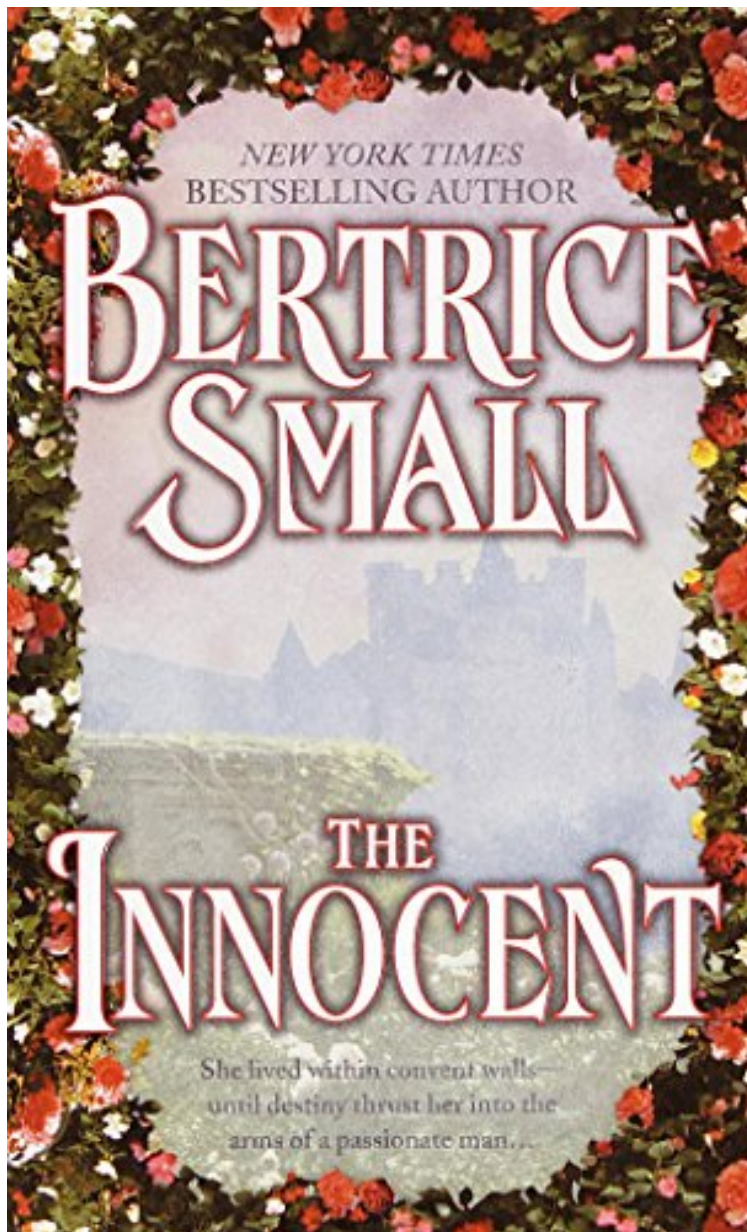


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The Innocent

Von Bertrice Small

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Von Bertrice Small : The Innocent before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Innocent:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Miss Goody Two Shoes Meets Mr. RightVon Ein KundeElf is too goody gumdrops for words. Her bland love interest,

