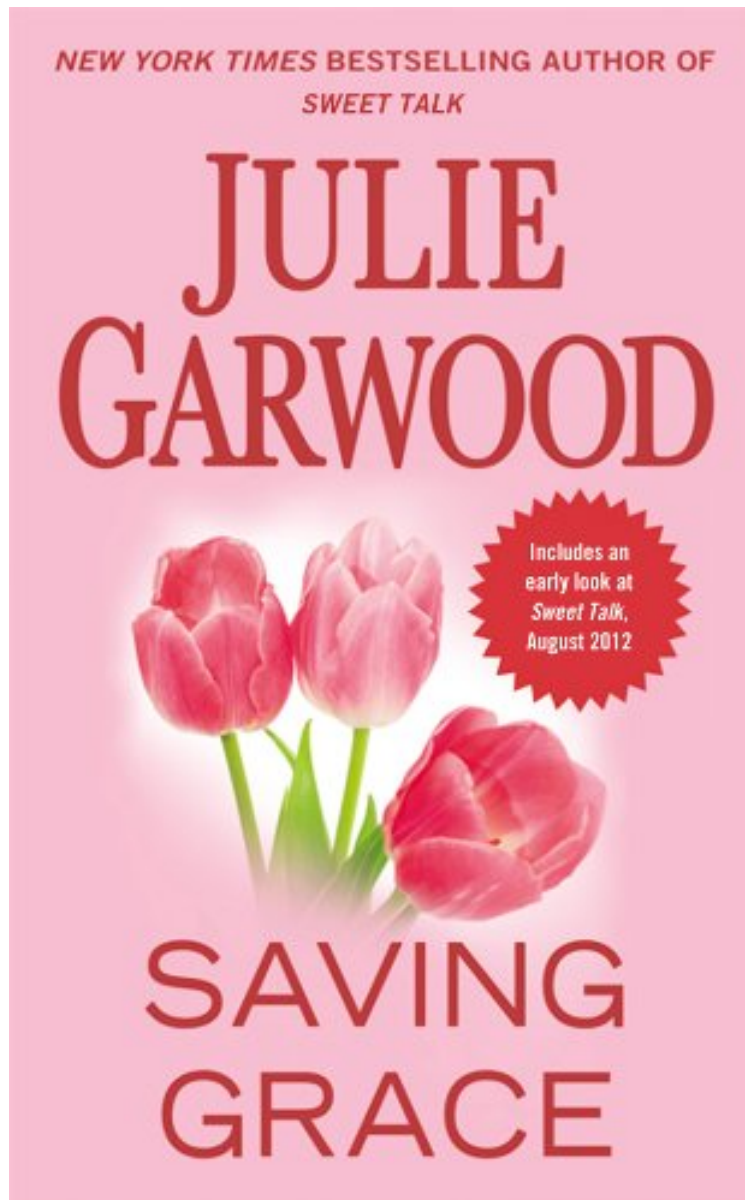


Saving Grace

Von Julie Garwood
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Von Julie Garwood : Saving Grace before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Saving Grace:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Not Your Typical Garwood, But Fabulous Beyond Words!Von KellyWhen I read my first Garwood, I fell completely in

love and flew to my book store to buy every book of hers that was in stock. I got to *Saving Grace* about halfway through my pile, and was rather shocked by the beginning. You hear of how priests had instructed their students in the 13th century and are shocked. Being a girl myself, I could see why women would feel awful about themselves. And then you get a viewpoint switch and we are taken to fourteen year old Johanna who is being told that her husband is dead. Poor dear, she can barely contain her joy as the news is being told to her. You later hear that he was a cruel man who beat Johanna, blamed her for the lack of an heir, and flaunted his mistresses in her face. Then there is the local priest who beats the following facts into Johanna's brain: you are a woman, women are slime, you will never amount to anything, blah, blah, blah. So this poor teen is scared out of her mind, and amazingly happy to be free. Knowing that something bad might happen, she smartly files for a divorce, just in case. Two years later, the king demands that she must marry. Although reveling in her spinsterhood, Johanna has no choice. The trusty brother comes to the rescue and whisks Johanna off to the highlands where she is to marry his friend, Gabriel. Johanna is naturally terrified of marriage given her past experiences and defies her strong new husband. When Gabriel introduces her to real passion, though, she is forced to admit to herself that he is not the monster her first husband was and that she is falling in love with him. And she realizes she may trust him and that he will protect her. The fishyness behind Johanna's first husband's death starts to reveal itself, and the precious new love is put to its first test. Will Johanna and Gabriel survive? One of the reasons I loved this book was that the characters' actions were clearly described so there was no doubt about what was going to happen. Also, there was definitely a hard coating to Gabriel and I think he is Ms. Garwood's BIGGEST male, but he was also very loving and heartstopping. Johanna was wonderful and truly had Gabriel wrapped around her little finger. But theirs was a rare love and it made the pages sparkle like gold. The topic of female degradation by the church was obviously well researched by Ms. Garwood and it shows. It is also so well written into the book that I actually screamed at it because of the unfairness of the issue. I sincerely hope that Ms. Garwood writes a continuation of this story, and I think it will go over extremely well with her fans.

