



Valley of the Shadow

Kathryn Le Veque

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In the first book of the series, meet Dr. Kathlyn Trent. A cross between Indiana Jones and The Crocodile Hunter, Dr. Trent has made a name for herself as a Media Archaeologist. Beautiful, intelligent and educated, she is one of the most famous faces in the world. Her television specials bring millions of viewers as she tackles subjects that most credible archaeologists won't touch. But beneath the flash and hype, she has a true gift. A "sixth sense", this gift has helped her locate mystical and wonderful things all over the world. Whether or not people believe in her gift, her results speak for themselves.

Because of her ability to find the unfindable, Dr. Trent is called in to assist the floundering dig of one of the world's top Egyptologists, Dr. Marcus Burton. Dr. Burton has a highly publicized dig in the Valley of the Kings, and Kathlyn is met with animosity the moment she sets foot on his dig. Tall, dark and ruggedly gorgeous, he has no desire to attract the attention she brings. But the excitement they come to share as they explore long-lost pharaoh's tomb destroys the animosity in favor of an emotional bond that cannot be broken.

Elements of intrigue endanger their lives and create chaos amidst their blooming romance, and the situation soon explodes in a running gun battle amongst the ruins of ancient Egyptian temples. It takes all of Kathlyn and Marcus' strength to keep each other alive.

Valley of the Shadow Details

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From Reader Review Valley of the Shadow for online ebook

Carolyn says

OH MY GOSH! This is SO good! I was on the edge of my seat and lost sleep reading it. I highly recommend it. Amazon has it for \$.99. Grab it! You won't be disappointed! Onto "The Eden Factor, Book 2! ;)

Lisa says

Same review for all three books, as I read them in a bundle with no ISBN for the bundle.

Reasons for the 1 star:

1. Author is Kathryn, Heroine is Kathlyn. Putting yourself into the book, much?
2. Kathlyn is supposed to be a very talented, intelligent, media-savvy archeologist with a knack for finding artifacts. My overall impression of her is: an impetuous, selfish, "my way or the highway" woman who is constantly bursting into tears. And who gets pregnant if her husband breathes on her. I didn't find her sympathetic or relatable.
3. The author includes in her bio that she writes for men AND women, and boy is that evident in this series. Marcus "takes" Kathlyn frequently.
4. Speaking of Marcus, I cannot believe that even in the 3rd book, he is still so jealous and possessive that he loses his shit enough to beat up someone whom he sees embrace Kathlyn, without any knowledge of context or circumstances - other than "I've seen the way he looks at you, he's in love with you." So, hugging her means that you're going to beat the shit out of him, even though your jealousy and hair-trigger temper has been wrong previously and gotten you into shit. Asshole.

I have no idea why I read all three books. I guess I hoped it would get better. And they kindof reminded me of my parents' Clive Cussler books, with less Al Giardino and more Bible. (side note: I like to think of the Dirk Pitt series as "Dirk and Al fuck their way around the world." I may need to re-read and see if they hold up)

Brenda says

Valley of the Shadows is my 3rd Kathryn Le Veque novel and second of her "romance adventure" books. This is obviously a very well researched book filled with Egyptian history and archeology related terminology. Don't expect the characters to pepper their dialogue with convenient definitions of things like "cartouche" or "antechamber." Ms. Le Veque's love of the topic clearly shines through as does her respect for the reader by not "dumbing down" the dialogue.

Kathlyn Trent and Marcus Burton don't have the most auspicious start. Marcus is resentful of Kathlyn's presence on his dig and rightfully so. Marcus has spent three seasons trying to locate the tomb of Rameses VIII without success. His sponsors have collaborated with another university to bring in "hit and run" specialist, Kathlyn. Kathlyn has the reputation of using a "sixth sense" to locate antiquities and relics. She only stays long enough to find the item and rarely participates in the excavation. I thought Marcus' interactions with Kathlyn in the beginning were apropos.

Kathlyn's "sixth sense" is instrumental in locating a hidden tomb which should have been her cue to leave for

the next site on her itinerary. Over the course of time, Kathlyn and Marcus have developed a mutual respect and admiration for each other. Not to mention a flirtation that has not gone unnoticed by their colleagues. Rather than rush off to the next place, Kathlyn wishes to stay with Marcus and explore the romantic feelings she has for him and participate in the excavation. Fortunately he shares those same feelings and thus begins the romance part of the novel.

The love scenes are not graphic and there aren't many of them. Marcus' stamina was so over the top that I had to roll my eyes. He's the Energizer Bunny. `Nuff said.

Since Kathlyn knows Marcus and she share the same feelings, she feels comfortable going on to Israel for her next assignment. As a "hit and run" specialist, she can locate the item (the Ark of the Covenant) and return to Marcus and their dig site in short order. This run of the mill assignment (for Kathlyn) turns into something dangerous and deadly.

I liked the plotting and pacing of this book very much. The subject matter was intriguing and the action sequences well written. What I didn't like was a villain who had diarrhea of the mouth. You know the type...the one who's going to kill you, but first has to tell you all the details of their evil plot. I've never been a fan of this methodology of revealing plot and motivation. It feels contrived and unrealistic.

Some of Kathlyn's behavior at the dig site I thought was boneheaded. Since she rarely sticks around for an excavation, I can only assume she's not highly experienced in the protocol. She engages in some actions that were not only risky to her physically but also to the integrity of the structure and the items therein. It was meant to show her pluck. I would have kicked her off the dig. When you know for a fact that the tomb is booby trapped, why oh why would you lift up the shiny statue that seems out of place?

Overall I enjoyed this book because of the subject matter and the action aspect. The romance was OK and only marred for me by of the constant references to Marcus' "cobalt blue eyes." I freely admit that repetition drives me bonkers.

