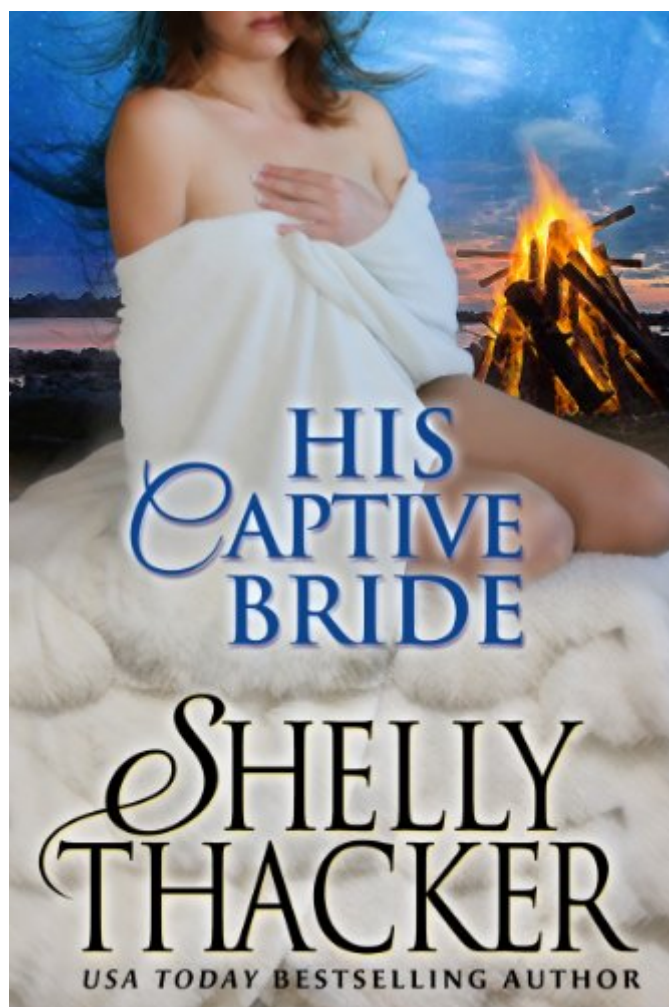


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# His Captive Bride (Stolen Brides Series Book 3)



## Synopsis

She's swept away to a hidden island paradise filled with pleasures... and secrets. Abducted from a trade fair by a mysterious warrior, Lady Avril de Varennes awakens on Asgard Island, an enchanted paradise cloaked in mists and mystery, kept secret from the world for centuries. Against her will, Avril weds her arrogant captor, Hauk Valbrand--even as she vows to escape. Hauk believes himself beyond the reach of love, until his fiery captive bride begins to melt his heart of ice. But soon he must reveal the stunning truth about Asgard and its people--and Hauk and Avril must choose between love and honor, duty and desire... now and forever."An utterly absorbing read! With its richly drawn characters, powerful conflict and vividly imagined setting, HIS CAPTIVE BRIDE is a romantic fantasy lover's dream. When it comes to sweeping, sizzling historical romance, Shelly Thacker is a shining star!" -New York Times bestselling author Lara Adrian"Five hearts (highest rating). An involving, beautiful story. I thought about the characters often at work, at the grocery store, in my car--wherever I was until I could get back to the book. A definite keeper." -TheRomanceReader.com"Powerful. From the very first page you're whisked away to a world where anything is possible." -The Atlanta Journal-ConstitutionA full-length novel of 100,000 wordsAdult content: steamy love scenes!Originally published by Dell under the title TimelessThis expanded Author's Preferred Edition ebook includes additional scenes never before published. Also includes bonus content: "The Making of His Captive Bride: The Story Behind the Story."The Stolen Brides Series: One is kidnapped on the morning of her royal wedding by her groom's most dangerous enemy... one falls through time and finds herself married to a dark stranger... one may never reach her royal wedding if she can't resist her rugged protector... one is abducted by a mysterious swordsman and swept away to a secret island paradise. These regal brides are about to discover that falling in love with a warrior is the most dangerous adventure of all.Each book in the Stolen Brides Series is a stand-alone novel, so you can enjoy them in any order.The Prequel: HIS STOLEN BRIDE (Darach and Laurien)Book .5: HIS SCOTTISH BRIDE, A Stolen Brides Novella - Pre-order now!Book 1: FOREVER HIS (Gaston and Celine)Book 2: HIS FORBIDDEN TOUCH (Royce and Princess Ciara)Book 3: HIS CAPTIVE BRIDE (Hauk and Avril)Also by Shelly ThackerIf you love alpha male heroes, romance edged with danger, and scorching love scenes, you won't want to miss any of Shelly's emotion-packed historical romance novels!RUN WILDMIDNIGHT RAIDERAFTER SUNDOWN

