



The Captive King

Susan Copperfield

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In the Royal States of America, magic rules all, but life—and love—always finds a way.

At the Texas Charity Auction, money can buy anything, and Summer Cassidy is under orders to take advantage of the opportunity. While she believes the marital collar once worn by an Aztec queen belongs in a museum, it's up to her to sell the priceless treasure to one of the elite in attendance.

Meeting Bachelor #103, a man who finds her descriptions of human sacrifice charming rather than appalling, hadn't been part of her plans. Buying his company for a quarter hadn't been part of her plans, either.

One coffee date, a dinner, and a curse later, Summer's catapulted across the Royal States on an adventure that will forever change her life, alter the course of an entire kingdom, and give her a chance to earn a love capable of defying even death.

The Captive King Details

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From Reader Review The Captive King for online ebook

Lex Allen says

In the Royal States of America, magic rules all, but life—and love—always finds a way.

Summer Cassidy, a pre-doctorate archeologist determined to achieve that objective at all costs, is forced to sell a priceless Aztec necklace at the Texas Charity Auction to raise money for further exploration of a temple in Mexico. Here she meets Bachelor #103, a man who finds her description of human sacrifice charming rather than appalling. He buys her necklace for millions; she buys his company for a quarter. One coffee date, a dinner, and a curse later, Summer is thrown into a deadly adventure where magic, cinnabar, gods, and ghosts control her destiny as she struggles to solve a mysterious curse that could give her everything she'd dreamed of or cost her life.

In "Captive King," one of three stand-alone novels in the Royal States Series, Susan Copperfield has delivered a romantic fantasy tale of unequaled suspense, adventure, mystery and imagination. In a future world, that followed a revolution, the United States has been into individual kingdoms. The populations of these kingdoms consist of royals, elites, regular folks and a group of talents—those who can manipulate the elements, foretell events or determine a person's truthfulness; among other things. Summer is an earth weaver, prized at archeological sites for her ability to move, reshape, or excavate dirt and stone with her mind and hands. She discovers the jade, marital necklace, the crux of the story, she sells at auction, and kicks-off the events for the rest of the story.

"Captive King," is among the most compelling, imaginative and dynamic stories in this genre I've read in a long time. Summer and Bachelor #103, aka Landen, provide a constant series of the most facetious, sarcastic, and alternatively loving and allegorical dialogue I've ever read. Their story is fast paced, the characters beautifully and perfectly portrayed. The mystery and the magical elements of the story are mesmerizing and unforgettable. I've become a fan of Susan Copperfield and this series... it's irresistible.

T. says

Love the characters, love the series, but I can't say I liked this storyline. I'm not a fan of teleporotation-style stories (too much like time travel, I find them disjointed and confusing). The plot is easy enough to follow, and the romance is great, and the dialog is fun. Lots of good things to say, even with the strange feel of the plot. Can't wait to read the next book of the series.

Denise Fisher says

A wonderful, complicated story!

You will fall in love with Summer and Landon. The world she has created is unique. I could not put the book down. It was awkward with my tablet in bed. I don't usually read there. Buy this book you'll love it!

Sarah Peters says

[Alaska needed a woman from the outside to help them get their heads out of their asses? (hide spoiler)]

Jan Gable says

A very heart satisfying book

A total blend of everything that makes an excellent story. I haven't enjoyed a book this much in a while and I read an average of 5 to 7 books a week. Thumbs up to the author I can't wait to read more.

Moira says

27.5.2018 - 4,5*

Kdokoli z hardcore fantasy fand? - tohle je fantasy romance. Jen kdybyste si cht?li st?žovat, že jsem vás nevarovala. *smích*

Copperfield m? zasko?ila. Well, Royal States už v prvním díle p?edstavila charaktery, které jsem si zamilovala (navzdory n?kterým výhradám, které jsem k n?kterým ?in?m tu a tam m?la), p?íb?h je celkov? zábava, je to radost ?íst - originální a chytré, co více bych mohla chtít?

