



## Forever Ecstasy

*Janelle Taylor*

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Morning Star knew it was her duty as an Oglala princess to join with a warrior of her tribe. After all, she was the granddaughter of the revered Gray Eagle, and her father was the great Chief Sun Cloud. But the moment she gazed into the sky-blue eyes of Joseph Lawrence, she realized he was fated to be in her life-circle.

## Forever Ecstasy Details

Date : Published June 1st 1991 by Zebra

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Author : Janelle Taylor

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# From Reader Review Forever Ecstasy for online ebook

## Blue Falcon says

This review is of “Forever Ecstasy”, book #8 (9th published) in the “Ecstasy/Gray Eagle” series by Janelle Taylor.

The story: In the year 1831, a Teton Oglala shaman reveals a vision that of a white man and an Oglala maiden will help battle whites and bring temporary peace to the Teton Oglala people. The identities of the white man and Oglala maiden were not revealed in the vision.

Fast forward 20 years to 1851. Joseph Lawrence, Jr, the “white man” and the hero of the book, rescues Morning Star, the Oglala maiden and the heroine of the book, from evil white men. Both have a connection to previous characters in the series; Morning Star is the daughter of Singing Wind and Sun Cloud, and granddaughter to Gray Eagle. Joe is friends with Stede Gaston, son of Powchutu, who has a long, complicated connection with Gray Eagle. (See previous books for explanation.)

Based on the aforementioned vision, Joe lies to Sun Cloud to get him to help Joe in his mission, but there are pockets of resistance, notably from Morning Star’s brother, Night Stalker, and another Oglala brave who desires Morning Star, Knife-Slayer.

As their investigation goes on, Morning Star and Joe fall in love and become lovers. However, they face challenges to their love: the fact that Morning Star is mostly Oglala; the fact that Joe is white; and the question of where they will live their lives together. Another challenge comes from another man, Clay Thorne, a.k.a. Sky Warrior, who is half-white, half-Cheyenne and may also be the man in the shaman’s vision. Clay falls in love with Morning Star’s best friend, Buckskin Girl, and they marry.

Eventually, Morning Star and Joe complete their mission to bring peace to the plains, but their love comes at a very high price; Morning Star is banished forever from the Oglalas for loving Joe. She and Joe marry, move to his home in Virginia, have two daughters who will play roles in the final book in the series, and have their Happily Ever After.

Upside: Mrs. Taylor’s books in the series are always well-researched. Morning Star and Joe are pretty strong characters, and their emotions toward each other are on display throughout the book.

Downside: I’m not sure Mrs. Taylor made me care about either Morning Star or Joe the way a book like this is intended to. I’m not thrilled with the way Joe tried to manipulate Morning Star to coming to the white world with him. Some of the storylines, such as the mission that Morning Star and Joe undertake to obtain temporary peace between Indians and whites was so dense as to be difficult to follow. I also found the ending of those storylines to be unsatisfactory.

Sex: Mrs. Taylor’s love scenes are incredibly flowery, and that is certainly the case here.

Violence: Assault, battery and killings. The violence is not overly graphic.

Bottom Line: From my perspective, it feels like Mrs. Taylor was running on fumes with “Forever Ecstasy”. It’s still a good book, but I feel that there were things left on the table.

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### **Stacy says**

I've only read a couple books in this series, and I do want to read the rest of it. The storyline is interesting... That said, the dialogue seems a little forced at times, and the plot is predictably similar to Avatar and Pocahontas (though this was written before Avatar). If you want some light reading, this is it. There are some fairly descriptive sexual scenes - it \*is\* a romance novel after all.

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### **April Brookshire says**

Book 8 of the Gray Eagle series. Not as entertaining as some of the other books in the series. The romance part of the book was simple, no conflict between the hero and heroine. Joe, the hero, was a likable guy (a regular Joe). It's a who-done-it kind of plot. I would have liked the unmasking of the villain to have been more of a surprise like on Scooby-Doo. I was satisfied with the ending. The books of this series were written/published a little out of order. This book was sort of filling in the blank and telling the story of the twin heroines in book 9. Gave it the feeling at times that it was dragging on. Joe and Morning Star wandered around the Dakota Territory during the book on their spirit mission and it could have used more action and drama.

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### **Jenny Mount says**

Morning Star knew it was her duty as an Oglala princess to join with a warrior of her tribe. After all, she was the granddaughter of the revered Gray Eagle, and her father was the great Chief Sun Cloud. But the moment she gazed into the sky-blue eyes of Joseph Lawrence, she realized he was fated to be in her life-circle.

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