



No Brighter Dream

Katherine Kingsley

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Andre de Saint-Simon has no use for Ali, the mysterious, young woman whose life he has saved while on his travels. When he discovers that she is the long-lost daughter of his mentor, he promptly returns her to England—and tries to forget about her. Ali knows that Andre is her destiny, and so she arranges his marriage—to herself. As Andre and Ali engage in a dance of desire and a battle of wits, they surrender to a passion they never knew existed—and risk their hearts and souls for a love they never thought they could find.

No Brighter Dream Details

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From Reader Review No Brighter Dream for online ebook

Rosa says

Sweet story

LaFleurBleue says

[I have trouble to believe successful surgery to remove an ectopic pregnancy and endometriosis could be really performed in 1870, but I might be wrong (hide spoiler)]

seton says

Third book in the Pascal Trilogy, which is author Katherine Kingsley's most popular series. The second bk in the series - *No Sweeter Heaven* - is the most famous and probably the best bk in the series. I read *No Sweeter Heaven* 15 years ago and reading NBD, I am reminded of all the things I liked and disliked about KK's writing.

This novel features the only son of the H/H from *No Sweeter Heaven* and, if I include the Prologue, it covers a period of 16 years. It starts with 14 year old Andre vowing to love his childhood sweetheart forever and ever. When his sweetheart dies, Andre turns his back on God, his family, and his country, and roams all over Ancient Asia Minor writing history books.

In Turkey, he comes across a sick urchin, Ali, and nurses her back to health. After she recovers, Andre keeps Ali as his servant, thinking she is a 12 yr old boy. Ali helps to alleviate the heaviness in Andre's heart with her laughter, her chattering, her intelligence, and her thirst for life. When Ali is discovered to be the long-lost daughter of Andre's mentor, he sends her away to England to be with her relatives because it is the right thing to do.

Ali, who grew up thinking she was Turkish and Muslim, deals with the culture shock of Victorian England. She meets with the H/Hs of the previous 2 books. She learns English and all the accomplishments of a proper English lady. But mostly, she waits for Andre to come back to England because she knows she is meant to be his wife.

KK is known for the spiritual and otherworldly elements in her books. Spiritual faith is an important theme in this trilogy. I have never read an inspirational or christian romance so I dont know how this would compare but I would not call KK's tone preachy or zealous.

NBD is about 380 pages but it read like 450. It is a visceral read. I laughed. I teared up. I felt like I was put through the wringer. The prose is clean, but evocative. At times, it reminded of Patricia Gaffney (the Gaffney who wrote *Wild at Heart* and *To Love and Cherish*). KK and Gaffney both wrote for the same imprint (Topaz) during 1990s as well as many other excellent authors like Mary Jo Putney. I suggest that if you liked the Gaffney books I mentioned as well as some of the more New Age-y historicals of Putney, then you might want to give this trilogy a try.

Grade: B+

Charlee Bajer says

Great book

Really nice story, just bit too religious for my taste. But not as much as the 2nd one, and that makes this one more appealing.

Victoria says

Is a great book to read

Estara says

DNF - I can handle giving the heroine a Muslim male name and exoticising old Anatolia - other authors have done the same in historical romance (Loretta Chase for example), and I loved the characters and their dialogue again (although it's totally unbelievable that a girl who had lived with a tribe for that length of time would have been raised as a tomboy even then), but when we had the meet-cute after she had been raised to become an English lady (we're talking of the heroine at the age of 21 now, since she was 16 when she met the hero) - and him behaving like a verklempt idiot which was totally consistent with his set-up, she suddenly decides to forget everything she wanted be for him and pout and promise to marry someone else in a tantrum.

I've decided I can't handle that, there are too many other good books to read to wade through that stuff for the fun bits. It's a pity - you rarely get such sympathetic portrayals of aging couples of previous romance novels (the first hero is 75 in this book).

Well, I skipped through it after all, and am adding a star for the dialogue and characters again.

Nancy Laney says

Pascal Book 3

Mariana says

Enjoyable and I loved Ali's faith.

