



A Bound Heart

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Though Magnus MacLeish and Lark MacDougall grew up on the same castle grounds, Magnus is now laird of the great house and the Isle of Kerrera. Lark is but the keeper of his bees and the woman he is hoping will provide a tincture that might help his ailing wife conceive and bear him an heir. But when his wife dies suddenly, Magnus and Lark find themselves caught up in a whirlwind of accusations, expelled from their beloved island, and sold as indentured servants across the Atlantic. Yet even when all hope seems dashed against the rocky coastline of the Virginia colony, it may be that in this New World the two of them could make a new beginning—together.

A Bound Heart Details

Date : Published January 2019 by Revell

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Author : Laura Frantz

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Genre : Historical, Historical Fiction, Christian Fiction, Romance, Fiction, Christian, Cultural, Scotland

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From Reader Review A Bound Heart for online ebook

Jocelyn Green says

A soaring tale. With her trademark attention to detail and lush imagery, Laura Frantz takes readers on an unforgettable journey certain to stir the soul. Magnus and Lark captured my heart, and their courageous story stole my sleep until I reached the last page. Sweeping readers from Scotland to Virginia to Jamaica, A Bound Heart dazzles with authenticity. A triumph.

Rachael says

Well, I tried to read it slowly...to savor it. I just cannot slow down my brain when reading such a great historical read.

The book has the perfect amount of everything! Love, faith, family and written in such beautiful prose so rarely found. Once a heart is given, it is bound to that individual and the heart works its way through the difficulties. I so appreciated how romance was shown in this book, and the importance of faith to Lark was really what pushed it to five stars for me. No butterflies, tingling skin, or electric touches- a deeper love...a love of faith and home. I simply couldn't give any less to a book whose characters stole my heart and took me on such adventures with them. My only complaint was one frequently given to great stories, it was too short! I wasn't in the least ready for the ending when it came.

It's another beautifully written story by a terrific storyteller that obviously came from her heart, into the words on each page, words written with such care. Just simply said, the story is beautifully done!

I received this book from the publisher. All opinions are my own.

Olivia says

This book was provided by Baker Publishing through Interviews & Reviews

This book presented to me exactly why I was drawn to this author for the first time a couple years ago. Her beautiful way with words and descriptions once more brought me to care deeply for the characters and look forward to how their life worked out.

I adored the romance, I adored the spiritual content, and adored the characters. It was very realistic...Lark admired by more than one fellow, her emotions for her true love, and the indentured years of waiting and sorrow. I was sad that a couple key characters toward the beginning dropped off until they basically were nonexistent at the end. But yet, isn't that like people who come and go in our life? They seem a key part of our lives and then circumstances take them away.

I was really pulled into the beginning story that was set in Scotland. Some surprising events and happening that truly made the rest of the story hold my interest.

The Scottish accents and lifestyle was beautiful and realistic and I loved seeing how the Scots reacted to America. There is so much I could say about this book, but I will leave you with the encouragement to read it yourself. It is captivating and worth every moment spent reading it.

Melissa says

Outlander fans take note! This is a faith-filled tale set in the same setting and era as the famous series. I really liked the slow burning romance between Magnus and Lark. Due to numerous circumstances, their obvious attraction to each other is denied for many years, but this only serves to make the tale realistic and much more satisfying in the end.

So many exotic settings, tumultuous events, and twists in each of their stories kept me invested in the ultimate outcome. I was happy to see that there will be another book in this series because this book left loose ends hanging.

This is overall a beautifully told tale of longing, grace, forgiveness, and God's mercy despite terrible circumstances.

I voluntarily reviewed a complimentary copy of this book, all opinions are my own.

Maddy says

Oh my goodness, this book is absolutely beautiful. I enjoyed every minute of this story and it's definitely on my favorites list now.

A Bound Heart follows Lark and Magnus. They were friends growing up but Magnus is now laird and Lark works for him. I've been wanting to try a book by this author for the longest time, and I'm so glad that I finally got to. The authors writing style is just beautiful and it immediately pulls you into the story. This book has everything you could want in a historical book. There's a ball, old friendships, and risky nighttime adventures. There's also false assumptions and heartbreak. This book will keep you hooked!

