



Defiant Ecstasy

Janelle Taylor

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The longer Alisha Williams remained at Fort Pierre, the more she hoped her redskinned lover would rescue her from the taunts and tirades of the white pioneers. They would never let her forget she had been the mistress of the infamous savage warrior, Gray Eagle. As if the auburn-haired beauty could forget! Each night, Alisha sweetly remembered Gray Eagle's bold caresses, burning kisses, his blazing passion. Each day, she scanned the vast horizon in hopes her Oglala brave would recapture her. Then one day, Alisha saw hundreds of Indian warriors riding to the gates of Fort Pierre--and at their head was the fierce Gray Eagle. Though her most fervent prayers had been answered, Alisha's heart skipped a beat: Would Gray Eagle destroy her--or make her destiny his own?

Defiant Ecstasy Details

Date : Published March 15th 1996 by Zebra (first published 1982)

ISBN :

Author : Janelle Taylor

Format : Kindle Edition 472 pages

Genre : Romance, Historical Romance, Historical, Westerns

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From Reader Review Defiant Ecstasy for online ebook

Joni says

YES, I like this book very much, it made a great sequel from the first book. I like how he went after her and brought her back to his village. Very sexy...the ending was GREAT.

I did read this several times too...great on a rainy day. After this book I did get tired of the "misunderstandings" between them. Or how dumb Alisha is in the 3rd book....

Regan Walker says

Exciting Second in the Gray Eagle Series

Having read the first in the series, I could not wait to dive into the second. This is the continuation of the love story between Alisha Williams, a sheltered innocent raised in England to be a young lady, and Gray Eagle, son of the Oglala chief. Set in the Dakotas, it continues from Savage Ecstasy, which began in 1776.

I thought Taylor's ability to keep the conflict, action and mystery going into this second book was brilliant. And very difficult to do. After all, we know that Gray Eagle wants Alisha and when Savage Ecstasy ended, he was getting her back after the "blue coats" had "rescued" her and were now forced to give her back to Gray Eagle. After two sweet days together, Alisha is told she bears a mark that makes her the missing daughter of the chief of the Blackfeet tribe. But how could that be?

As the newly discovered daughter of Black Cloud, Alisha is now "Shalee" and promised to wed the chief's son. Gray Eagle is determined to take back what is his. But how will he do it? Thus begins an adventure you will not want to miss.

Like the first in the series, this is a compelling story I could not put down, and this one perhaps brings a more satisfying "end" to the romance of Alisha and Gray Eagle, but there is more. This is the first in the 9 book the Gray Eagle series, the first four of which comprise the story of Gray Eagle and Alisha:

Savage Ecstasy
Defiant Ecstasy
Forbidden Ecstasy
Brazen Ecstasy
Tender Ecstasy
Stolen Ecstasy
Bittersweet Ecstasy
Forever Ecstasy
Savage Conquest

Autumn says

I wanted to punch Grey Eagle in the junk - all the way through...

Sue Lyndon says

I recommend reading *Defiant Ecstasy* after reading *Savage Ecstasy*, and feel free to skip the first chapter in *Defiant Ecstasy* completely. It was nearly a word-for-word repeat of the very last chapter of the first book in this series by Janelle Taylor. Overall, I thought this book was fabulous. The tension between Grey Eagle and Alisha is better than ever. There's a few times where I feel like she's talking too much - voicing her doubts about whether Grey Eagle loves her or not a little too redundantly. Of course she had never heard the words "I love you" come out of his mouth because she doesn't yet know they share a language and his moods seem very unpredictable to her, so I got past this minor annoyance easily. Their love for one another is so great that Grey Eagle will risk his life to fight the successor of a neighboring tribe to get Alisha back. And before that even happens, Alisha believes Grey Eagle has sold her to another but she still can't push him out of her heart. In the end, they have a heart-to-heart and Alisha's doubts are finally remedied

Karla says

For other reactions during this Buddy Read, see this review.

Defiant Ecstasy: The Short Version

Alisha: The men at the fort think I'm an Indian-loving whore and want to sleep with me, and the women think I'm an Indian-loving whore and want me to die.

Men At Fort: What an Indian-loving whore. We want to sleep with her.

Women At Fort: What an Indian-loving whore. Die in a fire.

