



Surrender the Stars

Cynthia Wright

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SURRENDER THE HEART. Her name is Lindsay Raveneau, stunningly beautiful and fiercely independent, a schoolmistress who hides a passionate soul beneath a most proper facade....

SURRENDER THE DESIRE. He is the handsome, virile Ryan Coleraine, an adventurer and a spy, a ladies' man at ease in any milieu -- from the hand-hewn planks aboard a ship to the rarefied air of a Regency English drawing room....

SURRENDER THE PASSION. Together they will forge a love so strong, so consuming, that nothing can alter it -- not the fact that he is to masquerade as her brother to help the American cause now the breath-stopping game of pretend they must play in front of friend and foe alike....

SURRENDER THE LUST. Together they will wait, embracing the dark of night, fulfilling their desire as they SURRENDER THE STARS.

Surrender the Stars Details

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From Reader Review Surrender the Stars for online ebook

Teressa says

"I LOVE The Raveneau Novels! Fabulous!"

What made Surrender the Stars most enjoyable for me was the way the story was continued. It was perfect. It went in the right direction and I really want to continue with this series. This is a genuinely delightful story. Considering that I'm new to the historical romance genre, I don't know what I would compare it to. I'm very pleased to be introduced by Cynthia Wright into this genre with such a great start. All of the scenes were my favorite. I take in the story as a whole. I love the setting, the characters, and the adventure. I especially love the dialogue. The characters are all so individualized and so well rounded. The romance between Lindsay and Ryan is so dynamic. It takes me back to that place and time in history and into the lives of these people that I have come to love. Ohhh, I just love this story. Emily Beresford is such a wonderful voice actor. After listening to Silver Storm and Surrender the Stars, she has become one of my favorite narrators. Emily exemplifies how it's done folks! She is amazing.

Jaime says

I am thoroughly enjoying Ms. Wright's stories! I enjoyed Andre and Devon's characters being woven throughout Ryan and Lindsay's story. I love how Ms. Wright allows the plot to unfold; it keeps me mesmerized, waiting for what will transpire next! Ms. Wright's research seems to be meticulous; intriguing details add to the richness of the story.

Rema says

While the beginning held delicious promise, the rest of the book was on a constant decline. The characters were much to blame for my dissatisfaction with the novel. I'd read Silver Storm a couple years back and was enchanted by Devon's and Andre's story. And I thought Silver Sea would entice me in the same way. However Lindsay did not turn out at all to be the character I thought she'd be in the beginning. She was impulsive, scatter-brained and so childlike I couldn't believe this was supposed to be the calm, sensible woman introduced in the early chapters. Rather than love bringing out a wonderful side to Lindsay she just seemed plain spoiled by it.

I hated reading about her scenarios, especially when she rushes headlong into a situation without thinking of the repercussions and can't even handle herself, making the situation much worse. She'd done this twice and the second time was the last straw.

Lindsay, instead of staying strong and determined when she follows Ryan on a mission he explicitly forbids her from accompanying him on, she breaks down in tears when he confronts her in anger. Typical damsel in distress. I think the author only added that part in for the sake of having a stupid, inane argument that could lead to some steamy make up scenes. And the one exciting time she wields a gun...it jams! You've got to be kidding me! And then we have the constant reference to her beauty-ugh give me a break. It's already mentioned every few pages. Yes we know she's pretty, but there's nothing substantial or even remotely likable about her personality. I guess the constant reminder of her beauty is supposed to make us all forget

that there's not much else to her.

I'm used to heroines like in Amanda Quick's novels. Women that can handle themselves. That have personalities, are quirky, and amusing. That aren't so hopelessly useless or nobody without love in their lives. Because basically Lindsay (even by her own mother) was described as "terribly" sensible before. And that's wrong? Please, I'd prefer it to this hopelessly useless and feather brained damsel in distress. Really there is no need for her in the novel, she just constantly makes me groan. I honestly can't see what Ryan saw in her. Rather than looking inside he was probably entranced by the constant remarks on Lindsay's gloriously magnificent beauty. Cue eye roll.