I absolutely loved this book and I will definitely be looking into the authors other books.

"I received a free copy of this book in exchange of my honest review. All thoughts are my own"

Deanne Patterson says

I have waited a long time to read this book. Was it worth the wait?

That would be a resounding

YES!!!!!!!

Laura Frantz continues to amaze me with her writing perfection. No matter what type of historical fiction she writes about she writes about it as if she was born to do it! I've read almost all of her books and the details are magnificent. They transport me to the time period she writes about. This book was a little different for me. I've never read a historical Scottish book before but I was truly impressed with it and it's authenticity . Highly recommended for lovers of historical fiction!

Pub Date 01 Jan 2019

I was given a complimentary copy of this book from Revell through NetGalley. Thank you.

All opinions expressed are my own.

Abigail says

I honestly have no words to describe how much I loved this book. I wish I could rate it more than five stars. I wish that this book never ended. I wish Laura Frantz would come out with more book set in Scotland.

This book took me on an amazing journey from Scotland to Virginia. I felt like I was apart of the story and was there throughout all the events. The story line, character development, setting, and just everything that went into this book was truly magical. I have also loved Scotland so when I first saw that Laura Frantz was coming out with this book I was ecstatic. She definitely did not let me down!

This book had me on an emotional roller coaster. I am still giddy and jittery as I write this review. I was reading this book while watching Mission Impossible movies with my family and I literally was ranting and yelling at characters underneath my breathe, annoying my siblings. *whispers* Hey it's not my fault Laura Frantz is such an amazing author!

The characters in this book were amazing, espically are main ones; Lark and Magnus, oh and oh could I have forgotten wee Larkin. Ugh!! They were amazing characters and I loved their faith. Even through the hard difficult times they had a realistic faith that made my heart sore. Wee Larkin has to be one of the cutest book babes ever!! I just wanted to jump into this book just to meet this sweet babe!

Then there were characters that weren't that amazing like Trevor. No, it was not just that he was after Lark even though her heart belonged to Magnus, it was his lack of faith that made me very angry. Now, don't get me wrong there are LOT of people who lack the Christian faith but he just made my blood boil. At one point when Lark was asking about his faith he pretty much told her that it wasn't important even though it WAS an important thing to her! *calms myself down before I start ranting*

Now back to amazing characters, I really loved Flowerdew. She was just a sweetheart and I was so happy that Lark had someone like her when Magnus wasn't there!

Another aspect that I loved about this book was the romance. Laura Frantz is known for her realistic romance and this book definitely confirmed that. The romance between Magnus and Lark was so real that I can't even out it into words. Let's just say that it could actually happen in real life. It wasn't a love at first sight or other cliché troupes in romance that are out there. It was a real love that your parents or grandparents would tell you about.

Also the faith in this book was another AMAZING part. There was scripture and prayers continually throughout the book and that what makes Christian Historical Fiction books like these even better. Sure you get some good Historical Fiction without the faith aspect but with the faith aspect it just brings more beauty to the book.

All in all I could go on for days about how amazing this book was. I highly recommend reading it because if you love Scotland, romance, and just an amazing historical read then pick up this amazing book!! :D

I received this book from the publisher in exchange for an honest review. It did not have to be positive.

Beth says

Words seem to fail me when describing my thoughts of A Bound Heart - what a sublime reading experience!

The evocative imagery of the descriptions of Scotland's craggy shores and the sultry summer heat of the New World transported me easily into the world of this story. Lark MacDougall is a rich, endearing character, full of depth. A time-honed friendship between Lark and Magnus MacLeish, laird of her island, layers this plot with a poignant backstory, one that paints a beautiful picture of deep respect yet longing. This is an achingly gorgeous romance, one that truly spans oceans, one that is steeped with integrity and tenderness.

The plot itself ebbs and flows, flavoring the story with a life-like feeling. I deeply appreciated that Frantz does not rush the story, and though I found it one to savor, I couldn't help but read it as quickly as I could. There is also such inspiration found in the faith of the characters. I can't describe the faith element any other way than organic and original to the events and characters. Nothing feels forced, in my opinion. While faith is discussed, it never feels preachy, but rather a genuine and sincere element, as it frames circumstances that upend their lives:

"Yet God has seen us here and promises to turn things in our favor no matter how dark. If He promises to bring good from all this, should we not look for the good, too?"

