



Glory

Heather Graham

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New York Times bestselling author Heather Graham concludes her magnificent McKenzie Chronicles with this impassioned story about two star-crossed lovers caught in the tumult of the Civil War. When a Confederate platoon is unable to return to their Florida militia base, they camp down in an old, dilapidated plantation house. They soon discover the presence of a young beautiful widow, considered a witch by the locals because of her natural healing talents and her uncanny ability to "see" things others cannot. Captivated by this mysterious woman, the platoon's doctor refuses to abandon her, despite her Union sympathies. Headless of the conflict raging around them, the couple will discover a love which cannot be denied.

Glory Details

Date : Published February 1st 1999 by Topaz (first published January 1st 1999)

ISBN : 9780451408488

Author : Heather Graham

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Genre : Romance, Historical Romance, Historical, Historical Fiction

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From Reader Review Glory for online ebook

Trisha says

I really enjoyed this book. It jumped from one character to another and made it very interesting. Wish I had started this series from the beginning, now I have to start with the first book. Nice large family and how they each choose a side and how they kept meeting during the war even though they were on opposite sides.

Maria says

My scoring star scale:

5 - Absolutely loved it and would read it more than once (if I have it on my Kindle, I would also go out and buy a hard copy of the book to share with others)

4 - I really liked it. The story stayed with me; it surprised me in a good way; it made me want to read the story in one sitting; high possibility of being read again

3 - Average rating. There were parts of the story that I loved and other parts that I did not; the story kept my interest but did not grab me (to the point where I could not set the book down)

2 - I had a hard time getting to the end, but I did reach it; I would not read it again

1 - I could not bring myself to finish it or I absolutely hated it

Ways to lose stars - underdeveloped character(s)/one-dimensional, out of character scenarios (feelings or actions), far-fetched plots or reasoning, many grammatically errors (usually for self-publishing authors. I am lenient to a point on this), unable to "end" the story (cliffhangers for a series is fine, but the main conflicts of the current book should be resolved); hurried endings...some of my bias ways of losing stars: a historical fiction novel that is way out of its era in actions or thoughts, a weak hero/heroine by the end of the book (doesn't grow or goes from strong to weak), abusive relationships that are written to be taken as "romantic" and "a sign of love"

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Actually, I would give this a 3.5. I enjoyed it, but I like Heather Graham's later works better.

First off, the prologue was a little bit confusing but of course after reading through the book it made more sense. The first half of the book had some slow parts, but it picked up for the last half.

The paranormal in the book is low-key compared to some other writings. (The paranormal is visions in the protagonist's dreams.)

This book focused on the "medicine" side of the Civil War - diseases, drugs, amputation, etc. - rather than military strategy. Also, there were the usual Yanks vs Rebs attitudes, and many characters with family members on both sides of the war (including spouses.) Therefore, as you can probably guess, the romance of the book is the "opposites attract" deal.

Overall, if you are interested in the Civil War (especially the behind the scenes action of doctors/nurses) as well as a little paranormal (visions) and romance, then you will probably enjoy this book.

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### **Debby says**

Julian McKenzie is a southern doctor for the Rebel troops in FL. When his troops have to stop at Unionist Rhiannon Tremaine's home, he discovers she's an opium addict trying to drown her husband's death as well as a skilled healer with 2nd sight. Julian makes love to her while she's drugged and she becomes pregnant. All is not smooth - Julian forces her to help heal his cousin. She eventually goes to work for the Union medical corps. When she has a vision of Julian dying, she arranges to meet him in a church where they get married and then he's captured by the Union. Eventually, they work it out.

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### **Debra McEathron says**

This was a historical novel about the civil war and the medical issues during that time. It also dealt with families fighting against each other to some extent. It discusses some surgical procedures, STD's, and sanitary conditions. The love story was good too.

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### **Paranormal Romance says**

The heroine is left grieving the death of her husband during the civil war in a run down house when the hero breaks in thinking that the place had been abandoned. He's a doctor but he's also the enemy. While he fights for the south, the heroine believes in the north. The one night they spend in each others company brings to light that the heroine has become addicted to opium in an attempt to deal with the pain. The heroine dreams of sleeping with her husband as a result of her high but actually she ends up sleeping with the hero and as a result she ends up pregnant but refuses to admit that they did the deed. The hero kidnaps the heroine after Union soldiers come to the house and in attempt to keep her safe brings her to the confederate camp. Most of the story sees the two main characters at war with each other. The heroine refuses to believe she cares for the hero and still wears the mourning clothing for her dead husband and the hero refuses to love a woman who is still grieving for someone else and refuses to acknowledge their night together. For a good chuck of the book, they are separate. The heroine goes north to Washington to heal the yank soldiers while the hero is sent to Washington to heal the Rebs. It's only when the heroine sees a vision of the heroes death that she tricks him into marriage and gets him captured so she can keep him alive. The hero sees this as a betrayal and resents her for it but it does save him from death. The feel of the entire book was a proper civil war retelling and was epic in this plot. It was much more than a romance novel and though I couldn't give it 5 stars because the romance was a secondary plot, I did really like this book. The heroine was stubborn and in denial and the hero was charming, dedicated to saving lives on both sides of the war and frustrated with the heroine because she won't truly see him. The scenes where the hero holds the heroine through her withdraw and when they lay together and feel the movement of their child made for such a sweet read. It wasn't a dramatic, over the top passionate book but rather it was subtle. You could never really tell what they characters were thinking because they spent a lot of time lying to themselves. The ending was a little rushed and felt wishy washy but overall it was a nice story.

