

POWERFUL DESTINY REVIEWS:

5 stars Notes from a Romantic's Heart—Nancy Fraser

Vikings are a personal favorite of mine, so I was eager to read author Tricia McGill's take on the time period. I was not disappointed. Her knowledge of the history is wonderful, as are her descriptions of both the good and the bad that came with the era.

The scenes set in Celtic/Norse history were well done, as was the notion of Brigid's sacrifice to save her fellow townspeople. The fact that she was drawn to someone so dis-similar from herself was not a surprise, as it's a genre staple for the historical romance. However, well written as it was, even the familiar was enjoyable.

I especially enjoyed the contemporary setting and the idea of two reincarnated lovers finding each other for a second time ... true soulmates.

If you enjoy historical romance with an added bit of fantasy (or, reality if you're a believer), then you will surely enjoy the latest book by this talented author.

5 stars "Powerful - an excellent word to describe this story." S. Peters-Davis

Rolf, a valiant Norseman, warrior, and leader of his people, in one lifetime, and a recluse and artist in another lifetime.

Brigid, a Celt, beautiful daughter of the leader, and captured prisoner, in one lifetime, and an outgoing, ready-for-life-to-happen woman in another lifetime.

Ms. McGill's knowledge of Norsemen and Celts accents the historical nuance in Rolf and Brigid's story, a thrilling epic love-story. One that I could not put down. Ms. McGill's descriptive word usage and the emotional depth of her story-stars drew me along as if I stood next to Brigid and Rolf through the entire story. A captivating soul-mate tale that will leave the reader thinking about the story-stars long after the last page is read.

5 stars "Reincarnation and Romance" Rosemary Morris

I enjoy novels with the theme reincarnation, so I chose to read McGill's novel Powerful Destiny, which gripped me from the first page to the last.

Part One takes place in Britain circa 850. A.D. when Rolf, a jarl, and his companions raid East Anglia. They defeat the Celts and search for their women.

Rolf's men 'looked at him – the light of eagerness clear on their grim, blood-spattered faces.' A child ran towards them. Rolf ordered his men not to kill him...it sickened him to see a female or a child killed for any reason.

Brigid, a Celtic princess, comes out of a cave and challenges him in Norse. 'In all his travels Rolf has never seen such a vision of loveliness. He caught his breath, the Celtic female was only fit to become a slave but, perhaps he could capture her heart.' He promised neither she nor the womenfolk would be harmed if they come out of their hiding place. She capitulates and realises Rolf is not 'a savage, bloodthirsty animal which rumour claimed'.

From the moment Rolf sets eyes on Brigid he knows she is his destiny. A destiny which does not end in their present lives but continues in the 21st century in Cornwall.

"From the top of the lighthouse, keeper Rolf stared at the raging sea "as it beat relentlessly against the rocks, spray rose high in the air." As a former member of the Merchant Navy, "the sea held no fear for him. In fact, he'd always loved it and the raw beauty that surrounded his unusual home."

In a bookshop he sees a woman whose head is bent over a book. "Long black hair obscured her face. Even though he felt sure he didn't know her there seemed to be something familiar about her." Rolf and the woman, whose name is Brigid, reach for a book about Vikings. A small white hand touched Rolf's. He jumped as though he had received an electric shock. I congratulate Ms McGill on her creation of a powerful romance that, despite all the setbacks in a Viking settlement in which an attempt is made to murder Brigid and her reconnection with Rolf in Cornwall. I look forward to reading more of this talented author's novels.

5 stars "Captivating story of enduring love" by Jan Selbourne

Ninth century Norse raids on Britain were brutal and decisive. Leave no man standing and the women for pleasure or slavery. Until Norseman Rolf comes face to face with Celtic Brigid, daughter of the slain Celtic leader. Her beauty and courage stop him dead in his tracks, he wants this woman. During their terrifying journey to the Norsemen's homeland, Brigid realises she must agree to his demands to ensure the safety of her kinfolk. In doing so, an intense love develops that will endure for years to come - to the present day. Rolf, a loner living in Cornwall meets a beautiful spirited widow, Brigid. The attraction is instant, unusual dreams are made clear. Are they descended from the powerful Norseman and his beautiful wife Brigid? I think so.