A few other quick notes - the secondary characters are varied and fall all along the spectrum of what it means to be human - doubters, believers, those seeking freedom, and those resigned to their fate yet hopeful for the future. Additionally, I appreciated how realistic the dialect and accents feel, without being over the top or losing the meaning of certain words (although there is a handy glossary at the beginning for Scottish terms). The truth to the time period gives this novel a classic feeling that won't soon leave me. It's one I definitely wouldn't mind rereading some day and is certainly a favorite 2019 release so far!

Brittany says

A Bound Heart was an intense, deeply moving, and beautiful story to read. I loved the way the book spanned many locations, including Scotland, a sea voyage, Virginia, and Jamaica.

The novel started off slowly, but not in a bad way. The relationships and workings of the residents of the Isle of Kerrera were clearly described and made me feel as if I was experiencing life in Scotland along with them.

The connection that Lark and the Laird, Magnus, had on the island was an innocent friendship that had grown with them since infancy. I loved learning more about their friendship as children and how the Laird ended up married to anyone other than Lark. It was fascinating to finally find out how Magnus really felt and watch their beautiful romance bloom.

The sea voyage that carried Lark and Magnus away from the sham of a trial and the troubles that fell upon them in Scotland was absolutely fascinating, as was reading about Colonial life in Virginia.

Lark and Magnus were characters that I couldn't help but love. Their kind hearts toward others, including slaves and orphans, and their desire to live as they believed that God wanted them to, endeared them to me.

I received a complimentary copy of this book. All opinions are my own.

You can read this review on my blog:
<https://brittreadsfiction.wordpress.c...>

Megan says

“A Bound Heart” by Laura Frantz was one of my most anticipated reads of 2019. Christian historical fiction that is partly set in Scotland? Sign me up! From the settings to the characters, I fell in love with this book!

Ms. Frantz’s descriptions of the scenery are lyrical and breathtaking (certainly doing Scotland justice). The first part of the book that is set in Scotland reminds me of Poldark with the smuggling and the rugged coastlines. Ms. Frantz also has an amazing grasp of the Scottish culture.

The two main characters, Lark and Magnus, are so likable and well written. Lark instantly became a favorite for me. She is so sweet, innocent and Godly. I love watching Lark’s struggle with her faith when her life is turned upside down. She asks some frank and honest questions of God. I especially love seeing that despite their troubles, both main characters praise God and count their blessings when going through suffering and loss. What a wonderful encouragement and reminder to Christians!

I loved this book and highly recommend it! You won’t be disappointed!

Content: I give this book a PG-13 rating. Some examples of the content are: mention of brandy and smuggling; a man has a reputation for wenching; a man swears but the word isn’t actually written; a person is possibly addicted to opium and may have committed suicide; men smoke; a baby is born out of wedlock; men take women as lovers on a ship; a man attempts to rape a woman but does not get far.

Rating: I give this book 5 stars!

Genre: Christian fiction; Historical fiction; Romance; Scotland

I want to thank Revell and Laura Frantz for the complimentary copy of this book for review. I was not required to write a positive review. The opinions I express in this review are my own. This is in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission’s CFR 16, Part 255.

Pepper Basham says

There are books that describe places and then there are books that TAKE you to places.

In Laura Frantz’s newest novel, A Bound Heart, the reader is drawn into the world of Kerrara by the exquisite detail and descriptive beauty of Laura’s prose. As usual, reading a Laura Frantz book promises beautiful writing, and her newest offering to the historical fiction world (with romance) fulfills that promise. And as much as I usually fawn over Laura’s heroes in her books, the real star of this book is the heroine, Lark. Her story – the aches, uncertainties, compassion, and kindness – takes center stage, even as the dashing and honorable, Magnus MacLeish, plays a large role. Don’t get me wrong, he’s a formidable character – strong, thoughtful, kind...and intense. A true Scottish laird. It was such fun to see his lighter side at times and any time he and Lark shared the page??!!...those were my favorites!