O to více tento díl. Rozhodn? lepší než první. Nejspíše to tak беру, jelikož to m?lo rozkošné pozadí. Chci ?íct, nejsem expertem na starobylé americké kultury (aka Mayové, Aztéci apod.) a hádám, že Copperfield užila t?žkou autorskou licenci, ale spleťla to dohromady tak dokonale, že jí musím smeknout.

(Když jsme u toho, pro? nepíše více amerických autor? o, well, amerických starobylých kulturách? I když Mezoamerických? Po?ád blíže než Evropa, Afrika atd. atp. *smích*)

Dob?e, ?etla jsem to p?edevším pro zaláskovanost, jelikož charaktery tady byly oba více mén? dokonalé, tentokrát m?l všech dvacet ode m? i hlavní hrdina, jelikož neud?lal žádnou drastickou botu, a hrdinka byla kompetentní a nebála se ?íct sv?j názor - nahlas a mén?-pasivn?/více-agresivn? - ale d?j a pozadí byly krásný bonus.

Skv?lá kniha na odreagování a pokud hledáte n?co neohraného, s dob?e zpracovaným fantasy prvkem a zárove?, well, v žánru romance. *smích*

Katherine says

Difficult to get into but satisfying to finish

I had a fair amount of difficulty getting into this book. It really came down to the protagonist. Summer is bold, snarky, and refuses to take any crap. But at the beginning I found her almost too abrasive. She was cynical about all royals and all men, and even when she met a guy she liked it didn't show. Her interactions with Landen were all about tests, and waiting for him to mess up. From that I didn't really get the feeling she was into him, but as soon as the magic starts all she talks about is finding Landen and marrying him. Between how she had acted and how she was saying she felt, I was having a lot of difficulty buying the

romantic connection, so it took a bit more story before I could really settle in and enjoy it.

As we learn more about Summer it becomes more obvious why she acts so harsh to the outside world. Between her education, her thesis, her power, and the men she worked with, she had a long history of all bad with no good, no matter how hard you worked. She was cynical as she looked to a future of more of the same. The magic that happens in the book make a life crazy, but it also gives her a chance to see a future that could be different than what she ever imagined. Between the magical trials and the people standing in her way to stop her, that future isn't easy to get to, but all the hard work she's done her whole life make her unafraid to fight. By the end Summer has a new future, and finally has happiness, which makes it all worth the troubles before.

Momo Chan says

I don't know how to review this without giving too much of the wonderful storyline away.

It's a tombr Raider meets billionaire romance adventure novel. It's like having all my favourite flavours of ice cream into one bowl. One scoop each. Enough to make me happy, because there's enough of all the flavours I want.

I must say I really appreciate the amount of effort the author puts into creating the history and myths for the ancient civilization in the story. I really felt like I went on a Lara Croft adventure, esp with the size of her boobs as described in the novel. This is a story I would like for Lara to have if she ever settles down from tomb raiding.

This novel has all the right elements. Kickass heroine, billionaire with unlimited funds, fantasy elements but in a modern setting with toilets and electricity. Highly recommend. (esp if you like romance without explicit sex)

Shasha says

Solid book 2 with loveable new characters

With archeology being the focus of the heroine, I was wondering how the title would be referenced. I was pleasantly surprised.

The heroine goes through so much! It was gratifying to see her grow and accept her own worth. The hero is fun and so good for her.

There is a lot of danger and a pack of rapists that get taken down.

A few typos but those were mostly in the beginning.

Elizabeth says

Fantastic, Indiana Jones with magic!

Sucked in from the first chapter.

When I was a practicing archaeologist I would have loved to had some of the magic used in the story. But our world is more mundane than the Royal States world. Sigh.

Cassidy is stubborn and possibly cursed, answer is in the book. She just keeps going when others would give up. This is who I am, take it or leave it personality.

Bachelor 103 may also be cursed, again in the book. He doesn't emerge as a more complex character until later in the book.