Rannulf is another snore and a half. Two perfect people making perfect love in a perfect pastoral idyllic setting sharing their perfect dreams and lives...get the idea?Dull as day old dishwater. The villains are the opposite of perfect (which is why they are villains, I suppose?) In Small's world, the hero/heroine are boring and the villains (in spite of their skankiness or perhaps because of it?) shine. The gratuitous skanky sex, meanness, pettiness, evil tinged overblown dialogue, and ridiculous machinations of the villains are what kept the book going and remotely interesting. And that's not saying much! Shouldn't a romance be...well...romantic? Shouldn't the love story be the point? Shouldn't it be believable? (Note to the author--perfect and believable are not synonymous--nor is perfect and interesting one and the same!)It is sad when the bad guys are what keeps the pages turning and when the bad guys are the ones this reader invariable 'roots' for (at least a little). I couldn't relate to any of the characters and found this book largely forgettable--if only I could say the same about the money it cost to buy it! How dare they publish this mess in a trade edition!I'll bet Small is laughing all the way to the bank with this, her latest flimsy contribution. Isn't that just perfect!0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. If you like Small, you will like thisVon Ein Kunde.In 1152 England, the Lord of Ashlin Manor, Richard de Montfort, marries Isleen de Warenne. With both of her parents dead, Richard's in-laws convince him to send his five-year old sister Elf to live in a monastery. Nine years later, Elf returns home because her brother is dying. Since he has no legitimate children, Elf inherits the estate.Elf learns that her sister-in-law Isleen is evil and probably poisoned Richard. Isleen shares her bed with her cousin Saer. Their plan is to bury Richard and have Saer rape Elf so that she is forced to marry him. Elf is rescued and the King marries her to his loyal knight Ranulf. As Elf and Ranulf fall in love, their land prospers under their intelligent, pragmatic, but just rule. However, Isleen is not finished with the woman she blames for all her troubles and failures. With the help of the evil Welsh Lord Merin ap Owen Elf is kidnapped. Ranulf will do anything to accomplish the safe return of his beloved.NY Times bestseller Bertrice Small returns with a new erotic Medieval romance that will thrill her vast legion of fans. The story line is very interesting and the characters are very well developed, but readers need to be aware that the novel places strong emphasis on rough sex, especially sado-masochism. Additionally, Ms. Small has scribed the same plot several times before. Still her large audience will savor Ms. Small's latest entry, THE INNOCENT.Harriet Klausner0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Very light-weight for Small -- I think she needs a vacation.Von Tami A. JonesHaving been a Bertice Small fan since 1978 ("The Kadin" is still my favorite book), I've seen her have ups and downs in the quality of her plots and characters. This book is definitely a down -- it could have been so much better. I guess what I missed most in "The Innocent" was the attention to detail one finds in most of her other books -- there just were not as many details about the clothes, food, lifestyles, politics and culture of the time. There were also several missed opportunities where confrontations between the characters could have been so much more intense. Yes, it took a little while for Elf and Ranulf to consummate their marriage but there was never any sense of sexual tension generated between the two. There could have been some real heat,even without sex, between Elf and Merin. Merin should have fought a little harder to keep Elf. And I would have loved to see a more "dangerous" confrontation between Elf and Isleen. Oh well, I can only help Small's next book, featuring the descendents of my beloved Cyra/Janet from "The Kadin" is back to her usual excellence.

KurzbeschreibungTo open up a novel by Bertrice Small is to surrender to the deepest longings of the heart. In her sensational bestsellers, she sweeps us to the far corners of the globe and into the most sensual places of desire. Now in The Innocent, she takes us to the wild Welsh borderlands of England, where a young beauty ready to embrace her religious vows becomes the pawn of desperate men. . . .Deceptively fragile-looking, Eleanore of Ashlin had promised her life to God . . . until fate intervened. With her brother's untimely death, Eleanore--known as Elf to those who love her--becomes the heiress of an estate vital to England's defenses. She is ordered by royal command to wed one of the king's knights rather than take her final vows. With resistant heart, but ever obedient to King Stephen's will, she complies.Ranulf de Glandeville is all too aware that his innocent bride wants no man; yet his patience, gentle hand, and growing love for his spirited young wife soon awaken Eleanore to passions she never knew, or desired . . . until now.But their love is not secure from the wicked schemes of an evil woman who hates Eleanore with all her black heart--and she will seek to destroy the innocent in a depraved plot that will put Eleanore's life in jeopardy and her faith in love to its greatest test. . . .From the Trade Paperback edition.KurzbeschreibungTo open up a novel by Bertrice Small is to surrender to the deepest longings of the heart. In her sensational bestsellers, she sweeps us to the far corners of the globe and into the most sensual places of desire. Now in The Innocent, she takes us to the wild Welsh borderlands of England, where a young beauty ready to embrace her religious vows becomes the pawn of desperate men. . . .Deceptively fragile-looking, Eleanore of Ashlin had promised her life to God . . . until fate intervened. With her brother's untimely death, Eleanore--known as Elf to those who love her--becomes the heiress of an estate vital to England's defenses. She is ordered by royal command to wed one of the king's knights rather than take her final vows. With resistant heart, but ever obedient to King Stephen's will, she complies.Ranulf de Glandeville is all too aware that his innocent bride wants no man; yet his patience, gentle hand, and growing love for his spirited young wife soon

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Synopsis When her brother dies and she becomes heir to her family's strategically valuable estate, Eleanore of Ashlin is ordered by King Stephen to marry one of his knights.