Alisha: Oh, I am so hated! White people suck! *weeps beautifully* At least you, Powchutu, are my friend.

Powchutu: *pines*

Alisha: It's been 66 pages already. I guess we should stop recapping the last chapter of the last book and walk through that gate.

Powchutu: *follows*

Alisha: There's Gray Eagle, who would sack the fort if he didn't get me. Well, it's a sacrifice for me to go to a man who hates me, but what can I do? I wish he spoke English so he'd know how much I hate him and yet, oh yet!, love him.

Gray Eagle: LOL! She doesn't know I speak English. I know it like a native but I've managed to keep it a secret from everybody. It's all part of my Cunning Plan™.

Alisha: OMG, he's sacking the fort anyway! That evil asshole! Now we're riding towards his village. Let's eat a bunny and exchange heated and horny looks while I spill my guts. I wish he spoke English.

Gray Eagle: *LOLZ*

Alisha: Now we're in his village. They all hate me and that bitch Chela tried to stab me! Haven't I been through enough? *weeps with aching beauty* Oh Wanmdi Hota, koda wasichu winyan ska and other dialogue sprinkled with the same 6 Sioux words I know. When I'm not asking myself questions and agonizing over every little word or glance from Gray Eagle, I will blurt out everything important because no one will understand me.

Gray Eagle: *LOLZ* I'm going to send her mixed signals. But it's totally not my intention. I have this weird inability to convey the correct emotion at really important times, despite all my efforts.

Alisha: Why does he do this shit? God, it's like he knows what I'm saying! But that's, like, impossible so I won't think about it anymore. I want to jump his bones every other minute but then he pisses me off so much by acting like such an asshole. It's like he's doing this shit for LOLZ.

Gray Eagle: I wish she wouldn't get pissed off. I know I could have cleared everything up in the last book, but pride and honor dictate that I carry out my Cunning Plan™ to keep silent and let the Misunderstandings grow like a marshmallow in a microwave. Wow, weird. How do I know about stuff like that? Anyway, *LOLZ*

Me: Jesus Christ, will you just fucking speak English already??

Gray Eagle: Shit, another chief thinks Alisha is his daughter because of that tattoo on her ass and is going to take her away. She's terrified and thinks I'm selling her into slavery. She hates me more now. Damn, and the moment was almost right for me to tell her the truth but now it's too late. Again! Fate is so unkind to us. If she knows this tattoo thing is a lie, she'll blow her cover and they'll kill her. Bye, Alisha! I'll ride to your rescue but you must stay ignorant of the truth for a while longer. It's all part of my Cunning Plan™.

Alisha: Now I'm in the other village. Hey, that Brave Bear is HAWT! Let me giggle fetchingly. Oooh, and he is a non-threatening beta! I like that! Except why doesn't he jump my bones and ravish me? I miss Gray Eagle, that miserable, abusive fucker. I hate him! Soooooo glad I'm here now. Everyone's treating me nice, too! It's as if they thought I was the chief's daughter or something!

Gray Eagle: Chick is mine. You no can haz.

Brave Bear: Bring it!

Alisha: That asshole! I was just enjoying life again and then HE shows up! Shit, no! They're fighting! One will die and I love them both in different ways! I will rush in and try to stop it! I hate these Moments of Truth. I love Gray Eagle far more!

Gray Eagle: Thanks for the diversion, sweetcheeks. I won! Woot! Brave Bear, you can have that jealous skanky ho Chela who won't leave me alone and tried to kill my little lady.

Brave Bear: Sweet! Alisha's yours. No hard feelings, bro.

Alisha: What? I heard Chela's name in their conversation, so that must mean that Gray Eagle is going to screw both of us in the same teepee. Well, fuck that kinky shit! I'm outta here!

Powchutu: Bitch, you don't know your own mind. But Gray Eagle ain't no good for you, girl.

Alisha: That whole tattoo thing is bogus! Some old lady put it on me because the tattoo would fit perfectly over a scar I got as a little girl from landing on a rock when I got thrown by a horse! I have no proof, but it all makes sense!

Me: Wow, Janelle, you're pulling stuff out of your ass left and right here.

Alisha: If they find out I'm not the chief's daughter, they're going to kill me! I've got to get out of here!

