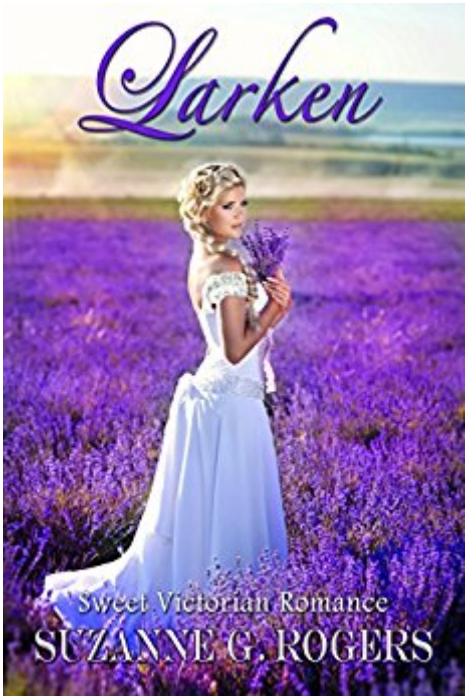
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Larken (Graceling Hall Book 1)



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Synopsis

The sole survivor of a train accident, young Larken Burke is dubbed the Miracle Orphan. Four years later, however, her life is far from fortunate. Because of her emotional and physical scars, she believes sheÃ¢â ¬â„¢s not marriageable. With little hope for the future, she agrees to wed a gentleman sheÃ¢â ¬â„¢s never met. Unfortunately, his aloof manner proves difficult to bear.Marked by romantic tragedy and the loss of his brother, Brandon King has forsworn marriage. Obliged to take in a ward, he advertises for a bride to raise the boy. Since the union is to be a marriage in name only, his criteria are youthful age, a certain level of intellect, good breeding, and that the girl shouldnÃ¢â ¬â„¢t be so ill-favored she would embarrass him in society. To his dismay, he gets more than heÃ¢â ¬â„¢d bargained for.Will it take a miracle for Mr. and Mrs. King to fall in love, or is their marriage another accident waiting to happen?

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Customer Reviews

I really liked this novella. It’s the third book I’ve read by this author; the first two being,Ã Â A Gift for Lara (The Love Letters Series Book 1)Ã Â andÃ Â The Ice Captain’s Daughter. Just as with this

book, both books were well written with interesting storylines. I only gave A GIFT FOR LARA three stars; not because there was anything wrong with, but rather because I just didn't enjoy the story as much, because for me it had too much of a young adult feel. In any event, THE ICE CAPTAIN'S DAUGHTER was a much better reading experience for me, and I gave that book four stars. Now that I've read LARKEN, I can say with confidence that Ms. Rogers is fast becoming one of my favorite authors of novellas. IMO her books do not suffer from the typical drawbacks most short stories do; specifically, underdeveloped storylines and characters. Instead, Ms. Rogers manages to achieve a fully explored plot, while giving the read enough insight into her characters' thoughts and feelings so they seem like real people.The story begins during the days in the immediate aftermath of the train accident that took the lives of Larken's parents. My heart broke for the lack of empathy that was shown to the young, newly orphaned Larken. The story then jumps ahead some four years to the last days of Larken's life with her odious foster parents, before she is unceremoniously shipped off to marry the hero, Brandon, sight unseen! By the time Larken meets Brandon at the altar, I felt like her knew her and had already established a connection with her, so when Brandon's behavior is less than gracious, I, like Larken, found him to be quite unlikable. Luckily, Brandon's transformation begins fairly quickly. As Larken--and I--got to know Brandon, and more about his past, we both came to love him.Larken, in particular, is an adorable character. She has a quiet strength and does not take any crap from Brandon. She's outspoken when necessary, without being overly dramatic; I loved her spirit! What I especially loved is the fact that Larken doesn't just fall into Brandons arms when he decides that he wants a true marriage, but instead makes him work for it!! Brandon's ward, Myles, is an adorable five year old who adds a wonderful element of family to the story. The interactions between Brandon and Myles also allows the reader to see another aspect of Brandon's character. The story that unfolds is romantic, sweet, and intriguing and there are twists and turns that were unexpected--at least to this reader.In any event, I really liked this book. It's my favorite of all the novellas that I've read by Ms. Rogers so far. I highly recommend it to anyone who is looking for a quick, sweet, uncomplicated romance. If I could, I would rate it 4 1/2 stars. FYI this is a clean romance. Happy reading!

Larken is the kind of book I love to read! It has a beautiful cover and the story pulled me in and kept me there the entire time! From one page to the next I thought I knew where the story was going, but Rogers threw me several curve balls I didn't see coming! I was rooting for Larken the entire time and felt I came to know her. Myles was such a breath of fresh air, I loved every scene he was a part of! He was an endearing little boy! If you think you have this book figured out, just stop there! This is

not your typical historical romance, it is so much better!!! I am still reeling from the final curve ball of the book! If you are on the fence about buying this book, do yourself a favor and click the purchase button, you won't be sorry!!!

This was a very sweet, straight forward story. I loved Larken. She was a well developed character, and I also liked that she wasn't perfectly adjusted and was still dealing with emotional scars. However, those scars didn't prevent her from being a caring person. I really loved Brandon, too. He was awesome.The story is pretty simple: mail order bride marries stranger and they fall in love. I liked that their relationship grew naturally, and I also liked that it didn't have them keeping secrets from each other or doing things to prevent the growth of a relationship. I always hate that in romance novels. I also hate when characters spend 75% of the book pretending they don't care about each other. Brandon and Larken put effort into developing a relationship, and the result was very sweet. I do wish it had been a little bit longer just because I really liked watching their relationship grow.All the issues were resolved in this book for the main characters. However, it does set up for future books about characters introduced in this one.I would recommend this book to anyone who likes a sweet, light romance. There was no sex and no bad language.

I found this book excellent for its purpose: light reading and relaxing enjoyment. It was, I thought just your run of the mill historical romance. I was very gratified to find that if was more. As a theatre teacher I always trained my students to know their character's back stories.I can see that the author put quite a bit of thought into her character's back stories. Much if the plot depended upon that, but they were so beautifully detailed and everything seemed to tie up so neatly that I look forward to reading the next book very soon, much Sooner than usual. There is one question left unanswered, but I bet that will happen in book two.An intricate plotline, interesting characters both good and had with the added twists and turns of a mystery novel well enough written that I did not know the end from the start... Unusual, exactly what I needed tonight. I'd highly recommend it, A great Beach book, and great to help one escape the constant drama of a large family.

Larken, is a great romantic read, with a little suspense and intrigue. Larken is orphaned at age 14, and was placed in an orphanage after her parents died in a train crash, and Larken was the only soul survivor. The orphanage owners treated her ok, yet they stole from Larken anything of value, and impressed upon Larken that she was undesireable and greatly disfigured that no one could ever truly love her. The owners had answered and ad for a mail order bride for Larken, and sent

Larken off to be married to a stranger and to be a caretaker of a 5yr old boy.Larken is a sweet young girl, that is enjoyable to read how she over comes her fear of riding a train, she is sent off to marry a man that wants nothing to do with her, but for her to take care of his new young ward, but Larken ends up finding everything in life that she thought she would never have and then some. Larken and Brandon's story is sweet, exciting, suspenseful and very enjoyable read that I couldn't put the book away until I finished. A tasteful well done story, I really enjoyed.

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