



The Maiden's Defender

E. Elizabeth Watson

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Training men to be ruthless soldiers is a skill at which Highlander Teàrlach MacGregor excels. He can kill three men with nothing but a sword and a couple of daggers. After he rescues a ward of the king, the beautiful Lady Madeline Crawford, the fierce warrior begins to yearn for a cottage of his own in the Highlands, with the sweet, delicate Madeline as the mother of his bairns.

Madeline begins to see a side of Teàrlach that nobody else has witnessed. The strong silent Highlander takes her to her first fair, teaches her to read, and bestows upon her a passionate kiss—her very first. But Madeline is informed that she is betrothed to another with the blessing of the king, making her and Teàrlach's love forbidden.

Teàrlach, the famed fighter, vows to make Madeline his even if that means bringing down her corrupt warden, and Madeline knows that she must defy the king if she hopes to claim her Highlander.

Each book in the Ladies of Scotland series is a STANDALONE story that can be enjoyed out of order.

Books in the series

An Earl for the Archeress

The Maiden's Defender

The Maiden's Defender Details

Date : Published November 27th 2017 by Entangled: Amara

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Author : E. Elizabeth Watson

Format : Kindle Edition 361 pages

Genre : Romance, Historical Romance

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From Reader Review The Maiden's Defender for online ebook

Sissy's Romance Book Review says

The Maiden's Defender by E. Elizabeth Watson is the story of Teàrlach MacGregor and Lady Madeline Crawford. Teàrlach once was Madeline's father guardsman so he has met Madeline before and had feelings for her. But when her father was sent to prison for some evil doings the King places Madeline in the care of lair Henry de Moreville. This lair place her in a small place on his property with two elderly people to look after her. But even those elderly people are doing her wrong and Madeline doesn't complain due to her abusive up bringing by her father. When Teàrlach meets up with Madeline again he still wants to help and protect her. But Madeline being noble puts her out of Teàrlach reach...but it doesn't stop their growing love. I so loved this story! I couldn't put it down!

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Jamie Lee Zonneveld says

I voluntarily reviewed an Advance Reader Copy of this book.

It was a really lovely story and I really liked it the story of Tearlach and Madeline .

It is very well written.

Laura Larocca says

What an enjoyable read this book was! I love Scottish based stories and this one hit the spot. Great characters, Tearlach whom I imagined looked like the cover model was a genuinely good guy and Maddie who got a raw deal in life because of her father needed to get ahead. Well paced book that had my full attention from start to finish. I read this book as an arc from netgalley and this is my honest opinion.

Sam says

Oh I absolutely loved this book. It was the kind of sweet that makes your toothache. Right from the first page I was drawn in and hooked. What was even better was how Madeline grew. She went from being this timid, quiet girl who never spoke up, to this powerful woman who went after what she wanted. Tearlach was the perfect gentleman. He wanted the wee lass right from the start when he was working for her father. I loved watching him struggle with his wants and needs when it came to Madeline. There was such a strong back story with this novel I was holding my breath waiting for that penny to drop. You could read the suspense building in certain scenes. I wanted to scream at TEARLACH to open his eyes and notice what was going

on. This author was new to me but now a favourite. I can't wait to read more.

Janet says

4.25 stars

Training men to be ruthless soldiers is a skill at which Highlander Teàrlach MacGregor excels as a fourth son he has to make his own way. After he rescues a ward of the king, the beautiful Lady Madeline Crawford, she begins to see a side of Teàrlach that nobody else has witnessed. The strong silent Highlander takes her to her first fair, teaches her to read, and bestows upon her a passionate kiss. Madeline is under the guardianship of the laird Henry de Moreville, who is stealing from the allowance Madeline has been given.

I fell for Teàrlach in the previous book in the series & was so glad he had his story. The pair have been attracted to each other for a long time & each brings out the best in each other. I found this to be a lovely tender story of Teàrlach thinking he's not good enough & Madeline believing she's to do as she's told without complaint. I enjoyed the story & found the characters to be well developed & likeable, the plot was well paced & all the time I was rooting for the pair to have their HEA

My honest review is for a special copy I voluntarily read

Adriana Koog says

What an amazing book!!! I loved it!!! Teàrlach and Madeleine's story is fantastic!! I hope Robbie's story is next!!!!

Bec_BookMagicReviews says

Tearlach MacGregor is the right man to train soldiers how to be ruthless, especially since he can take on a number of men and come out on top in a fight. But the moment he rescues Lady Madeline Crawford, Tearlach begins to wish his life could be different and he could give her the life she deserves including love, family and happiness. Yet, when Madeline is informed she's betrothed to another, there's no way Tearlach can stay only to lose the woman he loves. However, Madeline is determined not to give up on them so easily, and as her wedding nears, will she be able to find a way out or will she and Tearlach lose their chance at happy ever after?

