



Ransom

By Julie Garwood

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For fans of Scottish medieval romances comes this beloved and classic page-turner from #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Julie Garwood.

In the dark days after the death of Richard the Lionhearted, lives and lands would fall into upheaval at the hands of a power-hungry British ruler and his violent minions. One victim of the scourge is innocent Gillian, who is a mere child when the cruel and ambitious Baron Alford slaughters her father and tears her family apart. Alford, determined to recover a jeweled box for the despotic King John, is furious when the precious treasure slips through his fingers—only to be lost for more than a decade.

Now a beautiful young woman, Gillian finds the key to resolving her past in handsome Scottish chieftains Ramsey Sinclair and Brodick Buchanan. With the cunning and courage of the daring Scotsmen, and with the friendship of a new ally, Bridgid KirkConnell, Gillian at last fights the unscrupulous Baron Alford, laying claim to her home, her family, and her father's reputation. But in the presence of the mighty warriors, Gillian and Bridgid discover that desire can be a weapon of conquest, betrayal can slay trust in a heartbeat, and the greatest risk of all is to surrender to unexpected love.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

In *Ransom*, New York Times bestselling author Julie Garwood returns to her beloved Highlands and the dark days of the despotic rule of King John to reacquaint readers with Scottish chieftain Brodick Buchanan, first introduced in *The Secret*. Brodick finds himself playing protector to Gillian, an exquisite English beauty, who is desperate to find her long-lost sister and a treasure of incalculable worth—one for which many already have died, including Gillian's own father. Coerced by the fiendish Baron Alford, who murdered her father before her eyes and usurped her birthright 14 years earlier, Gillian must return to England with Arianna's Box, a bejeweled golden box commissioned by King John, or her beloved Uncle Morgan will be tortured to death. In spite of Gillian's fragile looks and her loathsome English bloodlines, Brodick encounters a woman of immeasurable courage and determination, one not at all intimidated by his legendary temper or imposing size. And as he realizes that he has met his match in Gillian—whose sense of honor and duty equals his own—their passion for each other grows ever stronger in this thrilling historical. --*Alison Trinkle*

From Library Journal

In *The Secret* (Pocket, 1997), Garwood introduced fans to Brodick Buchanan and Ramsey Sinclair, then left us dangling for years with the hint that Brodick and Ramsey were going wife-hunting to find the happiness Laird Ian Maitland found in his Judith. Well, they don't seem to have remembered the purpose of their quest, possibly because each is too busy being laird of his own clan. When Lady Gillian arrives in Scotland to search for her long-lost sister and to return a kidnapped boy to the Maitlands, she pulls Brodick away from his duties by claiming to be his bride. Her guardian, Baron Alford, believes her sister holds the key to a treasure King John is desperate to find. Alford, the man responsible for killing Gillian's father, uses her uncle as a ransom against her return. Gillian needs Brodick's help to locate her sister, who is believed to be hiding within Ramsey's clan. When the two strong-willed people meet, tempers flare and sparks fly. Jan Maxwell provides an excellent interpretation of the nuances of Garwood's writing, but the abridgment itself leaps too quickly across important plot points and lingers on background material, leaving listeners to wonder "What happened?" Wait for the unabridged version. Not recommended. AMelanie C. Duncan, Washington Memorial Lib., Macon, GA
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Review

USA Today Julie Garwood attracts readers like beautiful heroines attract dashing heroes....

People Julie Garwood has become a trusted brand name in romantic fiction.

Romantic Times An enthralling tale....In this powerful story, passion, loyalty, friendship, and mystery superbly blend with realistic, three-dimensional characters.

Rendezvous Pure entertainment....Truly unforgettable. Romance never felt so good.

Under the Covers Book Reviews A keeper.... Anyone who has had the pleasure of reading Julie Garwood's classic tale *The Secret* will remember the two lovable rogues Brodick Buchanan and Ramsey Sinclair. Now they star in their own story...The plot is crisp, entertaining, and makes Medieval England seem real.

Amazon.com Thrilling.

The Cedar Rapids Gazette (IA) A riproaring romp, full of humor, romance, sword fights, and crisp dialogue.... So much fun, it begs to be read in one sitting....Characters feel like old friends, and readers will regret to see the story end.

All About Romance Wonderful....*Ransom* provides suspense, passion, and humor.

The Kansas City Star Julie Garwood's stories happen in a different world, and she makes that world palpable. Readers...appreciate the fragility of life in a time when death was omnipresent.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Ian Coghlan:

The book Ransom can give more knowledge and information about everything you want. Why then must we leave the best thing like a book Ransom? A few of you have a different opinion about guide. But one aim which book can give many data for us. It is absolutely correct. Right now, try to closer together with your book. Knowledge or information that you take for that, you are able to give for each other; you may share all of these. Book Ransom has simple shape but you know: it has great and big function for you. You can appear the enormous world by start and read a guide. So it is very wonderful.

Matthew German:

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