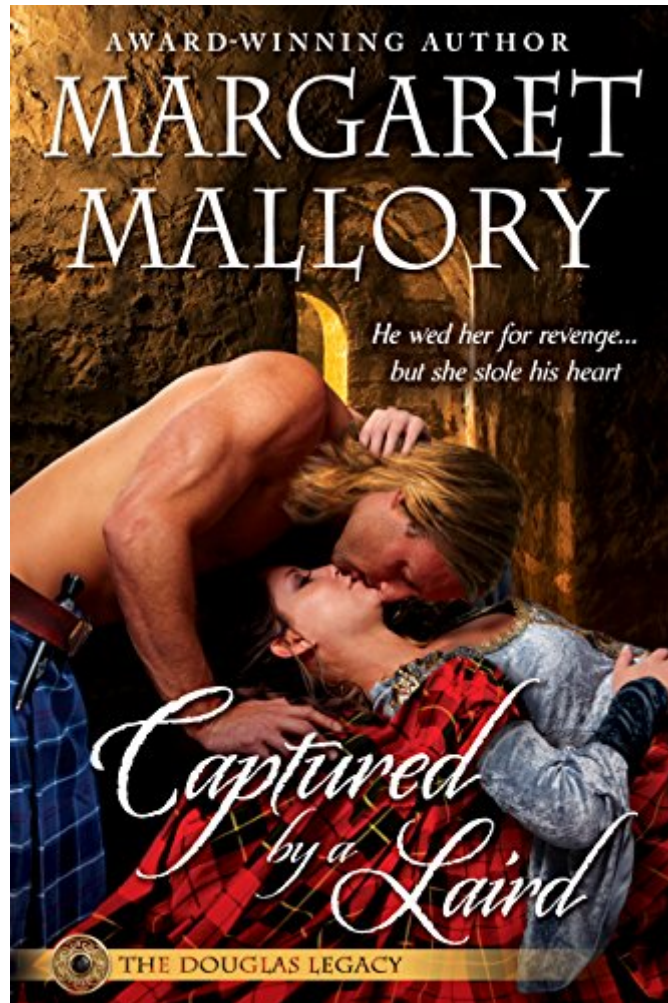


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CAPTURED BY A LAIRD (THE DOUGLAS LEGACY Book 1)



Synopsis

THE DOUGLAS LEGACYThe Douglas sisters, beauties all, are valuable pawns in their family's bitter struggle to control the Scottish Crown. But when powerful enemies threaten, each Douglas lass will find she must face them alone. **CAPTURED BY A LAIRD**Haunted by his father's violent death, David Hume, the new laird of Wedderburn, sets out to make his name so feared that no one will dare harm his family again. The treacherous ally who played on his father's weakness is dead and beyond David's vengeance, but his castle and young widow are ripe for the taking. The moment David lays eyes on the dark-haired beauty defending her wee daughters, however, he knows this frail-looking lass is the one person who could bring him to his knees. Wed at thirteen to a man who tried daily to break her spirit, Lady Alison Douglas is looking forward to a long widowhood. But when the fearsome warrior known as the Beast of Wedderburn storms her gates, she finds herself, once again, forced to wed a stranger. Alison is only a pawn to serve his vengeance, so why does this dark warrior arouse such fiery passion and an unwelcome longing in her heart? With death and danger looming, these two wounded souls must learn to trust each other for only love can save them.

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Customer Reviews

After a tumultuous ten year marriage to a much older man her family bound her to when she was only thirteen, the lady Alison Douglas is finally free from the ties that bound her in her unhappy matrimony. She has two beautiful daughters for doing her time with the Blackadder and now she prays she never has to marry again. So over her dead husband in fact that she burns the bed that belonged to the deceased Laird slept in. David Hume and his family have been through devastation. His father and brother are executed and his step-mother has been taken hostage. David has now become the new Laird of Wedderburn and he needs to have his step-mother freed, so her young sons can have their mother back and he wants to exact revenge on the Blackadders, by taking their castle and the widow, Lady Alison. Since taking over his lands and Hume Castle, David has gained quite the reputation for himself as the Beast of Wedderburn, a reputation for which he welcomes if it gains him the fear and all he covets. Lady Alison is having trouble with her people. They show her no respect since their Laird showed none for her when he was alive, and Alison is at a loss with how to deal with them. When she asks her Douglas brothers for help, they quickly push her needs aside to take care of their own lives, leaving her people on the verge of starvation since her lands are being raided consistently by the Beast of Wedderburn. After laying siege and capturing Blackadder Castle, the Beast forces the Lady Alison to marry him to use her as a tool to gain all he wants, but when he sees the beauty, he is out of sorts and in for much more than he bargains for. If he thinks that Alison is going to be a meek bride, he has no idea what he is in for.

4.5 stars The first line starts this off with a bang, "Burning her husband's bed was a mistake. Alison could see that now." Alison was married off very young to a middle aged man who berated her daily, and basically grooming her as she grew up. It's so incredibly creepy and heartbreaking at the same time. By the time we see Alison, we understand why she burned his bed. Because of the way her late husband treated her, he encouraged his staff to treat her just as poorly. The Alison who we meet on page one is a timid mouse of a girl who is trying to find herself again. Thinking that widowhood will become her, Alison is actually eager to be free for once. Until she realizes what a mistake her little act of rebellion was. All of her warriors left. They were loyal to her husband and didn't respect her, and didn't appreciate her burning of their master's bed. But what Alison doesn't realize is that she is basically ripe for the picking from any neighboring border laird. With her warriors gone, it's only a matter of time. Enter David, the new laird of Wedderburn. Both his father and uncle

had been betrayed and their heads placed on pikes. Deciding if he becomes the most feared man in the Highlands, his clan won't be vulnerable again, David sets off on reiving cattle and basically owning the Highlands. But the main thing he needs is Alison's castle and lands, and with those, Alison, herself. David takes the castle, and marries Alison, but he never expects to actually like her. Alison is trying to stop being the timid little girl she feels like, and act like the strong woman who is related to royalty that she really is. This isn't easy, and for his part, David is as patient as can be.

Captured By A Laird (The Douglas Legacy) by Margaret Mallory One of my very favourite authors is the late, great Kathleen Woodiwiss. She wove an excellent story, full of vengeance, cunning, revenge, lust and love. This book reminds me greatly of her story *The Wolf and the Dove*. Although it was written in 1974, there seems to be something about feuding Lords and ladies of the castles that keeps making this an interesting plot line. Alison is not your typical heroine. She has been widowed by a repugnant man that she despised. She despised him so much that she took his bed into the yard and burned it. The only shining light in her life is her two beautiful daughters. She hasn't had an easy life, being married at 13 to a brute who humiliated her daily and made her life hell. Once she is free of him she thinks that she has the freedom she has longed for. With political men surrounding her life, she is remarkably naïve in this hope. Her knight in shining armour is the 'Beast', David Wedderburn. He takes her castle and forces her to marry him. The author is descriptive in the cattle raiding and fear mongering he unleashes on the border lands, but it doesn't distract that David is actually a very good person. He wants vengeance for his father and uncle's murders and the injustices done to his clan, but he shows leniency and mercy to his enemies. He is startled when he meets Alison. The plan was always to marry her, but he is blown away by her beauty and grace. He thanks his lucky stars, but quickly learns that he will have to woo his new bride. She desperately wants to be the kind of wife that a husband turns to in confidence, but with her brothers and Clan Douglas blowing in the wind, he doesn't take her interest seriously.

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