The romance-should i even bother? There was absolutely no romance. Only overdone passion. Passion does not equal love. Whenever Ryan and Lindsay occupy the same room they can barely restrain from just ravishing each other; it would be interesting if this didn't happen so often. Honestly, they say "I love you" to each other so much that you'd think there'd be more romance. Nope just lust.

Anyways this was so disappointing that if I wasn't feeling so generous I'd have given it one star. Hmm maybe I will.

Mhollie says

Love this book! I read the original years ago and the re-read only gets better!

Privateer Ryan Coleraine is a dark and dashing hero with a past he'd like to keep hidden. Circumstances conspire to reveal that past during the trip to England to help his adopted nation, the newly formed United States of America.

Schoolmistress Lindsey Raveneau is a serious & studious young woman. But her whole world turns on end when she takes a trip to England with her parents, Andre and Devon Raveneau of "Silver Storm", and the dangerously compelling Ryan Coleraine.

Little did anyone know that Lindsey was more like her adventurous parents! Causing Ryan to reevaluate his initial opinion of Lindsey. Plots and plans collide to create a wonderful story of intrigue and budding love.

Very well written with some unexpected twists!

Mainer207 says

This was so disappointing. The story was so-so but the narration was horrible. Pronunciation was pathetic. In fact, certain words were pronounced differently in different chapters (e.g. Piquet.) Doesn't the publisher check on this sort of thing? "Magdalen" and "Galway" are two blatant examples. I can't listen to the rest of this series unless there's a different narrator.

Lorelle says

This is book 2 of The Raveneau Novels and takes place during the war of 1812. Ryan Coleraine is a dashing sea Captain who is employed by Andre Raveneau. Lindsay Raveneau is the 20 year old daughter of Andre and Devon. Together they all embark on diplomatic mission to England, to find out who may be leaking sensitive information. Ryan is asked to pretend to be Lindsay's brother. The "siblings" begin to fall in love and do not do a very good job of hiding their, sort of, incestuous relationship. Lindsay goes from a boring school teacher in CT, to a headstrong and adventurous woman. Ryan is loving, sweet and forgiving. 3 1/2 stars. Recommend that you read Silver Storm first, which is an excellent story.

Elis Madison says

A couple technical issues (addressing Prinny as Your Majesty, for example) and a rather big logic problem (they could as easily have pretended Ryan was a more distant relation--which would have made more sense since he'd lived in England and might be recognized--but that would mess with the story) lost a star for this otherwise enjoyable romp.

Terri says

1st off, I want to say I read / listened to this book via audible.com. When I have a choice, I try to do my books in audio format as it is like listening to a movie. Words are pronounced properly & the right amount of excitement in all the right places. The accents are awesome, along with all the voices! I highly recommend audiobooks! They are great for traveling, cleaning, gardening * anything else you need your hands free for!

I really enjoyed listening to this book. An adventure for sure along with an exciting love story. I can only imagine back in the days when ships were the most popular form of travel (like airplanes are to us now). Cynthia Wright has a way of drawing me in and makes it very exciting!

In Book 1, The Silver Storm, we learned about Devon & Andre back in the late 1700's. Back in Connecticut & Devon town being burned down by the enemy. many people died & Devon was so young. She was discovered on Andre Raveneau's ship pretending to be a guy. Eventually they fall in love & marry, but a woman never makes it easy on a man. After all nothing worthwhile comes easily.

In Book 2, Surrender the Stars... We are now in the early 1800's. Devon & Andre had 2 more children & Muet, their 1st daughter is over 30. Now is Lindsey's time to fall in love. Lindsey is Devon & Andre's youngest daughter. The family has to travel to Europe to try to catch a spy. Andre chooses Ryan to impersonate his son Nathan for the trip as the real Nathan is away at sea. Lindsey & Ryan fight falling in love though out the book. There is loads of action & romance in this book along with ship battles.