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

In the year 1303, in the Artois Region of France, the widowed Lady Avril de Varennes leaves her 3 year old daughter, Giselle, with her brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Gaston and Celine de Varennes as she journeys north to attend a childhood friend's wedding (readers of Ms Thacker's FOREVER HIS, the first in the Stolen Brides Series, will well remember Gaston and Celine and enjoy their few brief appearances in TIMELESS).Through no fault of their own Avril and her traveling companion, Lady Josette de la Valentin, are abducted from an Antwerp street fair and whisked away to the island of Asgard, an ancient mysterious island shrouded in misty clouds and secrets. It is here that Avril awakens, meets her abductor Hauk Valbrand, and learns that her stay on Asgard Island is meant to be permanent.Against her will, Lady Avril must wed her warrior captor, Hauk. Hauk believes his heart is impervious to love and Avril's heart is still deeply broken from the loss of her dead husband, both vowing never to love again. Ah! But we readers of great romance know differently! As the story progresses with much adventure, danger, and many secrets, Hauk's heart softens and he begins to love and care for Avril and she in turn opens her heart to Hauk . . . all the while still planning her escape back to her daughter, Giselle. In time both Hauk and Avril know they must choose between their love and desire, and honor and duty.I've noted that a some reviewers

have felt that the story ends too abruptly, leaving too much undone . . . but this is fantasy (no epilogue needed here) and having read the whole story watching the building of Avril and Hauk's relationship I can create, in my mind, an exciting life for Hauk, Avril, and Giselle!

So I stumbled on this book while browsing 's selection and free always catches my eye. Of course free doesn't always guarantee a good story, realistic characters and especially the hope of proper spelling and grammar, but I keep taking that leap of faith. Ok here are my thoughts on His Captive Bride. It's not your average kidnapped, stolen, taken captive story. Imagine my surprise as I read that the captor, the hero, isn't any happier than his captive that they are together. Yes I've read countless stories where the hero is first resentful about the situation, but Hauk's motives go deeper. I love that the author made him sensitive. He was still hot but very caring and loving. Avril, I've always loved that name and I really liked her character. Strong, feisty and loyal. Just what Hauk needed to snap him out of his sadness and want more. I wish the story could have gone on and on. Here's to hoping that there's a sequel.

"'Twas a dangerous task, stealing women." Wonderful opening line, and a great introduction to this delicious story. Timeless incorporates two of my favorite romance premises, abduction and arranged marriage--or more like forced marriage. Hauk is a super-sexy poet warrior--I couldn't get enough of him--and Avril is a great match for him, smart, independent, and spunky without going over the top in that direction. The fantasy element in this book is very lighthearted, so if you're not into paranormal, don't let that influence your buying decision. Highly recommended!

OK, I'm a big reader and I enjoy all kinds of literature. (Threw that in for any "historical-romance shamers/literary snobs" that might be reading these reviews for some reason.) I've probably read 1000 historical romance novels over the last 30 years and this one was really great! Can't count how many books I have purchased, only to throw them away 20-30 pages in. Reasons vary from: Just plain stupid. No romance, just porn. (Big difference, for me anyway, between hot and porn.) Boring. This is the first book of its kind in a long time I really enjoyed from start to finish. I happened on it, and just now ordered the other 2 in this series. Now that I know this author, I can look forward to more books that I don't throw away shortly after starting! I would like to say to Ms. Thacker: Well done!!!!!!!!!!!!

I have read all 3 of the Stolen Brides Series and am sad because there are no more. These books

have kept me happily engaged in another time and another place with the most wonderful characters. Very imaginative and fun! Can't wait to start on the next series!

I've now read all three of the books in the Stolen Brides Series and have to admit all three were very good. This third installment rated right up there with the first book. I really liked how some of characters from the first book were included in this story which made it even more enjoyable. There is something that I would like to point out for someone who may want to read these books. When I was reading on my Kindle I noticed there was quite a bit of "space" left at the end of the book; it looked like I was 85% done with the book but then the story ended! There is other subject matter at the end of these books such as a preview and an portion of another book. This one included the first chapter of "Forever His". This is great if you haven't read the book but since I already did, I would have rather had more of the story instead of a preview. That's the only reason I gave 4 stars instead of 5. As for the actual story..... I was drawn in right at the beginning and didn't want to put the book down. The romantic parts are extremely steamy, so if that's not your thing, don't read this book. As for me, I'm still blushing from some of the steamy parts. I think I said in my other review - WOW is about the only word I can use to explain those scenes. Thank you Shelly for another great read! I'm looking forward to reading more of your books.

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