I've read quite a few Historical Romance this year, but this story is one of the best so far because both of the main characters were marvellous and had some tough obstacles to overcome; the dialogue was well-written and a wonderful combination of intense moments due to the deviousness of some of the secondary characters that will do anything to make Tearlach and Madeline realize it's not possible for the pair to be together and pleasing banter that had me liking every interaction between this couple, as they grow closer together and make the most of their time together. The way this story started had me worried for the heroine, because she's all alone and finds herself in trouble. Will anyone find her before it's too late? However, it was from the moment the hero and heroine come face-to-face for the first time that had me fascinated by this couple's growing relationship, as they're familiar with each other because he used to work for her villainous father, and Tearlach has always felt something for her. Will he be able to win Madeline heart?

Both the main characters had very interesting back stories with Tearlach being the fourth son of his family and not having to lead the clan, so it's made him take a different path in life. He's tough and confident when it comes to training men to be ruthless soldiers. He's also protective of the heroine and I liked that he would do anything for her, which is proven by what he does to ensure the heroine isn't being taken advantage of and that someone that's trying to use her for their personal gain doesn't get the chance. While the heroine, she's kind, caring, resilient and I liked that she had the courage to stand up to those that are wanting her to marry. I also liked how accepting she is of Tearlach's help, so she can learn things she was never taught growing up.

Overall, Ms. Watson has delivered a wonderful read in this book where the chemistry between this couple was a delight to read and just kept getting stronger, as the heroine did her best to tempt the hero. As for the ending, it had me crying happy tears as the heroine goes to great lengths to find her way back to the hero and make him realize that they're meant for each other. However, I loved how the secondary characters helped the pair find their way back to each other too, because no one is more suited for Tearlach than Madeline. I would recommend *The Maiden's Defender* by E. Elizabeth Watson, if you enjoy Historical Romance, the friends to lovers trope, the opposites attract trope, or books by authors Heather McCollum, Kathryn LeVeque, Lori Ann Bailey and Amy Jarecki.

Cathy Geha says

The Maiden's Defender by E. Elizabeth Watson
Ladies of Scotland #2

Madeline Crawford is a mouse...a mouse that has learned to creep around without incurring the wrath of her father. She is nothing like her stronger sister who appeared in book one of this series. Well, Madeline finds herself as the ward of the king with Lord DeMoreville the man in charge of taking care of her and he is a no good rotten scoundrel...to say the least. On her eighteenth birthday she is out and about enjoying the countryside when she takes a tumble and Teàrlach MacGregor comes to her rescue. The two knew one another in the past when he was working for her father but a new phase in their lives begins when they meet again. With Teàrlach on his way to DeMoreville's stronghold and having seen the needs of Madeline he is appalled to find out what his new boss is actually up to.

This story has a man who is a fourth son with nothing he feels he has to offer, a woman that is browbeaten but with a dowry, an evil man pulling strings, romance, separation, loss and an eventual HEA for the two. Madeline grows as the story progresses moving from mouse to more and Teàrlach...well...he finally wises up but it takes a bit longer than it should have, in my opinion.

Thank you to NetGalley and Entangled Publishing for the ARC – This is my honest review.

3-4 Stars

Merged review:

The Maiden's Defender by E. Elizabeth Watson
Ladies of Scotland #2

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3-4 Stars

Eva says

the sequel to an earl for an archeress, the maiden's defender picks up on teàrlach macgregor's feeling for lady madeline crawford and gives them a chance to grow and blossom into something deep and meaningful and able to withstand any trial.

when teàrlach discovers maddie at the bottom of a ravine he is incensed to realize that she is being neglected by her guardian. having previously witnessed her father's abuse and neglect of her and her sister, teàrlach is unwilling to stand by and see her suffer any longer. and so he takes it upon himself to care for her, even as he realizes that this friendship can't go any further than that.

but you can't control who you love. and teàrlach was already half in love with maddie before he ever saw her again. and spending time with her now only strengthens the depth of his feelings for her. he would lay down his life for her in a heartbeat, give up anything to save her from injury. the only thing he cannot force himself to do is see her marry someone else.

and she is betrothed to her guardian's son. it is a marriage that has been blessed by the king and as loyal subjects neither maddie or teàrlach have the power to break the agreement. teàrlach is the fourth son of a highland clansman and maddie the youngest daughter of the imprisoned sheriff of ayr.

this moment marks a long and arduous separation for these two lovers, and by the time it ends and they are reunited, they are completely changed. but one thing holds true. the love they feel for each other is beyond anything—time, distance, old hurts—all of that can be overcome.

**the maiden's defender will publish on november 27, 2017. i received an advance reader copy courtesy of netgalley/entangled publishing (amara) in exchange for my honest review.