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## **Glamdring says**

Ok, so this is one review for the whole saga.

The saga begins during the second Seminole war and ends at the end of the secession war. The first two books are about Jarrett (white american) and James his half brother who is half white (same father)/half Seminole. The four following books are focused on their children.

The McKenzies are a close knit family. Then secession war happens and though they are all staunchly against slavery they find themselves politically divided.

Heather Graham has a real talent to weave real History through her romances and each time she gave us both side of the story.

One of my favorite historical saga ever.

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## **Arlena says**

By: Heather Graham

Published By: Topaz

Age Recommended: Adult

Reviewed By: Arlena Dean

Rating: 5

Book Blog For: GMTA

Series: MacKenzies - Old Florida Civil War #5

Review:

"Glory" by Heather Graham was her 'McKenzie Chronicles' 5th series. This novel is a good historical romance with military...in 1863 during the Civil War. This was indeed a intriguing story set I the south. I found "Glory" well written with very believable and well developed characters with a interesting depiction of families on different sides of the 'Civil War.' The story along with the romance will make you want to 'swoon' and once starting you will find it hard to put down until the end.

As this story opens...

"Julian McKenzie, the younger brother of Ian McKenzie (Ian's story is told in Rebel) is still part of the Florida militia bringing essential and gifted medical treatment to the wounded Confederate (and sometimes Union) soldiers, even though his father and older brother are confirmed Unionists. Promoted to Colonel and leading a group of men, he comes upon Rhiannon Tremaine, Union supporter and widow of Richard, a Union soldier whom she loved and still mourns. Rhiannon is also rumored to be a "white witch" as she "sees things" and is gifted with herbs and potions."

No, to get the rest of this story... you must pick up the excellent read the conclusion of this read. Which is a very good ending to four other great series

Runaway, Captive, Rebel, Surrender...and this one "Glory."

Yes, "Glory" is about Julian and the woman he fall in love with...Rhiannon Tremaine. Would I recommend? YES!

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### **Mum says**

It didn't appeal to me. I have read her series on the Civil War and Florida, and truly enjoyed it. This one fell flat. Too many characters, too much escaping, too much chaos. I found myself hurrying through descriptions of the war. Gettysburg was not the bloodiest battle of the war; Antietam was the bloodiest, ever.

I have been spoiled by authors who research and fact check. I respect the ones that say that they know a certain event did not occur, but the author needed to change it for the story. I understand that. The oblivious authors annoy me!

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### **Debra says**

This review is from: Glory (The Old Florida Series) (Kindle Edition)

Julian McKenzie, a doctor for the confederacy, comes upon the home of Rhiannon Tremaine, a widow in deep mourning over the loss of her Yankee husband. As the Civil war rages on, a healer, she becomes dependent on the poppies that she grows for medicinal purposes. Only after she seduces him during the night, does Julian realize that she is addicted and under the opium spell during her seduction.

This is a tragic story of brother against brother, fathers against son, and the destruction of families torn apart for personal beliefs and loyalties. Ms Graham brought the human devastation, and yet the family devotion, right upon my own doorstep.

This was a great story, but unless you read the series, you might find yourself wondering who all those McKenzies were. Somewhere in my past, I have read some of the books, but don't remember the actual characters. Still, I was left wondering.

You can definitely read this as a stand-alone book, but if you like series books, I would advise reading the others first. It would be much a much better reading experience.

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### **Erin says**

I really enjoyed Heather Graham's Krewe Novels so I looked forward to the civil war stories based in Florida. I just have to say that I love Rhiannon's Character. She just doesn't let anything get her down especially with her sight. Julian doesn't let anything get in his way of taking Rhiannon even when he has to drag her back to his field hospital in the middle of the swap. Very enjoyable read.

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## **Regan Walker says**

### Love at First Touch During the Civil War

This is the 5th in Graham's 19th century Old Florida's McKenzies series--romances that tell the stories of the men and women who shaped a great state. Graham takes care to give us the history of the times (it's her home state after all!) as she weaves tales of love in the Eden that was early Florida.