Now, this book was kind of like brownies cooking in the oven. It took a while to benefit from the full effects of the work. The start moved a little slowly, but there was a lovely aroma of both conflict and romance to come, so that when both come, the reader is left savoring both the sweetness and richness of the flavor. The friendship between Magnus and Lark was sweet, and Lark's relationship with her granny and Larkin add so much to the story! I'm a fan of the friends-to-lovers trope, and we are certainly rewarded with the tender romance by the end.

If you were a fan of Laura's book, *The Lacemaker*, then you'll enjoy her newest release. There are many similarities in the flow of this story and the careful unfolding of both romance and historical detail. I would rate this beautiful story a 4.5 out of 5.

It was a pleasure to read this story as my first of 2019. Thank you to Netgalley for making it available. I was not required to write a review. These opinions expressed are my own.

Victoria Goodbrand says

ABOUT THE BOOK

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Title: *A Bound Heart*

Author: Laura Frantz

Publisher: Revell, a division of Baker Publishing.

Length: 406 pages.

Release Date: January 2019.

Genre: Historical with light romance.

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*A Bound Heart* was a lovely, historical novel set in Scotland, in the mid-1700's. Frantz has such a beautiful writing style that quickly draws you in.

One thing I especially appreciated was how well researched the history was. It was vibrant and the book was full of interesting history.

This book really reminded me of the mini TV series, "Little Dorrit" at times! the housekeeper totally reminded me of Flora. :)

Lark was one of my favorite characters ever. finally, a book where the two main characters don't have a "bad past" or past tragedy so they "scared to love again" (that drives me innnnnsaaannneeee). Magnus was also a character I loved too, he was very well rounded and his loyalty to his Father was very fresh in the Christian Fiction market. For once, a character that's not rebellious or has past regrets!

The storyline was very intriguing and pulled you in. From the ball, to the scenes on the ship, and all the way to Virginia, this book will keep you hooked until you turn the last page.

I wasn't sure what to think of the love triangle at first but it was very quickly cleared and things were set straight which I very much appreciated.

There was still a few dislikes. it was hard (at least to me) to follow along at some points, different names, Scottish words and slang made me lower my rating a bit.

I would still recommend this to people who are looking for a good clean Christian Fiction book full of history!

I'm definitely going to be reading more by Laura Frantz in the near future, starting with *A Moonbow Night*. ;D

“I received a free copy of this in exchange for an honest review through the publishers. All opinions are my own.”

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### **Clara says**

I love the solemnity in Laura Frantz’s books. They are timeless and precious. She truly has a gift. I’ve been holding my breath since *The Lacemaker* for her newest book because, if someone had not been convinced of Frantz’s gift until now, *The Lacemaker* surely did.

With trepidation and excitement I opened *A Bound Heart*, and oh how my bookworm heart was satisfied!!! Taking us from one continent to another, crossing different oceans, the power of story and connection is stamped throughout the pages. No review big enough can do this book justice.

\* I received a review copy from the publisher. All opinions are my own.

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### **Lori Benton says**

Equally suspenseful and heart-wrenching, Laura Frantz’s *A Bound Heart* takes readers on a journey that begins in the misty isles of Scotland and crosses oceans to the sun-drenched plantations of the New World, with finely drawn characters who rose from the pages to quickly capture my sympathies. From start to finish, *A Bound Heart* is an absorbing, tender-hearted story about the grace of second chances.

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### **Melissa Tagg says**

This book!! ???

A couple months ago, I found myself sooooo impatient for Laura Frantz's next book that I went back and read basically every other book of hers. Which was wonderful...but it only made me more impatient!

But I can definitely say now that this book was worth the wait. I loved Magnus, I loved Lark...I loved the slow burn of their romance. Honestly, probably my favorite piece of their romance was at the very beginning of the book when we see them as friends...and no possibility of being anything but due to their circumstances at the time. I don't know, there was something just so sweet about the innocence of it alongside the faintest whisper of longing...

Laura Frantz always excels at placing the reader so completely and enthrallingly in her setting...and this book was no different. But we got bonus settings! Scotland...the ocean crossing...Virginia...even Jamaica! The writing was, of course, beautiful. Altogether, a lovely, lyrical story that's definitely destined for my re-read pile!

This book was provided to me by the publisher via NetGalley. All opinions are my own.

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