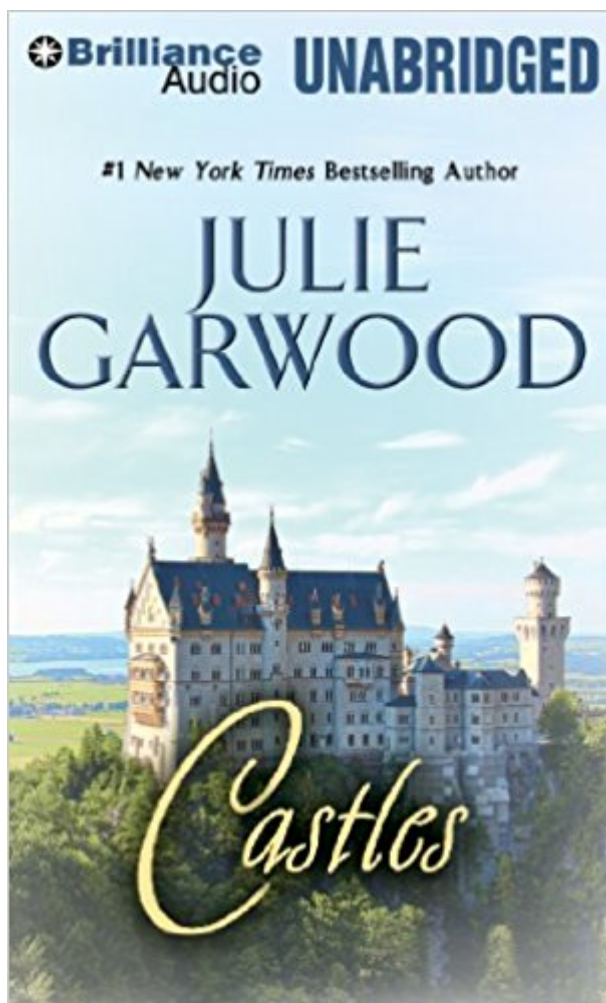




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Castles (Crown's Spies)



Synopsis

Orphaned and besieged, Princess Alesandra knew that only hasty marriage to an Englishman could protect her from the turmoil in her own land. To the amusement of her makeshift guardian, Colin, younger brother of the Marquess of Cainewood, the bold raven-haired beauty instantly captivated London society. But when Alesandra was nearly abducted by her unscrupulous countrymen, the fighting instincts that won Colin a knighthood for valor were kindled. Deceiving himself that he wanted only to protect her, Colin swept her into a union meant to be a marriage in name alone...yet Alesandra's tender first kiss and hesitant caress ignited a wildfire in his soul. As the lovely princess dashed headlong into unforeseen dangers, Colin would follow, knowing he must claim her as his own forever. Now he would risk life itself before he would lose this sweet, tempestuous angel...

Book Information

Series: Crown's Spies (Book 4)

Audio CD

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> [Authors, A-Z](#) > (G) > [Garwood, Julie](#) #1062 in [Books > Books on CD > Science Fiction & Fantasy](#)
> [Fantasy](#) #1199 in [Books > Books on CD > Romance](#)

Customer Reviews

Princess Alesandra (of some unspecified country) has been happily tucked away in a convent, but in 1820 the wicked General Ivan indicates that he has designs on the princess: if he marries her, he can take over the kingdom. Alesandra's guardian, the Duke of Williamshire, brings her to England to assure her safety. Unfortunately, the duke and his wife become afflicted with a "mysterious ailment

"Charming, sweet, funny . . . a story that flies." -- Romantic Times (Romantic Times)

