



Frankly, My Dear

Sandra Hill

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Lost in the Bayou...

Selene has always had three great passions: men, food . . . and *Gone With the Wind*. Still, the glamorous model always seems to be starving for both nourishment and affection. Weary of the petty world of high fashion, she heads to New Orleans for one last shoot before she chucks it all and begins a whole new life. But she doesn't realize that, thanks to an errant voodoo spell, her new life will happen 150 years in the past . . . and in the company of a dark and brooding gentleman who could give Rhett Butler a run for his money!

An alarmingly handsome Southern planter, James Baptiste may not have Rhett's cavalier spirit—and his plantation is certainly no Tara! But it's clear as crystal that this virile Creole is a lover worth giving a damn about. And with God as her witness, Selene vows she will *never* go hungry for this man again!

Frankly, My Dear Details

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Author : Sandra Hill

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From Reader Review Frankly, My Dear for online ebook

Laura says

I bought this book for 25 cents in a thrift store a long time ago.

A book which is kind of a travel back in time. The main character was a model. A model who was thin, tan, and fake. She in a freak accident and she travel back in the 1800's.

You meet up with this man who owns a huge plantation in Louisiana with his young son, and he is a man who disposition is cold yet it's understandable since he lost his wife. This is one of the few romance books where the character isn't head over heels with him during the beginning (even though she does point out he's attractive) because of his attitude. It's one of the few romance books that I really liked because of that.

The main character gets chunkier because of binging on beignet, so I also like there was a little reality there. I hate it when the main character can eat whatever she felt like and not gain a pound.

The reason why it's 4 stars though, and not 5 is because I thought that the book was a little short for me. However, Sandra Hill is a funny/great writer. If you see this book anywhere, I recommend picking it up.

Ceelee Sunshine says

Time travel stories can be a lot of fun and provide intriguing insight to another time and place. Unfortunately Sandra Hill's Frankly My Dear was not one of them. The plot started out good enough but progressively got more ridiculous and the star rating kept getting lower. I almost gave the book 2 stars but as I was writing this review I decided it didn't deserve it. If you like soft porn disguised as romance you will be thrilled with this book. Not my thing and the reason romance is not my favorite genre. The steamy graphic sex scenes is not the only reason I detested this book though. The Gone With the Wind connection was not very authentic since the setting was New Orleans not Atlanta and the main characters were a poor imitation of Scarlett O'Hara and Rhett Butler. Not even close! Plus it is hard to believe Selene a 21st century supermodel would also be a capable teacher in advanced reading, mathematics and science and in addition an expert aerobics instructor and psychotherapist.

I think what offended me the most is the constant blonde jokes that paint blondes as stupid vain creatures. Of course Selene was a brunette and her dislike of blondes went way too far and insulting to us blondes who are beautiful, smart and capable of handling successful lives. Obviously Ms Hill wasn't thinking such jokes might be insulting to some of her readers and it is for that reason I will never read another book by her. I almost didn't even finish this one. She had a great opportunity to be more creative and bring a little suspense and mystery with Giselle's ghost and Fleur one of Selene's 21st century friends' ancestor but never built on it except what felt like an afterthought with not much authentic suspense. The book was way too long at nearly 400 pages and the soap opera convention of attract-repel went on waaaaaay too long!

Debbie J says

"When... when in the name of God...are women going to learn that changing themselves to please another person...a man...isn't the answer?"

This quote from **Frankly, My Dear**'s "heroine" is rich given how almost as soon as she wakes up in the antebellum South she pursues the very course she's claiming to deny.

Selene the time-shifted supermodel proceeds to convince the plantation women to: wear makeup; fluff up their hair; dress more provocatively; reduce their butt size; increase their bust size; and, do aerobics and yoga so they'll be shapelier and have the core of a pole dancer. Right...exercising on top of the sweaty manual labor they must as slaves do first. *FFS*.

