



Unbreakable

Violetta Rand

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Sworn to forget his past....

Alex MacKay has roamed the world as a mercenary, trying to forget his shattered past. But when he's summoned by his brother to defend clan lands, the very man who betrayed him and married the woman he loved, he's surprised to learn that the spirited Keely not only abandoned his brother on their wedding night, but never returned.

Sworn to embrace a new future...

Keely Oliphant fled home on her wedding night and sought refuge among the Sutherlands, the enemies of her clan. Years later, ready to make amends for her past, Keely braves returning to her family.

But nothing is the same, and Keely is forced to face the new MacKay laird—Alex—the man she once loved.

Alex refuses to forgive her, but demands she honor their years-old betrothal. The MacKays need an heir.

Facing yet another marriage she doesn't want, Keely tries to resist Alex's loveless seduction.

But as time passes, old feelings are rekindled.

Will Alex finally admit he wants a second chance at love, or will he once again deny fate when the Sutherlands claim his marriage to Keely is invalid and try to force her back to Dunrobin Castle to marry the earl's youngest son?

Unbreakable Details

Date : Published January 10th 2018 by Dragonblade

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Author : Violetta Rand

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Genre : Romance, Historical Romance, Historical, Fiction

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From Reader Review Unbreakable for online ebook

Nicole Laverdure says

A second chance love story!

Unbreakable is Violetta Rand's debut novel in her new series Highlands Forever. I loved her two main characters Alex MacKay and Keely Oliphant with their ups and downs relationship. It really had fun following their journey filled with emotions and twists and turns! Very well written and filled with intrigue and action.

Ms. Rand is very descriptive writer, I could almost feel the surroundings. Just follow their beautiful journey, filled with intrigues and see what happens! I will surely watch for her next book in this new series. I strongly recommend, Unbreakable, especially if you love Scottish adventure.

*Disclaimer: I won this book in a contest by the author without any requirement for a review, positive or otherwise and have not been compensated for this .

Lucy says

Unbreakable is about a hero who returns to his homeland after five years away and a heroine who rejected the hero to marry his brother instead, only to run away on her wedding night and shelter with the enemy of the McKay clan.

I'm not sure about this book. There were things I liked and things I disliked but it was a fast book after all and I did want to keep reading right up until the end.

Things I Liked:

- Things not being glossed over simply because it's a romance book. War, death, women being sold into marriage at a young age, slavery - it's all included.
- the writing - easy to read and quick to get through.
- the obstacles in the relationship between Alex and Keely - they weren't obstacles solely born out of misunderstandings, they actually had to work to overcome what had gone wrong before.

Things I Didn't Like:

- fine, include slavery in the hero's past (spoiler: he's not the slave) because yes, in that time period it happened far more frequently, but don't have the hero justify it in such a way that it's obvious the reader is supposed to agree with him
- the actual relationship between Alex and Keely - I wasn't rooting for the two of them in the end. (view spoiler)
- the plot point about (view spoiler). It felt like a cop-out.
- how the accents were written out. It drove me up the wall.

I think I'm going to go with three stars for this book.

Sandra Standefer says

Thoroughly Enjoyed!

Alex MacKay has roamed the world as a mercenary, trying to forget his shattered past. But when he's summoned by his brother to defend clan lands, the very man who betrayed him and married the woman he loved, he's surprised to learn that the spirited Keely not only abandoned his brother on their wedding night, but never returned. Alex left a broken man and spent five years trying to forget Keely only to return home and be faced with his past. I was hooked from the start. I loved Alex and Keely's characters. They both had to overcome so many obstacles to be together. I could lose myself in this book and thoroughly enjoyed reading it. I am looking forward to the next in the series. I would definitely recommend this book!!

~~ Angie ~~ says

I almost gave up reading this book because of Alex (the hero).

I gave this book three stars ONLY because I like the Author. Otherwise I would have given it two.