Powchutu: If they find out you're not the chief's daughter, they're going to kill you. Let's get out of here!

Gray Eagle: If they find out she's not the chief's daughter, they're going to kill her. I'm going to let them get out of here!

Powchutu: Alisha, marry him and then we'll drug him that night and beat cheeks.

Alisha: You're on!

Gray Eagle: I love knowing English. I can eavesdrop and understand EVERYTHING.

Alisha: It's our wedding night and I've longed for it forever! But now I have to leave! Let's fuck one last time!

Gray Eagle: *licks & smooches*

Alisha: OMG, YES! I love you!

Gray Eagle: I will fake being drugged now before ravishing her.

Alisha: OMG, no! No no no! I shouldn't have drugged you! You fuck me now!

Gray Eagle: I will continue to pretend to be asleep. She loves me and I love her, but she must want to stay of her own free will. It's all part of my Cunning Plan™.

Alisha: Fate has been so unkind to us! Well, I've gotta go now. *leaves*

Gray Eagle: Damn, now I have to go after her. I can't say anything now. I have to confess when we're alone together on the prairie. It's all part of my Cunning Plan™.

Alisha: I'm out here on the prairie, unable to tell East from West and confident I can survive out here 3 days on my own until I rendezvous with Powchutu. So glad I'm not with Gray Eagle, though I wish I was with him now.

Gray Eagle: *looms*

Alisha: Waaaaah! I'll never escape you! Never! It's like you know English and heard EVERYTHING!

Gray Eagle: I do know English. I heard everything.

Alisha: You asshole!

Gray Eagle: *LOLZ* I'm going to let her blow off steam. It's all part of my Cunning Plan™.

Alisha: I hate you!

Gray Eagle: Let me recap everything that has happened in the past two books and tell you what I was thinking and my motives and how it was all part of my Cunning Plan™.

Me: Do I have to hear all this again?

Gray Eagle: Do you remember this? And this? And that?

Alisha: I do! I do! And do you remember this? And that? And this?

Gray Eagle: And that time when....

Me: Christ on a cracker, now that he's speaking English will he ever shut the fuck up?

Gray Eagle: Since you're white and not a chief's daughter, we'll have to live a lie for my tribe.

Alisha: You're on! You can count on me! I'm consistently reliable!

Me: Oh, I don't foresee ANY complications in that Cunning Plan™.

Final Words:

My advice? Don't play a drinking game with this book. It will not end well.

Everything is overdone in it. The internal dialogues, the foreshadowing, the big misunderstandings, the idiotic plot contrivances and conveniences, the boringly laborious plodding of all the characters' thoughts and actions, the abuse of question marks. Everything. It wasn't inept in a fun way. It was boring and homicidally aggravating. How this got past an editor is anybody's guess. NOTHING HAPPENS. The entire "plot" is propelled by a misunderstanding that could be cleared up with 3 words: "I speak English." When THAT is what's keeping the conflict going? Umm yeah, well, you have a shitty, pointless book.

There are only 2 action scenes - a fort sacking that takes place off-page and the fight between Gray Eagle and Brave Bear. Everything else is internal dialogue and swathes of dialogue that are often delivered in long paragraphs like someone delivering a speech. Excruciating.

And Janelle Taylor did the unthinkable. She took a hero who was the only saving grace of the previous book

and made him, in the words of another reviewer here, someone I "wanted to punch in the junk." He and his Cunning Plan™ that required he stay silent at every important plot point really took the cake. Then he'd agonize about his inability to do anything except follow his plan a bit longer as things got worse and worse.

Arrgh, I'm glad this is over. I have the rest of the series and I will read them because they *are* fast reads and, against all my better judgment, I want to see what other idiotic nothings Alisha and Gray Eagle and their spawn get up to. But they are *not* examples of competent storytelling and are almost stunning in terms of bland, mediocre writing.

0 stars and a ruthless kick into Leonidas' Backyard Bottomless Pit.

Sandy says

I love all of the books in this series but I sometimes wander just how much a woman can take and still be able to love a man. I'm sure there are people who can find love this strong but luckily I haven't.

Kerrie says

For a perfect recap of what passes for plot read this review.

