



## Lover's Knots

*Katherine Cross*

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## **Lover's Knots** Katherine Cross

Third Lieutenant Andrew Clayton wanted senior officer Daniel Barret from the moment they first met. Something about the charismatic man with the scarred knuckles and street-tough voice heats Andrew's blood and makes his body ache. He'd give up everything for just one taste of the forbidden-his position in Society, his commission...even his life. Daniel's sure he's losing his mind. Nothing else could explain his obsession with noble-born Andrew or his constant desire to spread him across the wardroom table and mark his fair skin. In His Majesty's Royal Navy, the punishment for their love is death. One misstep could have them both at the end of a hangman's noose. But everything changes when they're granted an unexpected leave. Far from the captain's watchful eye, Daniel agrees to one week-seven days to explore each other's bodies, to let four years of suppressed desire consume them-before they must return to their ship and the way things were. But some passions can't be tamed once unleashed, and some dangers are worth the risk.

## **Lover's Knots Details**

Date : Published January 2nd 2009 by Ellora's Cave (first published 2008)

ISBN : 9781419919558

Author : Katherine Cross

Format : ebook 105 pages

Genre : Romance, M M Romance, Historical, War, Military Fiction, M M Historical Romance, Historical Romance

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## **From Reader Review Lover's Knots for online ebook**

### **Julia says**

I enjoyed the writer's style and there were some pretty hot scenes, characters were great. I'd probably give this a 3.5 but with goodreads I'm bumping it up to a 4. My only "complaint" is that I would have liked a longer story with some more action out of the bed and in battle or something, more conflict somewhere. It's an enjoyable read, though, and has me looking at other books from Cross.

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### **Bo says**

The Only Way It Could Be

This is a gritty, deeply moving, MM Regency love story that takes place on the high seas and moves inland for a week where low born but high ranking Daniel and high born but his assistant Andrew secretly plot (from each other) their love for each other.

It is short enough to grasp and fly through, but not long enough in the in-bed parts. However, it is way, way off the charts in emotional anxiety and affection--and it ends with a sly grin and emancipated hope.

I loved it, a perfect beach or plane-ride read. Get it now.

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### **Trish says**

This was a nice love story. The writing was pretty flawless, i just wish it wasn't a historical british navy type background. Felt i was a bit bored at times reading about the insides of a frigate/ship etc..

But...lots of hot m/m sex and sweet love b/w the MC's which is why i gave it 4 stars. This author can really write a good love/sex scene. :D

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### **SheReadsALot says**

Muchas gracias, Secret Santa-bro!

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### **Sarah says**

Review soon @ [thefaeryromanticlibrarian.blogspot.com](http://thefaeryromanticlibrarian.blogspot.com)

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## Secretly Reading says

Originally reviewed for The Book Vixen

I can never get enough of good M/M historical romance and this short novella really hit the spot for me. Andrew and Daniel are very strong characters as they serve on a ship in Britain's navy and share a hidden attraction to each other. This novella very successfully builds a forbid romance between these two characters as they both fantasize about a sexual relationship between them. In this way, readers are invested in their forbidden feelings for each other and share in the hopelessness the men feel about their doomed relationship. The sexual intensity well matches the emotional intensity and I really enjoyed this romance. The ending isn't finite but gave me enough of a resolution to believe these two men were going to be just fine together.

The other enjoyable thing about this book is the villain is more than a villain. I really liked the development of his character as it hinted he'd play a role in outing Andrew and Daniel but how that unraveled was more complex than I thought. This novella packs a great story in such a tiny read and I really recommend it to fans of M/M historical romance.

\*review copy from publisher\*

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## Christina (SteepedinBooks) says

My Rating: 5 of 5

I highly recommend this book! It has everything I love in a romance - beautiful writing, unresolved sexual tension, sensual sex scenes, the right touch of angst, and tallships! I only wish it had a few more historical and nautical details in it, but that's just the history buff in me talking. If someone unfamiliar with tallships or the British Royal Navy were to read this, I think they'd still be able to enjoy it without being confused by the setting or the action.

<http://iheartpaperbacks.com>

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## Leslie Nicoll says

### BLURB

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Daniel is sure he is losing his mind. Nothing else could explain his obsession with noble-born Andrew or his constant desire to spread him across the wardroom table and mark his fair skin. In His Majesty's Royal Navy, the punishment for their love is death. One misstep could have them both at the end of a hangman's noose.

