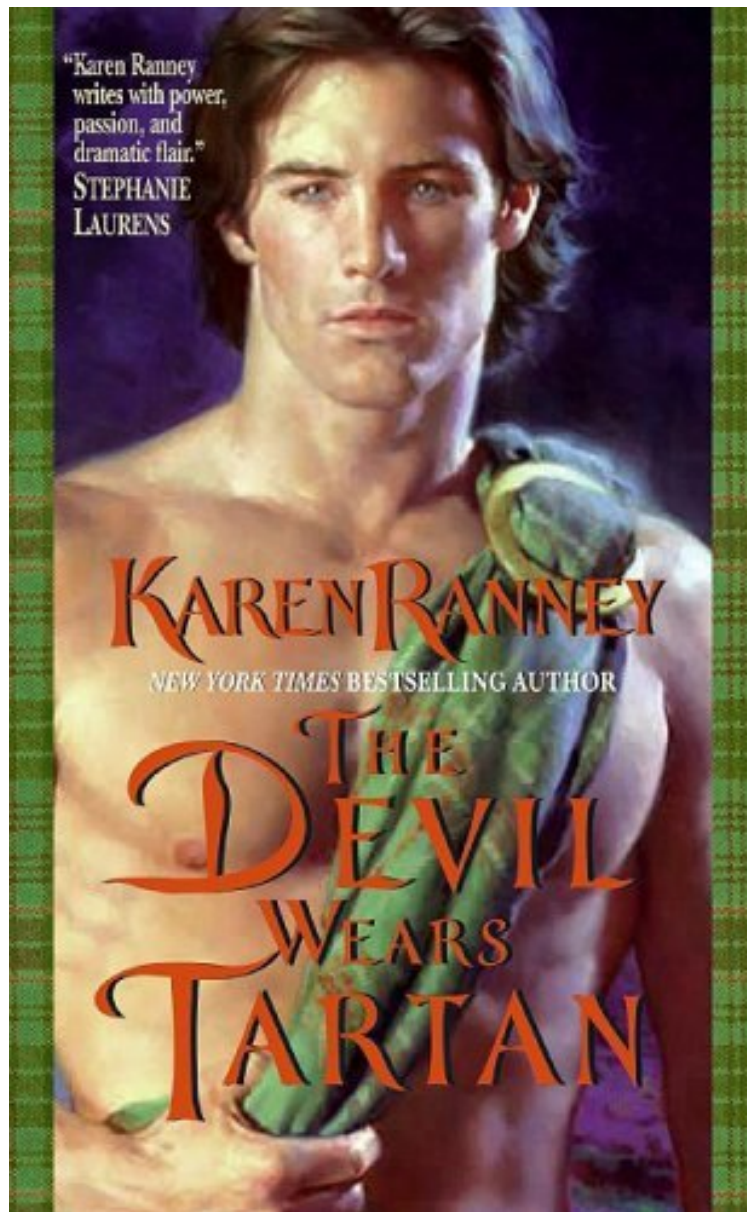


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The Devil Wears Tartan

Von Karen Ranney

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Von Karen Ranney : The Devil Wears Tartan before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Devil Wears Tartan:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Enjoyable Victorian romanceVon Helen HancoxDespite the clearly Scottish-themed title, this book wasn't particularly

Scottish in feel; instead it was an exploration of how a young woman, married to a man she doesn't know, begins to chip away at her husband's reserve and to try to forge a future with him. The husband in question is the Earl of Lorne, a Scotsman who had a distinguished career in the foreign service until he was imprisoned by the Chinese and tortured. Since his return to England he has shunned society and lives alone in his castle, finding himself succumbing to visions and fearing the onset of madness. Because of his responsibilities to his title he realises he needs to get an heir and so arranges a marriage with a local woman, Davina McLaren, whose reputation was ruined by an indiscretion and who is likely to remain a spinster. Davina isn't the shy, retiring type of young lady, however. She finds herself wed to the Earl of Lorne, otherwise known as The Devil, and yet she barely sees him. Davina is something of a bluestocking and rather direct in her speech and she tries to learn about her husband and to forge some kind of a friendship. As she uncovers his secrets she may also uncover love, and she may be called upon to fight for the future of her marriage and even the life of her husband. I very much enjoyed this book with its central romance, initially not particularly encouraging but gradually becoming something of warmth and understanding. There are occasional nods to the Scottish setting and the Victorian era, with reference to the opium trade with China, but overall this is a romance developing from an arranged marriage. There were some rather unfortunate errors in the text, including likening a character to a chipmunk (an animal not seen in the UK) and various characters speaking American words in the Scottish setting, and the habit, oft-found in American-authored novels, of the heroine retaining her maiden name as a middle name after her marriage - something that almost never takes place in the UK. I was also not entirely convinced by some of the behaviour of the characters, certain plot elements seemed rather too unlikely and the siege of the lunatic asylum at the end felt pretty far-fetched. However this was overall a good read and Davina was a rather unusual heroine and one to whom I warmed. Originally published for Curled Up With A Good Book Helen Hancox 2008

