



Laird of the Black Isle

Paula Quinn

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This Highlander will risk everything to find his daughter...

Lachlan MacKenzie has nothing left to lose since his wife and daughter were killed. But when a shadowy figure reveals his little girl might still be alive, Lachlan will do whatever it takes to find her—even abduct a lass from the MacGregor clan for an exchange. Being caught would mean certain death. But the laird of the Black Isle won't let anything—or anyone—interfere with his mission...not even his beautiful, stubborn captive.

Even his heart

All Mailie MacGregor wants is to return home to her family. And the Highland beast who captured her can go to the devil. Her plan: to thwart him at any cost and win her freedom. But she never expected to be so drawn to the fierce warrior and the desire in his eyes.

Laird of the Black Isle Details

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Author : Paula Quinn

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From Reader Review Laird of the Black Isle for online ebook

Minx -The Genre Minx Book Reviews says

Laird of the Black Isle was one of those stories that had me debating a lot. The main character Lachlan MacKenzie had lost everything while he was defending what he thought was his duty to defend. With hindsight being twenty-twenty and all he had many regrets and had turned into a reclusive hermit. Despite his self-hatred and insistence of staying separate from others he still cared about being a good Laird to his people and looked out for them in his own way.

On the one hand he was a good man but on the other hand he was a monster because when offered a devil's deal, to kidnap a woman and hand her over to a vile man in order to learn information that will possibly lead him to his supposedly deceased daughter, he agreed to the deal. To Mailie MacGregor and the MacGregor clan, Lachlan was the worst sort of man because he was taking away another man's daughter and that was something Lachlan truly understood, that pain. To Lachlan though, he was truly remorseful for what he had to do but if his daughter was alive and he could find her, he was willing to do whatever needed to be done to see her again.

I felt for Lachlan because I can't say if I was in his position I would have chosen any differently, in fact I know I wouldn't have because I would do anything for my kids. I appreciated the fact that he questioned himself throughout the story and he struggled with the ethical dilemma. Although Mailie was initially furious that she was abducted and determined to escape from his clutches, although she was quite unsuccessful in her attempts, once she learned why she had been taken she understood why he did it and it put him in a new light for her.

Mallie was a great character and I appreciated that there was a realistic reason for her to develop a friendship with her captor. She might not have liked why she was taken but she could understand it and even wanted to help him somehow find his daughter, if she were indeed alive. That was realistic to me because I also would do anything I could to help someone find their child. So, when the relationship between Mallie and Lachlan took a turn for the more friendly it didn't strike me as a case of Stockholm Syndrome.

There were many great moments throughout reading Laird of the Black Isle! I loved the MacGregors! Despite not being in a major portion of the story, the part they did play was humorous and supportive, especially at the end. Speaking of the end, there was a twist to this story that I was not expecting and it was quite heart-warming. There is plenty of action, villainy, and touching moments in Laird of the Black Isle and I for one read it in one sitting. I highly recommend this book to those of you looking for a romance read that also calls into question your morality as you consider what choices you would have made if you were the Laird of the Black Isle.

This review is based on a complimentary book I received from NetGalley. It is an honest and voluntary review. The complimentary receipt of it in no way affected my review or rating.

Find this review and more at [The Genre Minx Book Reviews](#)

Hannah says

ARC REVIEW

The MacGregors: Highland Heirs #7, I am Loving this series. Lachlan MacKenzie is such an anti-hero and the whole feel of the book is very Beauty and the Beast. Mailie MacGregor is very head strong and fierce but also kind hearted and very loyal. Lachlan doesn't think much of himself anymore, not since his wife and daughter were murdered. In seeking their justice and murdering the blackguards in the same manner they killed his wife and daughter Lachlan became severely burned. Afterward he stayed hidden on Black Isle secretly helping his tenants only really having contact with his old nanny. Mailie is ready to fall in love and get married but being constantly surrounded by her intimidating brothers and cousins it's hard to meet a guy who's worthy enough to stand up to her notorious family. Lach is told that his daughter is still alive but that only way to find out where she is is to kidnap Mailie MacGregor. Lach knows it's stupid but to have his little girl back he'd do anything; just to know she was alive gives him reason enough to risk his life.