I was driven to read this book by some interweb ravings declaring it the worst ever and deserving of a mass shunning. However, I usually prefer to form my own opinions, *thankyouverymuch*. Going in I knew popular romance novelist Sandra Hill thought she'd found an acceptable and clever way to make light of slavery and I was prepared to take offense. *Mission accomplished!*

(view spoiler)

On the technical front, this novel doesn't seem to have sprung from a lone individual's pen. It contains dramatic and jarring shifts in narrative style from one chapter to the next and sometimes within a given chapter. Since I've never read any of Hill's other work, I'm unable to guess whether the problem is simply bad editing or poorly incorporated ghost writing.

Hill explains in a supplementary author's note how and why she believes Margaret Mitchell based iconic **Gone with the Wind** character Rhett Butler on someone in Hill's actual family tree. The belief compelled her to write this book as supernatural-ish fantasy, wherein a Rhett prototype encounters a 21st century woman who doesn't necessarily give a damn either.

It's unfortunate that Hill chose to develop the premise by trivializing enslaved peoples' tragic lives. IMO, there exist certain lines a person in her historically privileged position should not cross, even as satire. Bully for her that she's apparently allowed and encouraged to do so anyway, with impunity.

Not Now...Mommy's Reading says

When I first read the "pre-reviews" of this book before it was released, I was very excited. So excited that I pre-ordered the book. I read this book in one day and had to force myself to finish it. The concept behind the book was great - model goes back in time and is mistaken for a mulatto/quadroon at one of the famous Quadroon balls. Wow! This should make for an interesting read, right? Wrong! For one, the heroine bemoaned living in a society where she and other women were judged based on their outward appearance - and she spends half the book trying to get the other women around her to change their appearances in attempts to attract the men they desire. And a Black woman bemoaning her big behind? Give me a break! As a Black female and avid reader of historical romances, this book was just plain silly! I am not a stickler for historical accuracies and such and get tired of reviewers who spend so much time criticizing small inaccuracies that they miss the beauty of a well-written story but this book was just unbelievable! For

one...the characters sounded like they were from modern days, not historical times. Secondly, the 4-year old (E.T. *eyes rolling) - he wasn't funny. He needed his behind paddled and his mouth washed out with soap. I could go on and on but why bother? What could have been a perfectly good story is ruined by an excessive amount of silliness.

Robin Thomsen says

Sexy, Fun Time travel romance. I need to read more of her work

Misti says

Well, I picked this one up at the library, not really knowing what to expect. I mean, it's a Sandra Hill, so it HAD to be cheesy and amazing, so I figured I'd give it a try. Let me just say that I didn't read the back cover closely enough and I hadn't realized this was YET ANOTHER time travel book from Ms. Hill. She sure does love time travel. However, unlike a lot of her Viking books, this one has actual Plot. Not just people misunderstanding people and 20 pages of back-and-forth he said-she said, but actual, honest-to-goodness plot. Which makes it a lot better than the viking books. There were actual twists! Apparent ones that were pretty easy to figure out, but nonetheless, I'm quite appreciative.

I think Hill managed the time and situations quite well, and having a heroine who understands that there's not really much she can do about slavery on her own is sort of refreshing.

Sex scenes: Sandra Hill sure does love ear-sex. But the scenes in this book are not quite as steamy as what you'll get in some of her other romances.

All in all, a satisfying read.

I'd be interested to read Desperado which is sort of a tie-in to this book with another time-traveling couple.

Marina says

I kept putting this book away for some reason but finally I read it and it was so much fun. Ms. Hill is fast paced and silly as usual. Can't wait to read the other 2 books in this time travel series.

Spoiler

Note to Self:New Orleans 2012/1845, & California 1850

Sandra Selente "Selene"(ex model,28yo,governess,pal,preg)+James Baptiste(former sugar plantation owner,pal1,35yo,bro,cousin,kinda widower)& Etienne(his son,5/6yo,10yo)=Ashley(their 10m girl,half sis)&Rhett(their son,half bro)&Scarlett(their toddler,half sis),Reba Cameron(pal,preg)+Fergus (overseer,pal1,new sugar plantation owner),Blossom(cook,pal),Dreadful(Etienne's dog),Iris(maid, slave,head housekeeper,pal)&Cain and Abel(her twin boys)+Rufus(slave)=Lily Belle and Rufus(their kids),Marie Baptiste(mother,50's,pal,grandma,died),Helen Prescott(Major),Rafe Santiago(lawyer).