As this story opens, presumably in 1863, the Civil War continues and Julian McKenzie, the younger brother of Ian McKenzie (Ian's story is told in REBEL) is still part of the Florida militia bringing essential and gifted medical treatment to the wounded Confederate (and sometimes Union) soldiers, even though his father and older brother are confirmed Unionists. Promoted to Colonel and leading a group of men, he comes upon Rhiannon Tremaine, Union supporter and widow of Richard, a Union soldier whom she loved and still mourns. Rhiannon is also rumored to be a "white witch" as she "sees things" and is gifted with herbs and potions.

In book 4 (Surrender) we had Risa kissing Jerome thinking it was Ian. GLORY begins with Rhiannon, high on opium, making love to Julian thinking she is dreaming of making love to Richard. Once they touch, it seems their hearts are forever changed. When Julian leaves her house, he takes her captive in order (ostensibly) to save her from falling into drug addiction and to make use of her healing talents. But he doesn't keep her long.

Like the others in the series, we have a Reb and a Yank (and one is a McKenzie) and a shotgun wedding. I liked finding out more about Sydney and Brent (Jerome's siblings). If you've read all the books thus far (see below), then like me you are probably at the point of skipping some passages that recount the debate behind the Civil War. I suppose Graham had to do that to make them "stand alone," novels but one could have hoped for a series would written as a whole without the need for repetition. (Dream on, right?) She does the restatements pretty well so it's not unbearable.

The romances will hold your attention and you will find yourself fascinated not only with the time in American history but with Florida, a land unlike any other in America.

The series (do read them in order):

RUNAWAY  
CAPTIVE  
REBEL  
SURRENDER  
GLORY  
TRIUMPH

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## **Melinda Medlin says**

As with all of these in this Florida series, I love the intricacies of the characters. The writer started bringing in the sub-plots and minor characters which I feel could have had their own books themselves. Excellent

book

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### **Julie says**

Glory by Heather Graham is part of the Old Florida series. This book was originally published in 1993 I believe. Open Road Media has re-released this book as well as others in this series, in e book format.

Set in Florida in the Civil War era, Rhiannon, a war widow and rumored witch finds her home invaded by rebel soldiers. Julian McKenzie needs a place to shelter a wounded comrade. Not knowing if this home was abandoned or not, he still had to rest for a while. When he encounters the beautiful Rhiannon, he is indeed bewitched.

But, the ravages of war and the death of her husband, Richard, has Rhiannon sampling her own medicines too often, mainly opium. Julian recognizes it right away. He knows she has become addicted and wishes to prevent her from continuing on that way. But, Rhiannon isn't fooled by Julian's lies about being Union soldiers. She guessed right away they were rebels and she intends to turn them in.

But, in a drug addled state, Rhiannon, dreaming of her husband Richard, shares a night with Julian. She is unsure it really happened though because of her drug use.

When Julian guesses her intent to betray them, he manages to escape. But, his brother arrives at Rhiannon's home and is the spitting image of Julian, only he is on the opposite side from his brother. However, both brothers wish to remove Rhiannon from her home so she can overcome her addiction.

This begins a saga that involved both brothers and their extended family of uncles and cousins. The family is divided by the sides they have chosen to fight for and their fierce loyalty to the cause they each represent.

But, they still love their family despite the differences they have. Rhiannon is often caught in the middle, as she struggles with her feelings for Julian and the horrible dreams she has that often prove prophetic.

Rhiannon shakes her addiction, and proves quite useful in healing the wounds of soldiers. When she begins having dreams about Julian's death she makes a fateful decision, that will forever change her life and Julian's. The author does an excellent job of depicting the conflicts on both sides of the Civil War. Families divided and separated, the diseases acquired on the battlefield, and the incredible agony suffered of the body, heart, mind and soul.

The love story between Rhiannon and Julian is fraught with difficulties. Their relationship seems doomed, but these two people are incredibly strong in mind and spirit. They love each other and despite the feelings they had about the war, they decided to chose life and living over all else.

To me, these historical romances written by Heather Graham back in the 1980's and 1990's are really her forte. To me this is where she really shines. These days, she has carved out a niche for herself writing paranormal romances and while I like to read those from time to time, I must say, these historical romances are just awesome.

Yes, the subject matter is controversial, but that was the way things were. The author did an excellent job of showing both sides of the war, and did it such a manner that it read like an actual piece of history. So, although it is fiction and there was some steamy sex scenes once or twice, this book could also be categorized as historical fiction because often times the romance took a back seat.

Again, I am happy to see Open Road Media releasing these older titles in digital format. I would like to thank the publisher and Netgalley for the DRC copy of this book. This one gets a solid A.

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### **Angie says**

Too long, too many characters and too much details. Not my kind of book...

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### **Truitti says**

I am into civil war reading. Glory provided me with a general back drop to some of the information I have been reading. Not a heavy book but does mention some real life persons I have been exploring.

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