Cynthia Wright has a way of drawing me in & making history so exciting. I normally am not a history girl, I did enjoy both of her books so far. The narrator Emily Beresford has such a soothing tone to her voice. She is a joy to listen too & sounds very professional! Emily is a master at multiple voices & accents truly making the story exciting & pleasurable!

Eileen Dandashi says

Cynthia Wright's novels have stood the test of time. Wonderfully written and exciting to hear it narrated by a talented reader.

Audiobook review:

My Thoughts: Book 2 of the series is completely different from book 1, but not at all lacking.

Ryan fought hard to stay away from Lindsey. After all, she was his boss's daughter. Her fiery personality only drew him closer, but they were playing with fire. If they should be caught, they may bring danger to the whole family. Lindsey was snared by Ryan whether she wanted to be or not. After their first kiss, she couldn't keep him out of her mind. We slowly learn about Ryan, his background, his life in Ireland and London. His life before being captain of the Chimera stands him in good stead when the story of intrigue, and danger, laced with humor unfolds.

I enjoyed how Devon, who by the way, was much like her daughter, in temperament when young, struggled with forbidding her daughter to talk with Ryan and on the other hand understanding how she was drawn to him. She could see Ryan was very much like Andre when they had been young.

This was a 'chuckler', highly entertaining and well-written keeping me listening for long hours. I would readily revisit this story again either in printed form or audio.

The narrator, Emily Beresford, must have had a splendid time with all the accents she had to keep apart. Andre's was slightly French, Devon and Lindsey's were American, Ryan's was Irish. Ryan also played the fop, so he had the bored sound that the ton made vogue. The next moment he would be whispering to Lindsey in his Irish brogue. Ms. Beresford impressed me even more in book 2 with her versatility.

Here's an excerpt from the novel just before Ryan walks into Lindsey's life:

"I wish you would let me finish this tonight," complained Betsy Urquhart. She sat alone, surrounded by empty desks, and gazed mournfully at the figure sorting papers at the front of the schoolroom.

"If you had written your theme last night, as instructed, you wouldn't be here now," her teacher replied without looking up.

"King Lear is so tedious." She pouted. "Besides, I thought you were my friend, Lindsay!"

"When we are in this room, I am your teacher and you must address me accordingly. Now, finish your theme so that we may both go home!"

Betsy wrote laboriously for several minutes, then said, "One would never guess that you are just two years older than I am—or that you come from such an adventurous family. I don't understand how you can be so dull—"

"I am not dull!" Lindsay answered sharply. "Simply because my relatives are afflicted with wanderlust, that does not make me dull. I choose to remain on land and pursue more serious endeavors. I enjoy teaching. Imparting knowledge to others is a great source of satisfaction to me."

"Do you never long for even a bit of adventure?" Betsy eyed her speculatively. "Or... romance? Mary Pratt told me that the Chimera is supposed to dock today. She's practically the only ship that has been able to elude that blockade of the Sound, but considering her captain, it's no surprise." She paused to sigh dreamily. "I was planning to walk to the Point after school in hopes of seeing him. Surely even you must grow weak at the thought of Ryan Coleraine! I've never seen a handsomer man...."

"Don't be absurd. In the first place, the Chimera is not the first privateer to achieve such feats. My father was just as successful during the Revolutionary War, and, as you know, Papa had the Chimera built, so your precious Ryan Coleraine is in his employ!"

Betsy tossed her curls impatiently. "You haven't answered my question! Don't you find Captain Coleraine attractive?"

"We've never met, but from what I've seen, the answer is no." Lindsay shuffled her papers nervously. "His looks don't appeal to me. I prefer fair men. Aside from that, Captain Coleraine's character is, in my opinion, repugnant."

"Repugnant?" Betsy was unfamiliar with the word but sensed its meaning. "How can you say such a thing?"

"He's an uneducated, cocky, ill-mannered rogue," Lindsay stated with finality. "Take my advice and stay away from men of his ilk. They lack scruples and take pleasure in ruining the reputations of gullible females like you."

From the doorway, a male voice spoke. "Am I to infer that you don't approve of me, Miss Raveneau?"