Mailie makes it as difficult for him as possible and she's determined she'll get away until she finds out his story. She sees him through the eyes of the villagers who look up to him and a little boy who idolizes him. She sees him take in an orphaned brother and sister even though it hurts him. She sees that way her father's fiercely loyal dog easily follows him. She knows he is a man who can stand up to her brothers a man who is worthy of her love and affection. After losing his wife and seeking revenge in the manner that he did Lach never thought he would be worthy enough for another woman's love but for some reason Mailie does. Mailie makes him want things he hasn't wanted in a long time but there is still the fact that he still has to choose, give her up for his daughter or keep Mailie and never know if his daughter is still alive.

Overall, out of the ones I've read this is probably my new favorite. I loved the character, I loved the romance, I loved the storyline. Even the bad guy was appropriately evil. The dog and the kids added a bit of humor to a tense situation and Mailie once you've earned her loyalty you will never lose it, she is brave and beautiful and willing to go out on a limb for those she loves. The romance and the suspense it's all well written, it pulled me in and wouldn't let me go.

Laura says

A sensual enemies to lovers historical romance with compelling characters and a plot that moves along at a nice pace.

Annette says

If it's Paula Quinn, it's a buy.

And the series on this family and all its branches will automatically be a 1 click for me. Mailie is such a spirited lass. Lachlan is lost in the dark and the tragic deaths of his wife and daughter. Or is his daughter still alive? Or is it a trick? Mailie caught the eye of the worst possible person who is tired of being denied. Will Lachlan actually be able to turn her over to him? She definitely keeps him on his toes and tried to bring life back into the castle. Steamrollers have less impact. She is true to get lineage.

The cousins are impacting the world and I am excited to read Adam's story next. Good story, Paula!

Marie Andersson says

The cover is hot! ?Yummy! I enjoy Paula's writing. I need my own highlander! ?

Tracy Emro says

Lachlan MacKenzie is a man with nothing to live for and nothing to lose, everything he loved was taken from him two years ago when his wife and daughter were murdered. Lachlan was a respected soldier in the Queen's army and a skilled warrior, but when his family is burned alive, he walks away from his career and hunts down the men that killed them. He kills all the men that stole his love from him and has the scars and the black soul to prove it. When Rannald Sinclair, the Earl of Caithness sends his lackey Robert Graham to find him and ask him to kidnap Mailie - Sinclair says they are in love and her father is keeping them apart, and the price he is willing to pay is worth the risk. Robert Graham tells Lachlan that his beloved daughter Annabel did not die that day and that Sinclair knows where she is and will give Lachlan the information once he delivers Mailie to him. Lachlan is not sure he believes Sinclair's claim, but he cannot help but hope and agrees to his terms.

Mailie, the daughter of Tristian MacGregor and Isobel, is at a market day with her cousin and five of her kinsmen, she wonders if she will ever find love like her parents and family have found, she has hope, but high almost impossible standards - she wants a knight like she has read about in stories and will settle for nothing less - certainly not Rannald Sinclair. When a distraction separates Mailie from her kin, Lachlan takes her. She doesn't go easily or quietly - much to Lachlan's dismay. He thinks he is helping her join her love, but even when he learns that is not the case, he still won't let her go. Mailie vows to escape and will be happy to see her kinsmen kill him - in fact, she will help them! She thinks he is a beast, he is scarred and brooding, he refuses to answer her questions and will not let her go, but even when she fights him, he never raises a hand to her. When they reach his island, her father's dog Ettarre finds them, but instead of attacking Lachlan, she lets him pick her up and lay her on Mailie's lap. They reach his castle and she tries to escape several times, but he always catches her.