This was a short story, 223 pages I believe. Alex (hero) comes back home (to the Highlands) after a 5 year retreat. The story is short but kind of explains why he "ran away". He leaves a Christian and comes home a Pagan. His 5 year retreat made him rich, he has much land, beautiful concubines (6) of them, and jewels. Alex's character is a pompous jerk! His pagan ways, his "I'll get even with her" attitude, his whiny grudges reeeeeaaly made me dislike him. He's no Alpha male! Not my hero! He's a butt head!

Now Keely, the heroin, ran away from marriage to Alex's brother because she was deeply in love with Alex and she was just 16!!! So, when she "escapes" the enemies home (where she has hid the last 5) years, and returns to the McCay Castle to apologize before she goes to her fathers home, she is found outside the keep and brought face to face with Alex.

Their reunion is painful to read. The clan is mean, Alex is awful to her. This went on and on and on and ooooon!!!

This book is NOT romantic, no sweet kisses, no sweet love words, no kind words. Jewels are given as a gift but Keely finds out they were supposed to be for his "favorite" concubine !

Not until 87% of the book did he FINALLY become soft hearted. Of course this was after he killed some of his clan members and kicked others out.

Spoiler Alert:

This book frustrated me. I did not have any "aww" moments. He took her hard her first time (because he was angry, holding on to his grudge, and being drunk).

Only about 3 love scenes, not hot, not descriptive, not emotional. Just a job "gotta make a baby, keep her out of my heart". Arrrrrrrrgh.....

Heat Scale: As Vanilla Ice once sang "Ice-Ice baby", that is my opinion.

Debbie Glenn Brown says

Keely Oliphant MacKay ran away on her wedding night to John Mackay and found refuge with their enemy the Sutherlands. She was in love with Alex MacKay her husband's brother. Alex left to roam the world as a mercenary, trying to forget his shattered past and the woman he loved. Now five years later he's summoned by his brother to defend clan lands; Alex brings gold for his brother to buy mercenaries to find this war. He's surprised to learn Keely ran away on her wedding night and has never returned.

Keely decided it's time to return home and face the consequences and join her clan again, what she doesn't expect is to see Alex in charge and her husband dead. Alex's secretary discovers a Highland law that states Alex and Keely were handfasted before her marriage to his brother. Alex refuses to forgive her, but recognizes the law and demands Keely honor their old betrothal and provide the MacKay Clan with an heir they will desperately need when he leaves. Alex's whole life is turned upside down when rides to the rescue when Keely's life is danger. I loved this story of two strong characters who have a chance at love a second time around if they can ever learn to trust each other and their feeling.

This is my honest opinions after I voluntarily read a copy of this book that was provided to me with no requirements for a review.

Sportochick says

Visit my blog for more reviews: Sportochick's Musings

Author Violetta Rand scores another homerun with Unbreakable Book 1 of the Highland Forever series. This book is filled with lost unrequited love which shaped Alex into a cold hard killing machine. But things aren't always what they appear and as the reader gets further into the book they will see that things are not as black and white as Alex thought. How the author takes Alex through this discovery is handled with finesse and the reader will feel rewarded as they deal with all the feelings invoked in this book.

Keely's choices she made in the past and even currently were kind of mind boggling at first but they all make perfect sense as the story progresses, and I came to admire her strength of commitment to her beliefs. It is obvious when you finally meet her family how she got to be so strong willed and found the strength to run away on her wedding night all those years ago.

By far my favorite secondary character is the scholar Petro de' Medici. He added the much needed relief and common sense to Keely and Alex's constant fighting. Don't get me wrong they weren't always fighting and the loves scenes where just plain hot adding to the reader's enjoyment of the story.

I give this book 4.5 STARS for all the emotions that came out while reading this book.

Received an advance reader copy in exchange for a fair review.

