



The Liberty Flower

Katie Hanrahan

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Since the fall of Charles Town, Sarah Mahon has found success as a spy for the partisan militia, until Jack Ashford comes ashore. She soon learns that she cannot judge the enemy by the color of his uniform, because a willing man can be made to change his colors by the right woman. It is a discovery that her rebel father does not share. As she is courted by Lt. Jack Ashford of the Royal Navy, those she thinks are allies actively sabotage the relationship that would take Sarah away from the Low Country she longs to escape. A rash act of rebellion meant to cement an engagement will destroy her plans, but Jack is not so easily discouraged. Even after Sarah marries another to save face, the naval officer will not rest until he has claimed Sarah as his own...at any cost.

The Liberty Flower Details

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From Reader Review The Liberty Flower for online ebook

Katie Hanrahan says

Women were hoping for a touch of the "certain unalienable rights" that the men were fighting for during the American Revolution, and it is that desire for freedom that drives Sarah Mahon in her pursuit of happiness.

Despite her father's enlightened beliefs, however, he is not so liberal when it comes to Sarah's choice of a husband, especially when that gentleman is a British sailor. It would seem that the union of Jack Ashford and Sarah Mahon is doomed, but the state of rebellion influences the couple. They soon discover that they cannot control the events they set in motion.

Over the course of the narrative, Jack and Sarah are separated by an ocean, by politics, by rivalry and by her face-saving marriage, but they share a common bond that unites them. The novel follows their lives as they drift apart and come together, with Jack determined to win Sarah while Sarah matures into a formidable businesswoman who finds that freedom to direct her life may be too valuable to abandon for the sake of an old promise.

The novel explores a woman's restricted life while presenting a sweeping love story that moves from Charleston, South Carolina, to revolutionary France and the ocean between. Filled with historical characters, the book immerses the reader in a tumultuous time of uncertainty and unrest.

Vincenza Wall says

Although this is a romance novel at heart, there is much history and character growth that made it much more than a typical historical bodice-ripper.

Jack Ashford, a sailor in the British navy, and Sarah Mahon, a beautiful young woman living in Charles Town meet by accident when she is escaping from ruffians on her way home from port. Their destiny seems fated but misunderstandings, bad timing and inconvenient spouses prevent them from being together for many years.

I quite liked the character of Sarah. She is headstrong but also smart and a quick study. She was raised a lady and maintains her decorum, honour and sense of propriety throughout. Even when she forces herself to marry a much older man who is besotted with her, she treats him well, respects his opinions, obeys his decisions and does her best to give him a happy life. Jack, on the other hand, I never warmed to and I think Sarah could have done so much better. Jack didn't deserve her, not only for how he treated her early on in their relationship but also for his callous disregard for the happiness and life of his own wife, and not even caring when his own father died. I found him selfish, overbearing and so completely single minded that throughout the novel I hoped the author would twist the story that Sarah would find happiness with someone else and "get over" Jack.

The novel could also have benefited from another proofreader. There are several typos and errors with homonyms. For example, mixing up discrete and discreet, weigh and way, peek and peak and then Armand du Marais is sometimes spelled as Armand du Marias. Strangely, these errors are all in the second half of the novel. I also had a problem with the time jumps from chapter to chapter. It was not always immediately

apparent how much time had passed from chapter to chapter and this made the timeline confusing to follow. It would have helped to have years as the Chapter header to give the reader a sense of time.

All in all though, I did enjoy this and was very surprised by the amount of history and the character development.

Marilyn Stanley says

I received this book free through Goodreads First Reads.

What an awesome book - it is a romance novel with a history lesson. It started off slow but picked up speed and became difficult to put down as the story line got really interesting. I highly recommend it.

Aurora says

<http://sveta-randomblog.blogspot.com/...>

I won this at Goodreads Firstreads program

Sara Smith says

I received a copy of this book through the Goodreads First Reads program.

This book started off very slow for me unfortunately, but then it got exciting and hard to put down as Sarah and Jack fall in love, but still marry other people due to circumstances beyond their control. The summary of this story about Sarah Mahon being a spy for the partisan militia got me interested in this book, but unfortunately that part of the story isn't as fully-developed as the love story. I wish it went into greater exploration of her being a spy since I like to read about female characters in such situations.

Debbie Ballard says

I received a fascinating, marvelous, wonderfully written historical romance novel *The Liberty Flower* by Katie Hanrahan free from Goodreads.

Sarah Mahon is a spy for the colonists and meets Jack Ashford, a naval officer and enemy. Even though Sarah and Jack plan for a future together, fate and unforeseen events keep them apart. To protect her unborn child, Sarah marries an older man. When Sarah finds out Jack is captured and dying in prison, she makes a deal with a friend for his release.

Read the romantic, heart-wrenching, captivating, highly recommended love story *The Liberty Flower* by

Katie Hanrahan.

Cian O hAnnrachainn says

From an ARC copy:

Sarah Mahon is wrapped up in the sentiments of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, but she soon discovers that the American revolution is not going to emancipate the women. Not one to be defeated, the plucky heroine goes about a personal rebellion that puts into motion a host of unintended consequences.

Her determination to marry Jack Ashford, a British officer, is sabotaged by her partisan-leaning family. While Jack wavers between hope for a different outcome and despair that it is too late, Sarah struggles to carve out a little independence in a face-saving marriage. The author does a brilliant job of showing how small amounts of liberty can be abused, as the less-than-perfect Sarah falls from grace.

The novel spans the close of the Eighteenth Century, and over the course of the narrative Sarah matures into a woman who has gained a level of freedom that she does not care to relinquish after she is widowed and thus free to marry Jack.

A thoroughly enjoyable work of historical fiction with strong romantic elements, I highly recommend this book.