Lachlan is attracted to Mailie, which surprises him, he has felt nothing for so long and has been alone with only his pain, that she turns his world upside down. Slowly they form a friendship of sorts, he tells her about his deal with Sinclair and she vows to help him. He slowly starts to come out of the darkness that he has secluded himself in for so long and when Mailie starts changing things and bringing two orphaned children into his home, he is unable to say No - They are forcing him to rejoin the living. Mailie comes to love her dragon, but fears what will happen if her family finds them before she can convince him to send her home. She also loves Will and Lily, the orphans that she has forced Lachlan to shelter. Slowly they break down Lachlan's walls and turn his castle back into a home. But Sinclair still wants her and her family is still looking for her - and she doesn't know how to stop the bloodshed that will surely ensue if her family finds her with him. He wants to let her go, but how can he turn his back on his daughter? And how can he live without this woman who has stolen his heart?

Mailie and Lachlan declare their love and vow to find a way to appease her father, find his daughter and live

happily ever after - but when Mailie overhears that her family is near, she takes off to intervene without telling Lachlan and ends up almost dying. Lachlan and the children can't believe she left them and Lachlan's fragile heart breaks all over again - but instead of retreating back into the darkness, Will and Lily give him a reason to carry on and as angry as he is at her, he is grateful for the gift she gave him when she brought the children to his home.

Mailie awakes on Skye and insists on returning - especially when she learns her father left her kinsmen with orders to kill Lachlan. She returns just in time and sees her beast in full on protective mode - he is amazing! When he sees her, he begs her forgiveness for doubting her and it seems like a HEA is theirs for the taking. But Sinclair is not done with them yet and before they can grasp their HEA, they will have more battles to fight and more tears will be shed.

This is an absolutely beautiful story, and that is saying a lot from me, because I am not a fan of second love - but I felt the connection between Lachlan and Mailie and I had no doubt that Lachlan loved his first wife, but that Mailie is his soulmate. The story has a bit of everything, action, fighting, steamy love scenes, adorable children, a lot of emotion and a swoon worthy hero. This is the 7th book in the Highland Heirs series, but it can definitely be read as a stand alone title with no problems. I loved this story and would happily recommend this book!

* I am voluntarily leaving a review for an eARC that was provided to me by NetGalley and the publisher*

Heather K (dentist in my spare time) says

DNF at 45%.

Couldn't get into it. I don't even feel like rating it...

Maggie Whitworth says

Awesome series, Lachlan and Mailie's
Book is just so good .
Full of adventure and tension , romance and emotion this is definitely one for all fans .

Barbara Rogers says

Series: The MacGregors: Highland Heirs #7
Publication Date: 5/29/18

Mailie is the kind of heroine I like – strong, feisty, undaunted, smart, complex, loving and can totally take care of herself. Add a flawed, wounded, scarred, braw, huge, yet caring and tender hero and you have an outstanding read! The prose is excellently written, the plot well thought out and presented and the characters

are very relatable and likable. The children, Will and Lily, were delightful and you just wanted to hug them. Then there is Ruth – we all need a Ruth in our lives. The MacGregor clan are all just sigh-worthy and we do get to see a fair amount of Tristan, our heroine's father, and Adam, future laird of Camlochlin, who is featured in the next book. Lest I forget, one of my favorite characters is, Ettarre, a devilish-looking hound with the most wonderful disposition.

I started out being sure that there was no way I was going to like Lachlan MacKenzie, Dragon Laird of Black Isle, Earl of Cromartie. His is a tragic tale of loss, suffering, and pain and when he was offered a deal with the devil, he agreed to inflict that same pain, suffering, and loss on another family. So, why would I ever decide to like him? Well, Ms. Quinn handles it wonderfully. She doesn't white-wash what he did and doesn't make it like it never happened – she makes it a tale of redemption, forgiveness, and love. He was always a sweet and wonderful man and when you hear his story, you will see why he shut himself away from the world with almost no human contact.