Startled, Lindsay spun around to find Ryan Coleraine leaning against the door frame, one eyebrow arched. A smile of cynical amusement played over his mouth.

"I—I—" she stammered. Hearing Betsy's muffled giggle, she looked in her direction. "You may go now, Elizabeth."

"But what about my theme? I'm not finished yet!"

"You may finish it tonight."

As the teacher and pupil continued to argue, Coleraine's dark blue eyes wandered over Lindsay Raveneau. He was surprised to discover that she was beautiful, perhaps even more beautiful than her mother. She was about twenty and taller than Devon Raveneau. Even though Lindsay wore a demure, cream-colored chemise frock and a cashmere shawl, Ryan's practiced eyes detected a lithe, long-legged body with a narrow waist and high, perfect breasts. Her hair was the same amazing rosy-gold shade as her mother's, and she wore it in a fashionable Grecian knot high atop her head, with a profusion of soft curls escaping to frame her lovely, intelligent countenance.

"Good-bye, Captain Coleraine," Betsy said as she passed him in the doorway.

Ryan looked at Lindsay. "Dare I enter? I can assure you that I have come not to ruin your reputation but to inquire after your father."

"Please, come in. I apologize for the things you heard me say about you, but you should have made your

presence known instead of eavesdropping."

He approached her desk, thinking that he had never met a young lady with so cool and confident a gaze. Lindsay's eyes were striking: thick-lashed and the color of smoke. Her complexion was creamy, with smudges of pink accentuating her cheekbones, and below a delicate nose reposed a mouth with a frankly sensual lower lip. Perhaps there was hope for this bluestocking after all, he thought as his eyes lingered there, then rose to meet her questioning gaze.

"My father is in Philadelphia, Captain Coleraine."

"So I heard. It's a pleasure to meet you at last, Miss Raveneau." Ryan extended a strong hand and gently clasped hers. "I'm sorry that you're unable to say the same."

Sensing his amusement, Lindsay strove to retain her composure. What an embarrassing situation this was! "It's been a long day, Captain Coleraine, and I may have spoken rashly. Again, I beg your pardon. Now, if you don't mind, I would like to finish my work here. How can I help you?"

"I am anxious to see your father. Able Barker thought that you might know when he's returning to Pettipauge."

"Within the week. I'm sorry that I can't give you an exact date."

Coleraine shrugged, frustration further darkening his mood. "Well, then, I suppose I'll just have to wait. I appreciate your speaking to me, Miss Raveneau. I know it can't have been easy." He gave her a cool smile and turned toward the schoolhouse doorway. "Good afternoon."

When his hand touched the latch, Lindsay called, "Wait! There's something I've always wanted to know. Will you tell me how you chose the Chimera's name? I was surprised when Papa told me that you had christened her."

He glanced back over one broad shoulder. "I liked the image of a she-monster with a serpent's tail, a goat's body, and a lion's head spitting flames. I think of my ship like the chimera from Greek mythology: a magical creature with the ability to overcome all obstacles."

Lindsay lifted her chin slightly. "I wouldn't have expected you to be a student of Greek mythology, Captain."

He laughed shortly. "Believe it or not, Miss Raveneau, I don't spend every spare moment seducing unsuspecting young females!"

The door closed behind him and Lindsay found herself alone in the schoolroom, muttering rude rejoinders that she was certain she'd never have an opportunity to employ.

Svalora says

I listened to much of this book on Audible — read some too! I enjoyed the narration which added to my enjoyment of the story.

I enjoyed this book more than some of the other books in this series so far. I liked the high spirited and

independent female in this book — although I know many readers do not! I just find her feisty yet innocent enough to be a fun character! I much enjoyed the hero of the story though to — and the facade he had to go through for a family that wasn't even his own! A fun twist to the “dream” at the end - in which I've never seen in a book from this timeframe— although I'm sure the author researched and has it in the correct historical place :-)

On to the next in the series!

Kbee says

AUDIOBOOK...As much as I liked the first one this one was really hard to finish.