Mari's Struggle is Real says

This is a new author for me and I am already a big fan. Madeline really transformed into a confident woman throughout the book and I could feel the connection between her and Tearlach. I loved to read their interactions. They are one of my favorite fictional couples of 2017.

*ARC graciously provided via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review!

Amanda Richardson says

I loved "The Maiden's Defender" by E. Elizabeth Watson. Medieval romances are my absolute favorite and I keep hoping they make a comeback. Lady Madeline's evil father has been displaced and she has been taken pseudo hostage by the Scottish King. She has a ward, but lives alone with just two feeble servants in a deserted keep. Madeline is sweet, kind, and very, very naive, she can't read or write and was cowed by her father for most of her life.

Tearlach is Madeline's father's former commander and was always attracted to Madeline, but knew he was beneath her. He stumbles upon her as he is traveling to seek a new position. She fell and hurt herself and he rescues her. Tearlach instantly takes Madeline on as his responsibility. He gifts her with additional supplies, visits with her and ultimately they fall in love.

But it will not be easy for the two. Madeline is betrothed to a man who isn't kind and she is scared to defy the king. Tearlach would do anything for Madeline, but he won't keep her from marrying a man of her station.

Tearlach and Madeline have chemistry that leaps off the pages. Loved them as a couple and liked each one as an individual character. I found myself rooting for them to find a way to their happily ever after.

There are a couple of really steamy scenes between the two. I will definitely read more by this author. Please keep the medieval romances coming!

I was gifted with a complimentary copy in exchange for an honest review.

Ann (Fanni Ann) says

This is a lovely story, well written and I was intrigued from the beginning, Madeline and Tearlach may have the same problems as many highland stories, but E Elizabeth Watson, has done a good job in making this her own. Getting back to them, their chemistry is wonderful, I couldn't wait to see if they get their HEA and thwart the awful warden.

I received an advanced copy from Netgalley and voluntarily leave my own opinion

Coral says

What does highlander with nothing to his name but his skills to do when the lady he loves is betrothed to another?

I enjoyed this book with its simplicity. The plot is simple and straightforward but the way it is weaved with the character-driven story is seamless. The author really knows where to put the emotional scenes that pulls

the reader's heartstring. Its a complete departure from the previous book where I found the characters boring despite their complexity.

Plot: 4/5

Characterisation: 4/5

Prose: 3.5/5

How much I enjoyed it: 4/5

ARC received from the publisher via NetGalley in exchange for a fair review

books are love says

Received in exchange for a honest review

I love Tearlach. that is the sweetest guy under that tough exterior. How he is with Madeline just has you melt.

Here Madeline is free of the shackles of her father but no hindered by the Lord who the king is having take care of her. He is a horrible cheat. And greedy to boot. But Madeline is grateful just for her freedom and doesn't say anything. Seeing Tearlach again has her wary but as she gets to know him and she sees how kind and caring he is she falls in love. Tearlach shows Madeline respect and is honest with her. He doesn't treat her as if she is beneath him but encourages her and sees her strength and beauty. He helps her learn and grow. She gains confidence and belief in herself because of Tearlach and how he is with her. They fall in love and are torn apart as well.

We get heartbreak and second chances. We see how kind, loving and forgiving Madeline is. How love can heal someone and have them gain their senses and fight as well. But also it has them let go so the other can be safe. Only sometimes when we let go we must come back because it is the right thing as well.

A really wonderful sweet romance that has the man believe in the girl and the girl believe in love in the end. One where they help each other heal and find strength in love and one another. And we see family show loyalty and love but also help one another no matter what.

Debbie Glenn Brown says

Teàrlach MacGregor a ruthless soldier and skilled at training men. On his way to his next job he hears a woman crying for help and comes upon his former employer's daughter the beautiful Lady Madeline Crawford. Madeline is sweet, kind, and very naïve and has been cowed by her father for most of her life. After her father was taken prison for treason Lady Madeline became a ward to the King. Teàrlach find out Madeline's in the care of laird Henry de Moreville his new employer. He soon realizes she being mistreated and set out to right a wrong by bring her the supplies and sees to her comfort. Madeline has learned and doesn't complain due to her abusive up bringing by her father.

Teàrlach has always admired her from afar, but he knew as a fourth son he had no chance to win her has his wife. He now sees a chance to be near her and protect her until the King decides who she will marry.

Madeline has always admired the big handsome Highlander too and privately fantasized about him. Fate has

thrown them together, Madeline see him as her friend and savior and so much more. Teàrlach yearn for a cottage of his own in the Highlands close to his family with the sweet Madeline as the mother of his bairns. Fate has thrown them together, will they both realize their desires, dreams or will fate pull them apart again Madeline is set to marry Henry de Moreville son.

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.