4 von 4 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. This will always be my favorite book of all time. Von Ein Kunde I first read this story a few years ago and just purchased a new copy because my original is so worn from me constantly reading it. What makes Julie Garwood's characters stand out in this story is the fact that I can see why Gabriel and Johanna fell in love. The reader is taken through every turning point of their relationship, the laughs and the tears. I have lent this book to friends who have never read a romance before, and now they own their own copy. So if you are a fan of 13th century romances or have never read one in your life, I definitely recommend this book.

3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Nie wieder Julie Garwood Von Snepius Es ist nicht überall historischer Roman drin, wo historischer Roman draufsteht. Die Geschichte spielt im Schottland des 12/13. Jahrhunderts, doch offensichtlich hat sich Julie Garwood nicht die geringste Mühe gemacht sich ein paar Grundkenntnisse über die Zeit anzueignen. (Baumwollbinden in dieser Zeit sind wirklich das geringste Problem.) Die Handlungs-idee war gut, aber die Ausführung fand ich miserabel. Ich erwarte nicht, dass alles historisch korrekt ist, denn ich möchte eine Liebesgeschichte lesen, aber die groben Schnitzer machten es mir unmöglich das Buch zu genießen. Johanna, die die Ehefrau des Clanchefts ist, macht vor allen möglichen Leuten der Burg einen Knicks? Sie soll ein Kind ihrer Zeit sein, wirkt aber oft, als habe man sie aus dem Amerika des 20. Jh. nach Schottland gebeamt.

Kurzbeschreibung In this splendid New York Times bestseller, Julie Garwood brilliantly crafts the majestic story of a young Englishwoman determined to fight for her freedom...a woman whose life would be transformed by the rare, unexpected gift of love. When Lady Johanna learned that she was a widow, she vowed she would never marry again. Only sixteen, already she possessed a strength of will that impressed all who looked past her golden-haired beauty. Yet when King John demanded that she remarry -- and selected a bridegroom for her -- it seemed she must acquiesce, until her beloved foster brother suggested she wed his friend, the handsome Scottish warrior Gabriel MacBain. At first Johanna was shy, but as Gabriel tenderly revealed the splendid pleasures they would share, she came to suspect that she was falling in love with her gruff new husband. And it was soon apparent to the entire Highlands clan that their brusque, gallant laird had surrendered his heart completely. But now a desperate royal intrigue threatened to tear her from his side -- and to destroy the man whose love meant more to her than she had ever dreamed!

From Publishers Weekly Set in 13th-century England and Scotland, this rollicking adventure is among Garwood's (*The Bride*) most enjoyable. The news that her despicable husband is dead has left beautiful 16-year-old Lady Johanna both wealthy and available. Wicked King John wants to marry her to one of his henchmen, but her beloved foster brother convinces the powerful highland laird Gabriel MacBain to put aside his natural repugnance for all things English and wed the girl. Emotionally scarred by her first marriage, Johanna is intimidated both by her strange surroundings and by the outsized, gruff laird; but with the help of an eccentric old soldier and MacBain's illegitimate son, Johanna learns to hold her own with the soldiers, their wives and her new husband. Then an unwelcome surprise tests her newfound courage. Garwood endows the novel with a first-rate setting, a splendid supporting cast and witty dialogue that more than offsets the rote predictability of Johanna's great beauty and MacBain's forceful charisma. Copyright 1993 Reed

Business Information, Inc. From Kirkus sA hardcover debut by a writer well known in paperback romance klatches confronts the question of the place of women in 13th- century England and Scotland--i.e., where they stand in God's love, and whether their husbands should beat them. Heroine Lady Johanna--an abused and battered wife, wed to Baron Raulf, a vassal of King John of England--is pleased when the news comes that her husband's dead. But her troubles haven't ended, since the king suspects she knows he murdered his nephew in order to consolidate his place on the throne. So Johanna's brother takes her off to the Scottish Highlands for safekeeping--and effectively gives her to Gabriel MacBain, the laird to two squalling clans, the MacBain and the Maclaurin. It's cold, dank, and uncomfortable up there among the crags, and at first MacBain seems an uncouth bear of a man. Still, Johanna survives--he's not only handsome but great in bed. What's more, he doesn't hit her. In fact, he turns out to be downright progressive where women are concerned--one part MacBeth, three parts Iron John. There's a little will testing between these two, of course, lots of time between the sheets, and a shake of eleventh-hour dramatics having to do with the return of Baron Raulf. But, in the end, all turns out well, and women are redeemed, respected, equal to men--in the domain of the MacBain circa 1200, if not now. Anachronistic? Good heavens, yes. But the characters are warm, gushy, highly hormonal--and thus likely to please Garwood's paperback fans. -- Copyright 1993, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.