Kurzbeschreibung A man in the shadows Some say he is dangerous. Others say he is mad. None of them knows the truth about Marshall Ross, the Devil of Ambrose. He shuns proper society, sworn to let no one discover his terrible secret. Including the beautiful woman he has chosen to be his wife. A fallen woman Only desperation could bring Davina McLaren to the legendary Edinburgh castle to become the bride of a man she has never met. Plagued by scandal, left with no choices, she has made her bargain with the devil. And now she must share his bed. A fire unlike any they've ever known From the moment they meet, Davina and Marshall are rocked by an unexpected desire that leaves them only yearning for more. But the pleasures of the marriage bed cannot protect them from the sins of the past. With an enemy of Marshall's drawing ever closer and everything they now cherish most at stake, he and Davina must fight to protect the passion they cannot deny. **Kurzbeschreibung** A man in the shadows Some say he is dangerous. Others say he is mad. None of them knows the truth about Marshall Ross, the Devil of Ambrose. He shuns proper society, sworn to let no one discover his terrible secret. Including the beautiful woman he has chosen to be his wife. A fallen woman Only desperation could bring Davina McLaren to the legendary Edinburgh castle to become the bride of a man she has never met. Plagued by scandal, left with no choices, she has made her bargain with the devil. And now she must share his bed. A fire unlike any they've ever known From the moment they meet, Davina and Marshall are rocked by an unexpected desire that leaves them only yearning for more. But the pleasures of the marriage bed cannot protect them from the sins of the past. With an enemy of Marshall's drawing ever closer and everything they now cherish most at stake, he and Davina must fight to protect the passion they cannot deny. **Synopsis** Marshall Ross, Earl of Lorne, was a highly decorated diplomat with a terrible secret. His last mission to China failed abysmally and led to the deaths of twenty-six of his men. He can't forgive himself even now. Even though he had little choice as a prisoner of the Chinese, he also feels a deep shame for allowing himself to become addicted to opium. Opium is the reason for his hallucinations, for the visions that plague him and for his deeply held belief that he is going mad. Not exactly the right time to become a bridegroom. But he has an obligation to marry before his condition becomes worse, and he does, to an unlikely bride: a twenty-seven year old stranger, the daughter of his uncle's mistress. His uncle's mistress, however, is not all she appears to be. Theresa Robertson is Davina's aunt, and determined to provide for her niece. Almost as determined as she is to see Garrow Ross hang for his crimes. What began as a marriage of convenience between Marshall and Davina soon becomes a battle of wits and will as Davina McLaren decides that she wants more from marriage than Marshall wants to give. She hadn't wanted to marry, after all, but who would have known that such a union would bring her a mystifying, magnetic sort of husband, one who introduces her to passion with such skill? Although his habit of disappearing at night was disconcerting, she didn't believe that Marshall was insane. If he was mad, he was the kindest, most gentle, madman she'd ever met. Something, however, was going on at Ambrose. The mystery deepens as Marshall's hallucinations become more terrifying. When Marshall pushes Davina away for the last time, she leaves him, returning to Edinburgh with hopes that he'll follow her. Instead, Marshall is taken away to a private asylum, leaving Davina no choice but to mount a siege against the Black Castle to rescue her husband. Davina succeeds in her mission, Marshall is cured of his visions, and the mystery of why he believed himself going mad is

solved.