Mailie MacGregor is the much-loved daughter of Tristan and Isobel MacGregor. She is sweetness and light itself and always sees the best side of everyone and everything. She is also strong and smart and can usually take care of herself. As Mailie and her cousin Nichola are shopping in a village square they have no worries because they are surrounded by five MacGregor men who are twice the size of anyone else around. There is a distraction, one of the MacGregor's has been accused of theft – everyone charges over to protest – and – in a flash – Mailie is gone without a trace.

Mailie does all she can to get away. She kicks him, screams at him, flings herself away – you name it – and it doesn't even phase him. He puts her across his shoulders and takes off running – and he runs for what seems like forever. Then, he flings her over a horse and they are off again to a boat where he rows her for an interminable amount of time. He is huge, strong and inexhaustible! She has no idea where she is or how she will escape – but escape she will. She knows her kin will be looking for her and won't ever give up until they find her, then Lord help the man who has kidnapped her because her kin will kill him without a question asked.

Within a day Mailie is taking over his castle and him. She bores into him with question after question and demand after demand. She is slowly but surely cracking the shell he has built around his heart and his life. She is relentless. She won't let him shut her out – and the more she learns, the more she cares and the less she blames.

It is wonderful to watch these two find their way to their HEA. It takes a lot of work – on Mailie's part especially – but it is absolutely wonderful to see. I just know you'll love this book. There is also an excerpt from the next book, Highlander Ever After, in the back and now I can hardly wait for that one!

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"I requested and received this e-book at no cost to me and volunteered to read it; my review is my honest opinion and given without any influence by the author or publisher."

No Apology Book Reviews says

Could have been better but who cares because MACGREGORS!!

I would like to thank Paula Quinn, Forever/Hachette Book Group, and NetGalley for allowing me to read an ARC in exchange for an honest review.

Two years ago, Lachlan MacKenzie, Laird of the Black Isle, tucked himself away in his dark, empty castle to mourn the murders of his wife and four-year-old daughter. He provides for his tenants, but secretly, going about when no one else is stirring, wearing a hooded cloak to conceal his scarred face should anyone be about. His life now is solitary, isolated, and bleak—and he tells himself he wants it that way.

Then one day an emissary of Ranald Sinclair, Earl of Caithness, arrives, claiming his lord knows the whereabouts of Lachlan's daughter—his very much alive daughter. But in order to earn the knowledge of her location, Lachlan must do something for Sinclair: abduct Mailie MacGregor and bring her to him.

Mailie's fortunate in her circumstances to have lived to two-and-twenty without marrying. She hasn't yet met the right man; she wants one who can match the high standards of chivalric behavior set forth by her father and the knights from her favorite stories. The depraved monster who absconds with her definitely does *not* meet those standards. But as she learns more about him, she begins to wonder if he's truly a monster—or only a broken, desperate man.

I *adored* this book. It had its flaws, but I think this is my second favorite Paula Quinn book behind *Ravished by a Highlander*. Why? Probably because it had a lot in common with *Beauty and the Beast*, which is one of my favorite love stories. Not so similar that it seemed like a rip-off; more of a subtle homage.

Mailie was a stereotypical spunky heroine, but I didn't care; I loved her regardless. She fought back but didn't waste her efforts; she kept her head and waited for opportune moments. She stayed collected enough to devise plans and was willing to play the long game. And despite her standards, she wasn't a snob; she didn't really hesitate to consider the idea that Lachlan might be an okay guy—okay enough for her to care about, even respect. She was very mature, yet she had an energy and optimism appropriate for her youth. She had a gigantic heart that held no prejudice against anyone who didn't deserve it.

Lachlan might seem like one of those heroes whose greatest flaw is caring too much, but unlike the hero in the last book I reviewed, Lacklan had a legitimate dark side, an inner monster—aka a potential for deep rage and violence—that he struggled to keep in check and will continue to struggle with. I held a particular affinity for him because he was introverted; he valued peace and quiet, but he was happy to exchange it for the clamor of the people he loved. He was awkward, he stammered when put-upon, he liked to be alone sometimes—but for all his grumbling, he was a kind, selfless, level-headed man. I loved him with all my heart.