Maria says

This is the type of story that keeps a knot in your throat throughout. I mean that in a very good way as a compliment. This author became new to me last year and I have not been disappointed with anything she has written. I have come to look forward to her Stories. The plots are always very good, not vanilla, and she is very accurate to the time she writes about. She does not sugarcoat things, which I appreciate very much.

Here we have Alex McKay, a man who returns to his home in the Highlands after 5 years of being a mercenary in Constantinople. He has been away because of the hatred he feels for his only older brother and the woman who betrayed him and broke his heart. He is no longer the man he used to be...he is a very hardened mercenary.

At his arrival, his clan, the McKay's, are having to defend themselves against their enemy, the Sutherlands. He knows he must assist his clan, even though, he just wants to turn around and board his ship and return to the foreign lands he has come to know these past 5 years.

There are several turns of events that will challenge Alex throughout the story.

Keely MacKay has chosen now to seek absolution after 5 years of being away from the McKay Clan. For five years she stayed with the Sutherlands. When she arrives to McKay land she realizes how bad things really are. Sometimes confronting your past can shake you in the present, as she will come to see.

Rooted deep down in Alex and Keely's souls is an unbreakable bond that neither one will come to easily realize.

There are some very, very passionate scenes that make the pages sizzle. There are also scenes that make you laugh out loud, scenes that will make you cringe and scenes that will squeeze at your heart.

I love this story! It is a keeper for me. I look forward to book 2 in the Highlands Forever Series, "undeniable" with Jamie McKay as the hero and Helen Sutherland as the heroine. Hopefully it will come out soon and I won't have to wait very long to continue with this awesome series.

Maria Dariotis says

Alex MacKay has been betrayed by the only woman he's loved, she married his brother so he left to fight wars for other kings and lands.

Five years later his brother summons him and Alex is ready for revenge for the betrayal he received. He never expected his brother to be killed in a clan attack or to come face to face with the woman that he has been trying to forget. His feelings for her still leaves his blood heating through his veins and all he wants is to make her pay for all the heartache she caused him.

Keely Oliphant MacKay ran away on her wedding night and found refuge with their enemy the Sutherlands. Now five years later she goes home to ask for forgiveness from her husband, but instead she finds him dead and Alex is the new Laird, he refuses to give her the forgiveness she's seeking. His revenge ...he forces her to marry him and suffer in a loveless marriage. But the heart hasn't forgotten the love they shared and when a foe abducts Keely, Alex will destroy the enemy to save the woman he loves.

What a sensational story to a new series by Violeta Rand. This is a MUST read!

Alex and Keely have some hurdles to get over but they found a way to heal and fall in love again. Alex is a hardened man because of his time with the “heathens” he fought wars for. Keely is a woman who has grown from the terrified sixteen year old, who was forced in a marriage she didn’t want, she’s feisty and doesn’t give up in the love she has for Alex. Fast paced with lots of action, betrayal and a steamy passionate romance that heat up the pages. A captivating love story, can’t wait to read the next one.

I received a complimentary copy from the author for my honest unbiased opinion.

April says

Fast paced Medieval Scottish Romance that will linger in my heart forever. Strong characters, danger, betrayal and a breathtakingly, well written plot. Can’t wait to read book 2. Another must read by Violetta Rand!

Rating: 5

Heat rating: Mild

Reviewer: AprilR

Petula says

Alex MacKay has been selling his sword and living a hedonistic life in Constantinople. So he is not pleased with his brother begging him to come home to the highlands. There is nothing there for him anymore only had memories of what he lost.

Keely abandoned her new husband five years ago, but now it's time to make amends. Going back to the clan she betrayed could be very dangerous.

A clan at war with a neighbour and suffering the death of their Laird is not an easy or happy place to be. Our hero has let his past dictate his life but now must face up to the future and responsibilities he never wanted. Our heroine is paying for her sins of the past. Nobody is going to make it easy for her.

An intense and emotional story with fabulous, and unusual characters. This is the first book in a new series, so I'm sure we will meet many of the characters again. I thoroughly enjoyed it.