I'll let that one speak a bit for me, or else my rant would not be pretty:

This was, without a doubt, **The Absolute Worst Book I've Ever Read**. Everything that was annoying and inept in the first book - the "see Spot run" writing, the endless internal questions of the characters, the *perfectiousness* of Alisha, the interminable Big Mis - Janelle **double-downed** on it all. What a gooey hot mess this book was. And not a *good* mess like fresh S'mores. This was a **driving-through-fresh-asphalt-patching-and-wet-yellow-road-paint-in-your-newly-washed-white-convertible mess**.

Nothing happened. I repeat, **Nothing. Happened.** After 150 pages of waiting, I finally gave up all expectations of even "Things Are Doing Things" and had to settle for the endless spinning of wheels as nearly all the words in this book took place in the heads of the characters. No, really!

Alisha wonders what Gray Eagle is thinking, Gray Eagle sees her expression and knows what she's thinking, but doesn't correct her (cuz it's never The Right Time to let her know he speaks English), Powchutu/White Arrow/Brave Bear sometimes enter the mix to think their own thoughts about the other's thoughts, and so on and so on.

Boring. Boring. Boring.

Alisha, so fragile, delicate and adorable (so we're told) in the first book, becomes a flailing hysterical mess this time around. I lost track of how many times she cried, tears spilling beautifully from her eyes and down her cheeks. She was always The Victim, seeing every event in the book as a "cruel joke" at her expense and hated by all (even when their actions spoke the opposite):

But now, the most unforgivable part of this book. What Janelle Taylor did to Gray Eagle. He was **The Best Part** of the first book, an awesome alpha hero whose actions were ~~some~~ ^{mostly} explainable due to his honor and pride as a chief's son. But this time around, he becomes pretty much a cardboard cipher, helplessly wringing his hands on the sidelines because it's not yet The Right Time to speak English and clear everything up. I went from

to

and then after

Would this be his last chance to tell her everything within his heart and mind?...Would he die without her ever knowing how much he loved her and why he was doing this? Would he never see the look on her face when he said those words of love to her?...I love you too much to tell you these things now, Cinstinna, he thought. If I am killed this day, the pain of forgetting me will be far greater. It will be easier to forget your enemy than your love. She would not have the time to know if I spoke the truth and would be in torment for a long time. She would think it to be a last, cruel taunt. It would be far too cruel for her to know of my love just before my death. I will remain silent until you are mine. If it is to be, I will carry your love to my death.

And that pretty much sums up my reaction to this big giant **flaming turd** of a book.

April Brookshire says

This second book in the series picks up where the last left off. Alisha is still Gray Eagle's white who- I mean captive. He's still pretending to not know English. White Arrow and Powchutu still have the hots for her. There are lots of misunderstandings, manipulations and emotional pain for Alisha. The main plot of this book is that Alisha is taken from Gray Eagle by the chief of another tribe when he claims that she is his long lost missing half-breed daughter. She goes from being a white slave in one moment to becoming the beloved Indian princess, Shalee, in the next. And of course, Gray Eagle isn't having that! Determined to get her back, he follows her to the other Indian camp, still not telling her he speaks English, and determined to get her back no matter what it takes.

Blue Falcon says

This review is of "Defiant Ecstasy", ("Ecstasy/Gray Eagle", #2) by Janelle Taylor.

The Story: "Defiant Ecstasy" begins by filling in details of what occurred at the end of the first book,

“Savage Ecstasy”. Gray Eagle, the “hero” of the series, shows up at Fort Pierre with 2,000 Indian warriors behind him. He has a demand for the denizens of Fort Pierre: Release his white lover, Alisha Katrina Williams, the heroine of the book, to him, or he and his warriors will destroy the fort and everyone in it. After some contentious debate, the Army decides to send Alisha back to Gray Eagle.

Gray Eagle and Alisha are both happy with the decision (Gray Eagle orders his braves to destroy the fort, anyway, as payback for how the soldiers and others in the fort treated Alisha), and for a while, they are happy. Two events, however, happen to shatter their happiness.