4 ½ stars Emily Carrington <http://emilycarrington.com/>

I am going to give this wonderful novel 4.5 stars out of 5. You are drawn into the wonderful, rich history of the Vikings and Celts. The only issue I had with the book was that it was too short and so the love story was hurried. I enjoyed the strong character of Brigid, who would have rather fallen upon a sword than be captured by Rolf. Her loyalty is clearly shown when she is given a choice to either become Rolf's woman or her countrywoman would be allowed to become slaves and no longer under his protection. This meant they could be either ravished or sent out as slaves. She is very much surprised on how much her passion is aroused when they make love.

Rolf is portrayed as a different type of a Viking, he cares for what happens to those that are weaker than him. His fascination and love for Brigid is fated to be. He makes sure that she is comfortable and all her needs are met. What he doesn't know, even though there was an oracle who predicted something would happen, was a woman who tried to poison Brigid. She thought that if Brigid was out of the way, he would marry her daughter.

Then we are brought to the future to two people who have the same name, and both have a fascination with Viking and Celtic history. When they meet in the book store the author does a great job of showing their attraction to each other and the confusion as to why they should feel like this. Neither one wants to let the other leave their sights, and both feel the pull that is like they knew each other from long ago.

This is full of such romance, loyalty, and history that I would highly recommend it to anyone who enjoys these topics.

4 ½ stars KRI "Reincarnation and Love" <https://thetiredbuyer.wordpress.com>

The Vikings were a greatly feared people, and they ranged far and wide. This was seen in how Ms. McGill explains Rolf in the first half of the story but when Rolf sees his "destiny" he realizes she's meant to be his although he is now her enemy and her captor. Brigid has to learn to accept the fate that has destroyed her life but offered her a new chance at happiness.

This story is all about reincarnation which is something I believe strongly in and is very warm to my heart. I just love how Ms. McGill explains everything in the story which is transcending. Ms. McGill has a wonderful knowledge about Vikings which sucked me into this book then did not let me go. In-fact there is no sugar-coating the horrors of the Viking raids and at that time, the raids were bloody and merciless. However, people of that time did not have the choices we have now. War and raids were a fact of life, especially along the coast.

The second part of the story takes place in modern times, when another Rolf, looking for a gift for his niece, bumps into a woman who seems eerily familiar, and he finds himself wondering if destiny, or fate, really does exist. A romantic fast moving book will sweep you away to another time and place then make you believe in a love ruled by fate. I'm pretty down with that and you should to.

4 stars JennM <https://jennifermacaire.blogspot.com>

I was excited to read another of Tricia McGill's books. I have to admit, I've been a fan of her writing since I read her first one!

Do you believe in reincarnation? Can passion travel through the ages? And do you think that there are people destined to be together? The story opens with a Viking raid on a Celtic village, where Rolf, the Viking leader, meets Brigid, a Celtic woman. There is no sugarcoating the horrors of the Viking raids. At that time, the raids were bloody and merciless. But people of that time did not have the choices we have now. War and raids were a fact of life, especially along the coast. The Vikings were a greatly feared people, and they ranged far and wide. When Rolf sees Brigid, he realizes she's meant to be his. He has found his destiny. But in a cruel twist of fate, he is now her enemy and her captor. Brigid has to learn to accept the fate that has destroyed her life but offered her a new chance at happiness. The second part of the story takes place in modern times, when another Rolf, looking for a gift for his niece, bumps into a woman who seems eerily familiar, and he finds himself wondering if destiny, or fate, really does exist. A romantic, fast moving novella - this book will sweep you away to another time and place, and make you believe in a love ruled by fate.

Highly recommended to readers of romance, historical romance, and time travel romance.

Fans of Barbara Erskine will adore this tale!

4 stars Katherine Pym "A lovely Tale of Past & Present."

