. Having losing his father and his brother, he is Laird of his clan now, and knows that he has to strike a blow to the one that deceived him and his brothers. So he plans on kidnapping the young beautiful daughter who is in the priory and has been for some time. When Meredith is attacked and having not knowing the culprit, she enters the priory, not knowing who to trust in her own home. But then she is kidnapped by Cameron MacKay and having a viotile personality, she has great fear of the one that holds her life in the palm of his hand. Cameron blaming Meredith's father for his families death, he wants him to suffer a small portion of the way he is suffering. So he plans a way for it to look like Meredith has died, and since she is his only daughter, he knows it is the perfect way. However he hardly knows what to do now, that he has Meredith, all he knows is that she unlike any other woman he has known. She entices and

captivates his attention, and he goes about to defending her to his clan. Time goes by, and before Cameron realizes it he finds a tender response that he feels toward the one he once saw as his enemy, he now wants as his lover and the mother of his future child. Throughout this book there is a tender love story that will break down the harden walls of Cameron's heart and show him the meaning of true love.

I really have enjoyed reading this, and the more that I read of Samantha James, the more I love her!!! She has such a way with her writing, that captures the attention of her readers, where she definitely has won a place on my bookshelves of books to keep. I found Meredith having such an inner strength, that I found endearing. Even though she is taken into the Clan of MacKay, who despise her at first, she eventually finds a way to make friends, and really connect with those that viewed her once as a most hated enemy. Cameron is a bitter man who hates the Munroe Clan, and for good reason. However it was interesting seeing him soften up his heart toward Meredith, who is a loving and gentle woman who doesn't understand the hatred that is directed to her and those that she loves. I found it to be a very compelling story that pulled at my heart strings, from beginning to end I found it to be a very vivid story.

Daniella says

This is a Highlander novel, and we have the usual Rival Clans theme. Meredith, our heroine, belonged to the Munro clan, while our hero (hah!), Cameron, came from clan McKay. The two clans were apparently at each others throats.

Gasp. Shocking. I certainly did not expect that from a Highlander story.

Anyway, so Cameron was like *"I'mma kidnap you, Meredith, cuz yo daddy killed my daddy and my bros, 'n you have'ta pay for dem sins."* So he proceeded to kidnap her, fake her death (he forced Meredith to write a suicide note), and force her to bear him a son in exchange for her freedom. I've read similar Highlander stories--those written by Julie Garwood, Monica McCarty, Veronica Wolff and Donna Fletcher--so I wasn't really shocked or outraged by this turn of events. **But what didn't sit well with me was the way Cameron handled things. He was too selfish for me to give a fuck about him.** In the end, he never fully redeemed himself. The other writers I mentioned managed to absolve their heroes, but Samantha James failed to do so, at least in my eyes.

I really pitied Meredith because she was certainly the victim in all of this. God, she was too kind by half and definitely **did not deserve all the shit that happened to her.** I just wanted to give her a good, comforting hug. I know that a lot of other reviewers scorned her for being a whiny crybaby, but I didn't interpret it that way. Her reactions were wholly justifiable given the circumstances. Hell, if you were raped by an unknown man, forced to take refuge in a nunnery, and then kidnapped by rival clansmen, wouldn't you have felt the same fear and uncertainty?

After reading this novel I just felt a really intense urge to lie on my bed and stare at the ceiling for a long time.
