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Burkard's "Forever, lately: A regency time travel romance" (book review)

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Book Reviews



Burkard, Linore Rose (2019). *Forever, lately: A regency time travel romance*. Lilliput Press. 305 pp. \$15.99 ISBN 9781733311106

In her grandmother's Maine cottage, struggling author Claire Channing desperately tries to write a bestselling romance novel. Julian St. John, a handsome, reformed bachelor, and Miss Clarissa Andrews, his beautiful and cunning admirer, are the fictional characters in her book. St. John is on the hunt for a wife in order to fulfill a promise to his deceased guardian, but he is usually annoyed by Miss Andrews' feeble attempts to win his affections. One evening, Claire hears a rushing sound and is whooshed to a Regency ballroom in 1816 - the very ballroom in her book - where she comes face-to-face with her invented characters, Julian and Clarissa. Claire is transported back to her cottage in the present and discovers the magical object that enables her time travel back and forth. At first, Claire is satisfied with the opportunity to experience the food, drink, and dress of the Regency era to enhance the details in her book, but she unexpectedly falls in love with Julian. As the cunning and wicked Clarissa vies for Julian's attention, tragedy strikes in both the past and the present, and Claire is bound by time to rescue the man she loves.

Sometimes lackluster in writing, this charming, love story is an easy read with a few twisted plots. Historical references to people, places, and events during the Regency period are concise, allowing for a fast-paced, lighthearted romp through time. Burkard's use of the supernatural is a neat way to address the complexities of time travel, while allowing the protagonists and antagonists to move seamlessly between their two worlds. While not inspirational fiction, the genre Burkard is most known for, *Forever, Lately* is recommended for historical romance readers who enjoy a bit of time travel.

Reviewer

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