Definitely Cassidy's story with her personal growth a focus point. The two come together then separate several times but the story is compelling whether they're together or not.

Some hard issues in one kingdom are addressed, more is revealed of the overall world and the caste system that is based on magic. Some characters from Null and Void appear, subtly and not so subtly.

Terrific story, what I've come to expect from RJ Blain and why her books are on my auto buy list. Looking forward to the next Royal States story and definitely re-reading this one as soon as I can, I'm sure that I missed many details in my rush to read to the end.

Get the story and start reading, it's worth the lost sleep.

Katie says

I really liked this story and will be rereading it soon to pick up on the details I missed at 3 AM.

Cassidy is an interesting character who many a former doctoral student or intern will identify with and the book shows lots of personal growth kickstarted by an interesting evening with the H.

I was keeping my eyes peeled for updates on characters from Null and Void.

C17845 says

I really don't know what to say about this book. I have read nearly all of the books from this author and her pen names. I absolutely loved null and void, and have reread it countless time. I was looking forward to this book being released, preordered it as well.

I REALLY HATE to say this but I am only 25% into it and I am struggling to carry on, Cassidy is repeating her self a lot, there is a lot description about the temples and sacrifices and lethal poison. It good but I feel like it's a history book with odd bits of storyline. It nice to have some information but most of the first

quarter has been about history info. This might mean something later on in the book but at the begging it's just too heavy and boring.

The first chapter had the humour and quirkiness that I have come to love from this author, but since there is a lot of describing of temples and inner dialogue about the list of things she got to do, about how the university should have granted her doctorate instead of using her for cheap labour - we got it the first time. The FMC is treating every male like they seconds away from assaulting her - it's kinda degrading and make her seem immature and naive. It's really off putting and making what should be a enjoyable read into torture.

I don't know whether I am going to continue with this book, other reviews have been really positive and others have really loved the book, personally I think it down to individual taste. Some might like this book and some won't. It hasn't put me off buying other books from this author as this is the first book I have brought from her that I haven't liked.

K.J. Simmill says

Summer Cassidy was an earthweaver with a passion for archaeology. A passion her university exploited. Her talents made her an asset, she could manipulate the earth, unbury sites, all without the others needing to lift a finger. If she ever got her doctorate she would rise through the ranks and earn herself a comfortable living, that was, if she ever got her doctorate. She had failed twice, and it was only since the words of bachelor 103 that she realised this was a deliberate ruse by the university to allow them to exploit her gifts for a meagre sum. Fate had crossed their paths that night. She was devastated at having to sell a priceless artefact to fund their dig. But there is where the real trouble begins, anyone whose worth their grain in salt knows that with ancient artefacts come curses. Summer had never known the jade necklace, she would have changed everything, but it was too late for that, now she has no choice but to roll with the punches and attempt to set things to rights. Find out if she can succeed in Susan Copperfield's, *The Captive King*.

I really enjoyed how well Summer Cassidy's brash and stubborn nature was put across throughout the book, she is a strong character and her partnering with billionaire. I really enjoyed the infusion of history, and the world filled with magic. The book, while being Indiana Jones meets Tomb raider in some parts, is also m a lot about Summer's growth as a character. She really blooms throughout the book, and gains some great depths of character. I really enjoyed this urban fantasy, and it has certainly made me want to pick up more books in the series. If you're looking for an action-packed, thrilling adventure with magic and ancient curses then look no further than Susan Copperfield's, *The Captive King*, *A Royal States Novel*.

Hildegard says

Liked it

Decided to update my review upon rereading this series. The second time around, all the references to the Aztecs habits to ripping out beating hearts, failed to distract me from me actual story (I guess the shock value had worn off). Because of that I enjoyed the book a lot more, and decided to upgrade it to four stars.

Jane says

I seriously loved this book. The depth and detail of the information that is in this book is astounding. The MFC is an archaeologist digging Mesoamerican tribal temples and the drama, magic and intrigue that plays out along the story is amazing. A well written story full of depth. Can recommend it highly enough