Aaah but don't'cha just love these handsome, arrogant, big Alpha men that JG gives us to slobber

over? And WHERE does JG retreat to..to dream up these wonderful stories? She usually doesn't fail to deliver...however this story isn't par for the course. Even though it was a fantastic plot full of romance (but of course m'dear!)..mystery, intrigue, adventure and murder...we're left with two sub-plots...One concerning the mysterious and, (we're told) evil General Ivan from some unknown Country (can anyone give us a frikkin' clue?)...and a serial killer run amok.I loved Princess Alessandras' character...but found it odd that this woman of high intelligence acted..at times, like the perfect ditz. hmmm...Just didn't make a whole lotta sense. ok, movin'on...Colin was always true to his character and never lets us down, all the while dealin' with a painful injury and comin' to grips with so many life altering changes suddenly tossed in his lap...tryin' to trip up his plans to build a Shipping empire...and even though this story had me sayin' "huh"? to myself a couple'a times and was...at times...somewhat predictable...I gotta admit I still found it quite enjoyable and definitely worth the time/effort. I dunno...maybe I just need a life!?!All the secondary characters; Caine/Jade, Nathan/Sara, butlers, parents & siblings are all brought back for a thoroughly delightful dialogue with humorous situations regardless of a serial killer lurking in the shadows.

1. The characters are very likeable and entertaining.2. Garwoods humor is laugh out loud at times.3. All of the favorite characters from the first two books play active roles in this one.4. The storyline is original, well plotted, and fascinating.5. The dialog, for the most part, is witty and realistic.6. Alessandra is a clever, rational, well balanced heroine who usually manages to get what she wants by wit and guile. She is as strong a personality as Colin, but still remains completely feminine.7. Colin is the perfect romantic/suspense hero, but also very human. His rough edges and realistic responses to his and Alessandra's situation makes the whole story feel believable.8. In spite of the serious threats to Alessandra from "The General", (a man determined to Marry her to gain control of her homeland), and her mission to find out what happened to her best friend who mysteriously disappeared, this book is a fun read. Ms Garwood is a genius at balancing romance, suspense, humor, and day to day life and making it fascinating!9. Julie Garwood is one of my top four favorite historical romance writers, along with such greats as, Georgette Heyer, Elsie Lee, and Amanda Quick. If you like this genre, you can't miss with any of her books.10. Last, but not least, while this book is a stand alone, you will like it even more if you read the first two books in the series: "Guardian Angel", and, "The Gift".

I recently reread this story together after rereading the 3 preceding books in the series. Sadly I didn't enjoy this one nearly as much. There are lots of other summaries and reviews so I'll just say that

this one was too modern in feeling, I felt like it was the Regency version of "Criminal Minds". The dialogue between the main characters had lots of modern moment that were jarring too. I wonder if the author wasn't pressed by a deadline to finish this book - it would explain so much.

Garwood brings the characters to life with humor, romance and drama. I have reread this series over the past few weeks and remembered why I felt like I had lost touch with good friends when I finished it last time. If you want a well written historical read with characters you can connect with, laugh and cry with, then these are your books and this is your author.

This is book #4 of the crown spies series and after listening to Susan Duerden tell the story of the first 3 series, the 4th is a total let down. The voices of the characters changed for the worse. The 4th book Castles was read by Heather Wilds, every time she says the name Collin it sounds like Colon. Collins voice is so different from the first 3, you can't believe it's the same character. Alesandra's voice is even worse. It's like she has no emotion in her voice it's flat. And I can't understand her half the time. If I would of known there would be such a change I would not of bought the cd. But who would of thought after doing 3 of the cd, they would change the performer. The story line is good I just can't hardly stand to listen to it. I am soooooo disappointed!

I love Julie Garwood and this is one of her better books. It is the last in a quartet so it ties up all the loose ends.

I read this twice in high school. It has not lost any of its charms. It depends laugh out loud at some parts.

I just requested a refund because this book is actually a reprint from the 1990s. I love Julie Garwood's Regency romance/adventure books so much that I've held on to them - but it wasn't until I started this one that I realized I HAD read it already and went searching for my copy. There are at least 3 others in the same state (& yes, I requested refunds on them also) so buyer beware - BUT if you haven't read it, you WILL enjoy it!

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