But yes, there were flaws. The middle dragged on a little longer than necessary; it could have been trimmed and slimmed enough to cut out a chapter, maybe two. At times it got pretty cheesy, but not so much that it was annoying. Hopefully the half dozen typos I noticed will have been corrected in the final copy.

I really think we could have benefited from more scenes establishing the villain and his motivation. He just didn't seem like much of a threat—though that could also be because Lachlan was overpowered (like,

seriously, his stamina was herculean). We could have seen Sinclair interact with Mailie and seen how subtly sinister he was, how much he creeped her out; then we could have seen him at home later, crumpling up a letter of denial from Tristan and deciding to use his leverage and set the plot in motion. It also would have been useful to have a scene showing how Sinclair's grudge against Lachlan started, better explaining the politics behind it. Not gonna lie, I was so turned around on the politics. The book kind of takes for granted that if you're reading it, you're familiar with Jacobite history. Of course the villain and his motivation was secondary to the romance, but that doesn't mean it's okay to gloss over the backstory—the reason why there's a story to tell.

I do regret the brief time we spent with Niall. We only saw that kid for two seconds but I felt in my bones that there was a fascinating story there. Something about that kid...

The plot could have been filled with holes, but most if not all of them were bridged with clever explanations or flawed judgment on the part of the characters, and it all came across as reasonable, even logical, to me. Kudos there, Quinn. And I have to admit, I couldn't decide if Sinclair's claims were true or false, so more kudos for walking that line; that's hard to do.

But why did Graham lie? I'm not sure I understand...

Anyway—naturally, the best part of the whole thing was the MacGregors. As soon as we started getting Tristan's POV, I sat up and gave it my full attention, which had been flagging from the progressively redundant middle section. I've loved Tristan since his own book, but I also knew switching to his POV preluded the second-act climax—meaning shit was about to go down. I was fully absorbed from that point to the end.

The more MacGregors, the merrier; I particularly enjoyed Adam and his banter with Daniel. I haven't read Daniel's story yet—he married Adam's sister—but I intend to before Adam's own story comes out in December. Speaking of, I read that first chapter preview—and remembered why I don't read previews! December's so far away...

Also, Adam's story will be the last MacGregor book! Quinn's currently researching other avenues to pursue, and I can't wait to see what she decides to write about.

noapologybookreviews.com

P. S. – For anyone who's confused as to the order of Quinn's various MacGregor books:

MacGregor Series – aka the grandparents

Laird of the Mist (2007)

A Highlander Never Surrenders (2008)

Children of the Mist Series – aka the children

Ravished by a Highlander (2011)

Seduced by a Highlander (2011)

Tamed by a Highlander (2012)

Conquered by a Highlander (2012)

A Highlander for Christmas (2012)

Highland Heirs Series – aka the grandchildren

The Seduction of Miss Amelia Bell (2014)
The Wicked Ways of Alexander Kidd (2014)
The Sweet Surrender of Janet Buchanan (2014)
The Scandalous Secret of Abigail MacGregor (2015)
The Taming of Malcolm Grant (2015)

(some divide the Heirs series into part 1 (↑) and part 2 (↓), but I think that just makes it more confusing, and Laird of the Black Isle is still considered Highland Heirs #8, so I just count them as all one series, myself)

A Highlander's Christmas Kiss (2016)
The Scot's Bride (2017)
Laird of the Black Isle (2018)
Highlander Ever After (2018)

Pj Ausdenmore says

I loved this book so much. From beginning to end, it grabbed my heart and never let go. I wasn't sure if Quinn would ever create a hero who could rival Tristan, Mairie's father, in my affections. It seems fitting that Lachlan MacKenzie, the man who gives his heart to Tristan's beloved daughter, should also be the hero to equal Tristan in mine. I loved the push and pull between him and Mairie, the snappy banter, the reluctant attraction, and the fact that even when she pushes him to his limits he never snaps but always treats her with care. As with Quinn's previous books, there's a fair amount of humor in this story as well as heartfelt emotion. The poignancy of Lachlan's interactions with the orphaned Will and Lily in the face of his own losses brought me to tears more than once. Mairie is a wonderful heroine and exactly what I would expect of Tristan and Isobel's daughter. Her confidence, compassion, intelligence, humor, bravery, and fierce protectiveness of those she holds in her heart make her a true MacGregor and a perfect match for Lachlan. I loved them, both individually and as a couple.