But everything changes when they're granted an unexpected leave. Far from the captain's watchful eye, Daniel agrees to one week—seven days to explore each other's bodies, to let four years of suppressed desire consume them—before they must return to their ship and the way things were. But some passions can't be tamed once unleashed, and some dangers are worth the risk.

## REVIEW

I love historical fiction so I was excited when Wave suggested this book to me for review. In particular, I have become a fan of British "Age of Sail" stories which is ironic, since for years my father pressed Patrick O'Brian books on me and I never even cracked them open. I think it was the fact that they didn't have the added allure of handsome officers in uniform tempting fate with their love...which is exactly what Andrew and Daniel do in *Lover's Knots*.

As the story opens, the reader learns that Andrew has been longing for Daniel practically since the first day they met four years prior. His feelings, however, are starting to become unbearable. His nights are filled with erotic dreams; during the day he can't take his eyes off the Daniel's chest...legs...arse. The time has come for Andrew to press his case.

Daniel resists, as he must, but something in his voice and his manner encourages Andrew to try harder to seduce the man he wants for his lover and ultimately, he succeeds. They have a seven day shore leave while the Captain celebrates his wedding and for all intents and purposes, they spend the entire week in bed. In other words, there is a long interlude with lots of hot sex.

The story does have a plot, however, and things happen and it is up in the air as to what will be the future for Andrew and Daniel. There is some exciting naval action with cannons, guns, swords, and invading Frenchmen. There is a bit of suspense and anxiety but nothing too angsty and it eventually wraps up with a satisfying conclusion.

My biggest complaint—and the reason I marked *Lover's Knots* down to 4.25 stars—is that the actual story doesn't really begin until the second half of the book. The first part is filled with Andrew's longings, his dreams and desires, and eventually, his affair with Daniel. Story-wise, things get going when their shore leave ends. While I like reading sex scenes (real or imagined) as much as anybody who frequents this site, I would have liked a bit more story woven through the entire book and not just saved for the latter half.

Even so, I enjoyed Andrew and Daniel as characters and was happy to spend a few hours of reading time with them. If you enjoy historical fiction, especially Age of Sail stories, I would recommend this book to you.

(originally posted on reviewsbyjessewave, 10/6/2009)

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## Raevyn says

3.5 stars

This story was sweet and I enjoyed reading about how Daniel and Andrew move from friends/co-workers to lovers. They fit together and the author relayed the rightness of their relationship very well. Since the story is from a period where homosexuality is illegal they have to hide their desire for each other and they could

have made for some very interesting situations. However, everything seemed to be easy for them, too easy. Even when they are caught, which is predictable from the beginning, they seem to have an easy time of it. The antagonists are very mean and it was all tied up too nicely.

Because I liked the characters I gave it 3.5 stars. It could have gotten a much better rating if there was more angst, more conflict, more anything that kept me engaged above and beyond my liking the characters.

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### **Gabriela says**

Loved this book. Full of hot, graphic sexy scenes which do not overshadow the story. You can just feel the wanting and passion emanating from these two sailors. **HIGHLY** Recommended to anyone who enjoys hot m/m stories.

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### **Jason Bradley says**

Although the backdrop was British Naval, it mostly focused on the infatuation and love between the two main characters. The story was blistering hot and well done. I'll be looking for more by this author.

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### **Sharon says**

This had some very sexy hot scenes that were very well-written. The only reason this didn't get five stars from me is that I wanted a bit more. There wasn't quite enough sex for me (they get a week of debauchery but there are really only two strong scenes...only two scenes for a week?) and not quite enough of the emotional relationship. We come into their relationship after years of friendship, so we just have to acknowledge that history and repressed longing. Then since they skip over so many of the week of debauchery, it also skips over the pillow talk, the laughter, and all related conversations that would develop the emotional relationship. So I felt that the emotions could have been stronger and the sex could have been more frequent...I felt cheated out of that week of just the two of them.

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### **Antonette says**

It was a good story. The love felt between Andrew and Daniel was intense and beautiful. Too bad the story couldn't have been a little longer to explore the characters deeper.

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