The story drags. Not very captivating as it took me 3 weeks to get to the end.

Narrator: Emily Beresford did a good job with the voices but I had to go back and listen to the first book to see if it was really her reading this one. She gave most of the women whiny voices.

Stacey says

SURRENDER THE STARS, the second Raveneau entry in Cynthia Wright's Rakes and Rebels series pits Andre and Devon's youngest daughter, Lindsay against dashing privateer Ryan Coleraine. Lindsay has always been the quiet, serious Raveneau, quite different from the rest of her adventurous family. However, when she meets sea captain Ryan Coleraine, sparks fly. When they are thrown together, with Ryan posing as Lindsay's brother Nathan, to help the family spy in London, Lindsay is quite unhappy. As they find themselves in unfamiliar world of the London ton, Lindsay and Ryan discover passion and love, which can be quite hard to share when you are masquerading as brother and sister!

SURRENDER THE STARS is an excellent addition to the Rakes and Rebels series. It is great fun reading about the next generation of Raveneaus and discovering the passions of Andre and Devon are still going strong. Wright seamlessly incorporates the history of the time and her attention to detail allows the reader to get truly lost in the story.

Nikki Bywater says

Set during a war between America and Britain in the early nineteenth century.

When the President needs an American family, he knows he can trust to live in London and who can mix in the highest circles of society. He asks Andre and Devon Raveneau. They agree to help because it is for their country, to help find the person who has been helping the British by leaking valuable information, giving the British an advantage. The president wants Devon and Andre to take their two grown up children with them too. Lindsay is a bookish girl who teaches at the school house. When not teaching she is always lost in a book reading. Nathan is handsome, intelligent and would quickly win a place in London society. The problem is that Nathan is currently in the West Indies so it is up to Sea Captain Ryan Coleraine to step into Nathan's shoes and pretend to be him. Ryan is a tall, lean and strong Irishman who has just returned from sea.

When Lindsay meets Ryan she takes an instant dislike to him. She thinks he is uneducated, cocky, ill-mannered rouge and a ladies man. During the voyage to England Lindsay and Ryan find that they do have things in common and for Lindsay the adventure of self discovery has just begun.

Will Lindsay and Ryan be able to pass as brother and sister, when they must hide their true feelings for each other, love or hate?

Can the family blend in with British society and find the traitor who is telling the British secrets and helping them.

This is another superb historical romance novel by Cynthia Wright. The plot of the story ties together really well and I really enjoyed the story. What an adventure the two leading characters have, making a really good love story. The good news is that I still have a lot more books that I can read from this fantastic author and I can't wait to get started on them.

April says

"Great second book in the series"

If you could sum up *Surrender the Stars* in three words, what would they be?

Ships, romance and history

What did you like best about this story?

I really enjoyed the way this story jumps forward in the timeline of the leads from the first book, Devon and Andre. Thank goodness they both seem to have gained much maturity. I loved having them throughout their youngest daughter's romance. Lindsey is feisty like her mother and a terrific match for Ryan. I really enjoyed their story.

What about Emily Beresford's performance did you like?

She is a fabulous narrator!! I love her energy and the emotion she adds to the read. Her voices are great and make the characters come alive. I have listened to other reads by her and thoroughly enjoyed them. Really engaging and fun performance.

Any additional comments?

Disclosure - I received a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review. All thoughts, opinions and ratings are my own.

Christine Woinich says

I really enjoyed the audiobook. Lindsay and Ryan made a great pair. Their love grew despite everything around them and would carry them through some rough spots. When Lindsay thought that she might lose Ryan's love because she had acted against his wishes, her honesty and self reflection made my heart go out to her. The care that Ryan took with Lindsay, both in public and in private, is what most women would like to have. This story is part of a series and is not the first, but it did not take away from the story. It did make me want to go back and read the ones before and the ones after. Thank you, Cynthia Wright, for allowing me to

enjoy a story that crossed the Atlantic to London and Ireland and back. I will be looking for your other books.