Laird of the Black Isle stands well on its own though, as someone who has read all of the books in this series, it was a special treat to see MacGregors from previous books make appearances in this book. I especially enjoyed the father-daughter scenes between Tristan and Mairie (the older Tristan is still as sigh-worthy as when he won Isobel's heart) as well as those between Lachlan and the MacGregor men. The resolution of the villain's storyline was quite satisfying (I may have cheered) and the twist at the end was a lovely surprise. Also, the more I see of Mailie's cousin, Adam the more excited I become for his book, Highlander Ever After, due to be released December 18, 2018. It's my understanding that this will be the last book in this long-running series. I think it may be time for a series re-read. These characters are among my favorites, their journeys well worth the taking, and while I'm sad that there will be no new MacGregors on the horizon, I'm looking forward to whatever Paula Quinn has in store for readers next.

Christie«SHBBlogger» says

[Yes (hide spoiler)]

Debra Martin says

Lachlan MacKenzie has a tortured soul for the past 2 years ever since his wife and daughter were murdered. He tracked down the 13 men responsible and killed them all, but it gave him no peace. He returned to Black Isle and became pretty much a hermit while still helping out the tenants who depended on him. When word comes to him that the unsavory Sinclair knows where his daughter is, Lachlan has no choice but to agree to Sinclair's terms and kidnap Mailie MacGregor and deliver her to Sinclair in exchange for the information about his daughter. What Lachlan didn't count on is for falling for the feisty Mailie. Can he do the honorable thing and release Mailie or will he do anything to find out if his daughter is alive?

I absolutely loved this book. I could feel Lachlan's pain and why he has become a hermit, thinking he had nothing to live for. Mailie, a loving and tender soul, slowly with tenderness and kindness shows Lachlan he could have a different future. The interaction and the chemistry between these two were wonderful and totally believable. I wasn't sure how all the plot points would be resolved, but Ms. Quinn does a fantastic job of wrapping up the story while keeping the reader turning the pages until the last one. Definitely recommend this one for fans who love Scottish romances.

I received a copy of this book in exchange for a fair and honest review, but I was not obligated to leave a review.

Tracy says

Paula Quinn is another favorite author of mine. I love how her books take me to another place and time as I read them.

Lachlan and Mailie were wonderful together in this book. Lachlan has hidden himself away after the deaths of his wife and daughter to lick his wounds and to try and heal. He's doing the minimum amount of work possible for the people in his care because he's despondant and hurting due to his own unimaginable loss. Mailie is a heronie who is easy to fall for she's smart feistey and will fight for what she believes in. The journey Lachlan and Mailie take is not an easy one but makes for a very interesting read.

This review was originally posted on Crazy Planner

Sissy's Romance Book Review says

Laird of the Black Isle by Paula Quinn is book Seven in The MacGregors: Highland Heirs Series. This is the story of Lachlan MacKenzie and Mailie MacGregor. I haven't yet read the previous book in this series, so for me this was a standalone book.

Lachlan is still lost after the death of his wife and daughter although he was quick with his revenge it didn't fill the whole that was left by them. When rumor swirls that maybe his daughter is possible alive he kidnaps Mailie thinking he can use her to exchange for information and or his daughter.

But almost as soon as he kidnaps Mailie he starts to understand she is more than an easy hostage. It does take

her long to start taking of his home and bring him out of his sadness. But can these two be more than what they stared off as?

Love Ms. Quinn's writing!!!!