I've downloaded books 2 and 3 in the series and will definitely read them.

Helen Cooper says

Good read would definitely recommend and can't wait for the next book

To continue with the Burtons and probably there sons lives which will be just as exciting as there parents if not more so

Miranda C Stokes says

Clever, fresh story but lacked Le Veque heat

This was an incredibly interesting, well researched and fresh story. The reader learns a great deal about both archaeology and ancient Egypt. Plus, there were a lot of unexpected twists and turns in the plot. What was missing, and may be a disappointment for Le Veque fans, was a lack of heat and chemistry between the main two characters that typifies her stories.

Pam Sage says

Surprisingly great book of romance and intrigue. Bought it for my vacation read and can't wait to read the next one!

Jenika Ioffreda says

2.5 stars

Some elements were very cool but I couldn't warm up much to the characters or their romance.

Delia Binder says

Sorry, everybody - I know a lot of you enjoyed this, but to me it felt like a hodgepodge of pieces from the Brendan Fraser MUMMY movies, TOMB RAIDER games, uninspired category romance, and some of the less-enjoyable ShondaLand television shows, and all tied together with the most blatant case of Insta-Love ever!

I'd bought the trilogy on sale at BookBub, in the hopes it might be a fun cross of Eve Dallas and Indiana Jones - and gave up on it about a quarter of the way through the first book, when Adorkable-But-Courageous-To-Say-Nothing-of-Psychic Lady Archeologist Dr. Katherine Trent agrees to marry Extra-Super-Macho-and-Naturally-Skeptical-Manly-Archeologist Dr. Marcus Burton!

Picture, If You Will, a Rom-Com/Adventure Starring Zooey Deschanel and Gerard Butler - Without Running Away Screaming in Horror!

Mind, I honestly couldn't say either one *likes* each other much at all, even if their sexual chemistry is supposedly so explosive they end up having sex all over the place before page 100.

It's an Egyptian Tomb, so there's a curse - and I couldn't honestly tell you how it ends because I stopped caring after about the fourth or fifth time Katherine foolhardily risked her life to prove she didn't need Marcus's protection, even though she's having periodic psychic blackouts thanks to The Evil In This Place....

"I Would Advise Youse to Leave da Palace of da Baron von Leppey...."

Though I didn't make it to anywhere near the end of the first book, I am confident there will be a supernatural evil, exploited by greedy and/or fanatical people plotting Katherine's and Marcus's deaths, and it will wrap up with Katherine Trent risking her fool neck yet again to stop them, and just when things look bleakest Some Supernatural Whatzit Will Save The Day for her and Dr. Burton - !

*"Hello, My Baby! Hello, My Honey!
Hello, My Ragtime Girl...!"*

Thing is, if the storytelling had been engaging, or the characters enjoyable in their feuding-their-way-to-Eternal-Love, or the adventure had a sense of fun to it, none of that would have mattered. But - it doesn't, at least not in any way that doesn't feel like it's been done before, and oh so much better, just about anyplace else....

And With That? I'm Outta Here!

Patricia Mccammon says

A thrilling story that takes you to discovering lost tombs in Egypt and treasures.

Trashy Katie says

Could not make it past the first 50 pages because of the vile, sexist behavior the hero exhibits towards the heroine.

Riley says

Archeological mystery and adventure mixed with a healthy dose of romance and a touch of the paranormal.

My review can apply to any of the three *Kathlyn Trent/Marcus Burton Romance Adventures* from Kathryn Le Veque. They are all great fun to read, or in my case, listen to. The audiobook version is read by the very talented Leslie Wadsworth. She doesn't just read. Ms. Wadsworth often uses vocal sound effects to help the listener appreciate concepts like distance, sound in caves, or bad cell phone connections. Could it be that she had fun while narrating these books? Well, I think you will have fun listening to them!

The three books are: *Valley of the Shadow*, *The Eden Factor* and *Canyon of the Sphinx*. If you are going to read all three, read them in the order I listed. As a series, each successive book, moved the Kathlyn Trent/Marcus Burton relationship along and does reference events in previous books. But any one of them can be read as standalone also. Great adventure, mystery and intrigue are out there for you to grab in the *Kathlyn Trent/Marcus Burton Romance Adventures*.

Jayne dArcy says

I was expecting time travel and romance but that's not what happened. This is an Indiana Jones-type of adventure with some interesting history thrown in. Marcus and Kathlyn are just a bit too perfect; too pretty and handsome but they are personable. It is the fact that they are interesting to read about, and to learn about their friends that they can be forgiven for looking like they ought to be "embracing passionately on a romance novel".

Shaly says

A very engaging and intriguing read...it would have been a five star review but I was very disappointed that the book ends and the author never delves into the completion of the opening of Ay's tomb. I was really looking forward to that but I guess we just had to imagine it instead because nothing comes of it....?

Symone says

Egypt, mystery, archeology and a hero/heroine who can't stand each other - whats not to love.

I think purely because this book is steeped in Ancient Egyptian culture I fell in love immediately. Marcus and Kathlyn and their hate/love relationship works beautifully. yes i said hate/love because it is more hate to begin with. they come from different backgrounds, forced to work together and end up uncovering some ground breaking historical discoveries.

Everything in this book works well together.

I could have done without some of the more sappy romantic stuff but thankfully it was a small part of a larger relationship and the whole book moves from romance to adventure to mystery smoothly enough.

A great first novel and I am looking forward to the next.

Lori Howe says

Wow. What a ride.

I've enjoyed the historical by Ms Le Veque, but a combination with present day plus the adventure and romance gives this a Big 5 star can't wait for the next one rating.