Kelly says

I read this year's ago. LOVED IT! Can't wait to read it again.

Michelle Nelson says

I LOVED this book. It is one that I will go back and re-read many times.

A lot of people didn't like this one. But I love the way Sandra Hill writes. She is so witty and funny, but still doesn't forget the romance.

She is another auto buy for me.

I have most of her books, but I'm still working my way through them....LOL

Britta says

One of Sandra Hill's better novels (not that any of them are terrible ... this one just stands out).

Selene is starving. Literally. She's a model. One of America's most beautiful people and she hates her life.

Capivated by Gone With The Wind since she was little, she's spent her life looking for her Rhett. Then at one photo shoot, she passes out only to awaken in Louisiana ... in the 1830s.

Mistaken for a light skinned slave, Selena finds her hero in James and his unconventional life. Who needs who more? A former model who can't stop eating? Or the dour sugar plantation owner who would rather free his slaves than deal with his screwed up family?

Shelley Mack says

I Love to laugh and I really love the time travle theme

Carla says

I must confess I am a huge Gone With The Wind fan and with a cover and title like Frankly, My Dear - I had no self control, it became a must read. Wait, what was that I just read, time travel too - well, bless me, I felt as though I developed the vapors for the moment.

Selene is a model who has made an enemy of another one, one who has voodoo powers. In a shoot taking place in New Orleans with a vintage style gown, she finds herself spun into the past. At that moment she has been placed before the real life Rhett of her dreams, James Baptiste.

There is mystery, conspiracy, wit, and a wonderful love story within these pages.

*** SPOILER***Selene is left with a choice to return to the future and when James' "dead" wife returns from the dead, she might not have any other choice but to leave behind the love of many lifetimes.

Wonderful secondary characters and character development, a great storyline and memorable characters that leave one sighing and looking for their own time machine. A great read giving you a reason for a moment to believe.

Kimchi says

This book had so much character.... I loved it.. It was funny entertaining and had me hook from start to finish i would go back and read this over and over in fact i have

TinaMarie says

Selene is a model who's sent back in time due to a voodoo curse. She finds herself at a Quadroon Ball and James believes her to be a light skinned colored, looking for a protector. Yes she needs a protector and it takes time for him to believe she's from the future. The fact her makeup case which she wasn't holding traveled with her seemed far fetched. When she was in danger and still kept mouthing off future things also didn't work for me. Her heckling James with blonde jokes was funny but didn't fit her claimed attitude of women power and beauty isn't everything. Lots of contradictions, some fun moments. They sexually frustrate and tease each other for a majority of the book, talk about long foreplay!

A Subtle Storm says

Hmmmmmmmmmm traveling through time sounds like an interesting idea, is an interesting idea, all the voodoo thing was also interesting, intrigued me so much that I wanted more voodoo-ey stuff, but that would be another story lol

The story started out alright, modern day was okay, then comes the part after the traveling which I categorised into two phases: First, loving the "I want you but I shouldn't but let's go for it anyways" James and Selena moments, and second, too many I love yous all over the place.

We have all read stories with characters who are so desperate for each other, try to stay away but always end up failing terribly to do so. I've read so many of these and I love them, don't know why, feels like something forbidden and exciting. Starts up my poor heart into a crashing frenzy against my ribcage. Its like when I read these, I don't have to exercise at all...same thing for James and Selena ahahahaha

The second phase doused quite a bit of the fiery passion I felt in the first. The hammering of my heart quickly cooled to a slow boring thuds as I take in all their love professions over and over again. Don't get me wrong, I love happy endings where everyone professes their undying love for one another, but in more ways than one, I felt like what was said could be shown instead. Of course, it wasn't only the ILYs, but also the fact that everyone kinda lost their spark somehow; more mellow perhaps.. but then again, maybe I'm just really addicted to those "relationship not clear but secretly have many passionate tryst" moments .. (///0///)