I enjoyed this tale of past and present, long ago in the land of the Celts, Vikings and current day Cornwall, the description of which is wonderful. Made me want to go there and stare over the railing at the roiling sea. It was never mentioned, but it seemed the past Rolf & Brigid of ancient Viking lore switched when reincarnated into the present. Their names the same, Rolf of the past became Brigid of the present. The idea is a great one and it came as a lovely surprise. If you want to plunge into the seas of the past and present, then I recommend you read Ms McGill.

4 stars Iron Canuck <http://christinewoinich.booklikes.com/>

A powerful destiny through time. Enjoyed this easy quick read.

Fate, destiny, love. Strong through time. I enjoyed reading this story beginning with the Celts and Norsemen. Brigid was a strong woman, accepting of her fate, and realizing her destiny was with her love. Rolf knew his fate, his destiny was to be with this woman, and he treated her with such respect and reverence, beyond what was the norm for the time. They made a wonderful pair. Brigid and Rolf in the present had that instant attraction and were of a mind

to be honest about it from the start. I loved how the circle came around. I recommend this book.

I received an ARC as a gift through Goddessfish Promotions, and this is my unsolicited review.

4 stars FY Emerson “Loved the Premise”

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4 stars “True Love, Soulmates, Destiny, and Fate!!” Ally Swanson

<https://fabulousandbrunette.blogspot.com>

This book will make you believe in true love, soulmates, destiny, and fate!!

This book takes you on a whirlwind romance of two characters across two different time periods that shows no matter what setting they're in – they were always meant to be together!!

At first, we see Rolf and Brigid in a more complex backdrop, during 850 AD. Rolf is a Norse warrior that just invaded Brigid's homeland. Rolf killed the Celts there, including Brigid's father. However, after seeing Brigid, he is instantly drawn to her and decides to make a deal with her. If she agrees to be his, he will spare all the captured Celtic woman and children. She of course agrees, always thinking of others, even though she at first repulses Rolf.

Okay skip ahead a bit and now we are in present day Cornwall. Rolf and Brigid bump into each other at a local bookshop. Now, they don't know that they are reincarnations of those two earlier characters, but they are drawn to each other and feel like they have met before. There is serious instant attraction and it's super cute to see the chemistry and how well they fit back together.

The second half was definitely more my favorite part of the story. I loved the characters interaction trying to figure out how they knew each other and just how well they fit back in each other's life – like no time had passed. It made me think about those times when I meet someone and have that instant spark and feel like I know them from somewhere... Maybe I'm going to have to take that more seriously next time lol.

Although, as I just stated I like the second half best, I would be remiss if I didn't mention the first half being done exceptionally well with regards to creating the Viking ambience. The author did a remarkable job setting up the scene for the Viking raid on the Celtic village. It was very historically detailed, bloody, gory, ruthless, and fierce! Very Viking-ish if I remember my history lol.

It is clear that the author is well versed in her historical references which ups the ante to her romance writing as it gives them real-life and hard fact context.

The writing style is fluid, well developed, and at a steady pace.

All in all, I enjoyed reading this book and would absolutely recommend this book to anyone interested in a romantic, historical, reincarnation book.

4 stars Kimberley Love <https://www.kimmilove.com/>

“Given that I’m a fan of the TV show Vikings, I was a huge fan of this novel. I was hooked from page one and loved the way the author weaved her story. This reincarnation story is all about fate, destiny and love.”

3 stars Review by Merissa (reviewer at The Romance Review) Dec 06, 2018

<http://www.theromancereviews.com/viewbooks.php?bookid=27562>

POWERFUL DESTINY is a two-tone story--the first half is set in 850 AD, and the second in contemporary times. Both feature a man called Rolf, and a woman called Brigid, and tell you how the two of them meet, both in ancient times and now.

Three quarters of the book is set in 850 AD, with only a small part being in current times. This is partly what brought down my star rating from a four to a three. The contemporary side of it felt very rushed, compared to the first part. And the conversations between modern Rolf and Brigid seemed quite stilted at times. I found the premise of the book to be fascinating, and would love to read more about Rolf and Brigid. I just think I'm best to stay in 850 AD with them.

If you like books about reincarnation and soulmates, then I can most definitely recommend this one.