Kat Green says

The front cover of “Unbreakable” is what initially caught my attention and made me want to read this novel, but I was quickly entrenched within the first couple of pages. Betrayed by not only family, but the one you love can most definitely cause a person to attempt to become callous or to harden their heart, by suppressing all emotion. How they handle these conflicts in their lives shapes a person into whomever they eventually become. Learning to deal with responsibility, whether it is desired or not, becomes a necessary process. One cannot allow pain or insecurities from his or her past to rule their actions forever. Sometimes love is just forever, whether one wishes to admit that or not, and clinging to the pains of the past only blocks any chance they may have of finding happiness and contentment. In “Unbreakable”, Alex and Keely attempt to handle their past conflicts in ways they can justify in their minds, however, that is not always the proper path to redemption and contentment. When you read this novel by a Violetta Rand, you learn to appreciate the depth

of her character construction and her attention to detail. She so effortlessly presents options for her characters to choose to act on or not. As the reader, you are able to experience the frustrations as well as the joys these characters face. There are a few steamy sexual encounters, considering what was considered socially acceptable at the time, but all very tastefully done. An excellent read!

Lisa Jackson says

Alex left his clan five years ago when he was betrayed by Keely, the woman he loved. After traveling the world, making his way and his wealth as a mercenary, he is back in Scotland at the behest of his older brother. Alex had no intention of staying, he just planned to answer his brother's request, drop off some money, and go back to his own life. That was his plan....

Keely hasn't been back in years, five years, and on the day she comes back to her clan guess who is also there? And so this story begins with a plot of intrigue, romance, and action.

This is the first book in a new series and it's thoroughly entertaining. These two are joined by other colorful and interesting characters who face a rival clan after a heinous attack on their own. Keely and Alex have a history, they loved each other once, but can they again? Is Alex capable of forgiveness? Can Keely even be trusted? One thing is certain- they still have heat.

These two have to fight themselves, each other, and outside forces to reach their HEA and I found myself smiling at several points at the antics of the clan members around them-as these highlanders certainly have their way of addressing issues.

All in all a fun story and strong start to a new series which I am looking forward to reading- I think Jaime and Helen,Petro, and others all have tales to tell.

Maggie Whitworth says

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What a great read.

If your looking for a good highland book , one full of strapping, strutting, handsome Highlanders.

Feisty , strong minded women.

Clan wars, and Clan politics.

In essence the true highland novel .

Look no further this is all you need .

I can say without doubt it's one of the best I've read .

"I voluntarily read and reviewed an advanced copy of this book. All thoughts and opinions are my own

Lori D says

A skillfully plotted story that keeps you guessing as you turn the page. Well written characters, danger, betrayal and so many twist and turns. Feeling betrayed by the woman he loves, Alex MacKay leaves his home to become a sword for hire to forget his wounded feelings. Returning home after being summoned by his clan to assist them against their enemy the Sutherland's, he is a hardened man. Keely Oliphant, his betrothed that had betrayed him by marrying his brother, has gone to the enemy for refuge. But then tries to return home to make amends and be with her family. As the two face each other again, old feelings come to

the surface but Alex does his best to suppress them. What really happened to make Keely marry his brother? Why should he trust her now? This story will keep you tied to your seat as this tale unfolds and all information comes to light. A well written story and looking forward to more in this series!!

Heather andrews says

Alex sometimes has to put his foot down, “nay. Ye will sleep with me every night.” He covered her hand with his. “Ye willna want to be apart from me once we spend our first night together, lass. I am a generous lover. I’ll never hurt ye or force ye to do anything ye are uncomfortable with.” Alex has a way of shocking people, “we dinna use the bed, Mathe. Not the first time.” The councilman’s mouth opened, but nothing came out. “Are ye going to call me a heathen again?” I really enjoyed this book, I loved Alex.