The first: Gray Eagle’s “betrothed”, a Lakota woman named Chela, tries to kill Alisha. Gray Eagle stops this from occurring. What he can’t stop, at least immediately, is the second event: a plan by an Blackfoot woman, who concocts a scheme that Alisha isn’t really Alisha Williams, English expat, but Princess Shalee, a half-white, half-Blackfoot woman who was abducted years earlier. As part of the scheme, Alisha is taken out of the Lakota village and to a Blackfoot village to marry Shalee’s betrothed, a Blackfoot warrior named Brave Bear.

While in the Blackfoot camp, Alisha begins having romantic feelings toward Brave Bear, who treats her with the kindness that Gray Eagle doesn’t. Gray Eagle, however, refuses to give Alisha up and challenges Brave Bear for the right to marry her. Gray Eagle defeats Brave Bear, but, at Alisha’s urging, does not kill him. As they prepare to join, Gray Eagle and Alisha are plagued with problems, most of which are self-inflicted.

Some of these issues are eventually resolved, Alisha and Gray Eagle marry and are happy...for now anyway.

Upside: Mrs. Taylor’s evocative, flowing writing style is on display here, as she brought me into the world of Gray Eagle and Alisha. The characters are well-developed.

Downside: Having already established Gray Eagle as a emotional/physical abuser/rapist, Mrs. Taylor spends much of “Defiant Ecstasy” trying to rehabilitate him. For some, it might work. For me...not at all. While I don’t believe it is necessarily fair to judge someone solely by one action-or a series of actions-Gray Eagle shows no remorse for his behavior; in fact he blames Alisha for what he has done to her! And Alisha, on occasion, agrees with him! Not good.

Sex: Very little in the way of love scenes, and those that do happen are typically mild and flowery in the Janelle Taylor style.

Violence: The sacking of Fort Pierre occurs “offscreen”. Gray Eagle and Brave Bear’s fight is only mildly graphic.

Bottom Line: I am a fan of Mrs. Taylor, but I totally repudiate her efforts to try to defend/excuse/justify Gray Eagle’s behavior.

Carrie says

This is one of my favorite books in the Ecstasy series. I love the way that Gray Eagle fights for Alisha and tries to make things right for her. And the ending is amazing and well written!

Copper78 says

The story of Grey Eagle and Alisha should have wrapped up with this book. It was very similar to the first book, but things were wrapped up neatly and happily and the hero FINALLY revealed he spoke english which was already belated and it was pissing me off to no end that 95% of their issues would never have occurred if he'd simply TALKED to Alisha. Insert eye roll. Like the first book this was hard to put down as long as I skimmed the parts that dragged and repeated the same thoughts OVER and OVER. I wish I'd left it alone and not moved on to book 3 so my parting advice is to stop with this one, book 3 adds nothing but stupidity and melodrama to the series and made me hate both MCs and all the secondary characters too.

Jade Fallaw says

Ugh, this was such a frustrating book. I felt like it was just saying the same things over and over. I remember now why I stopped reading this series after book two. Why did I put myself through reading this a second time? Blahhhhh.

Deborah says

Having enjoyed 'Savage Ecstasy' I was looking forward to 'Defiant' but I was surprised that the first 70 or so pages were just the end of the previous book in more detail!
I enjoyed parts of this book but Alisha's rambling thoughts, constant weeping, doubts and again the endless collection of "I hate you's" started to really get on my nerves.
Plus I still can't believe the 'misunderstandings' were dragged out yet again, and again it's long, over long and yet despite all this I can see me reading 'Forbidden'
Why?
I've no idea but something about these two draws me in and I want to finish their story but the authors not helping at all.

heather ♥ says

Juvenile writing, ok story.

July says

I read this book thirty years ago. So, this is the the second time I read it. I enjoyed re-reading it. I am re-reading the series. I like how Gray Eagle keeps his secret that he understands english from Alisha for so long. It actually causes alot of problems. But it is very amusing. Her friendship with Powchutu grows because of this. And Gray Eagle only has himself to blame for this.
Mato causes trouble that comes out at the end of this book. But Alisha never did trust her so I am not

surprised. Alisha is renamed Shalee and given a indian father. She almost loses Gray Eagle because of her head strong ways. Her new indian father wants to marry her to another. Gray Eagle will not have any part of this. His says over his dead body.

Powchutu must be friend to Alisha even though he really wants to be more. This book is filled with lots of good adventure.. It has a very good ending. And there are more books.
