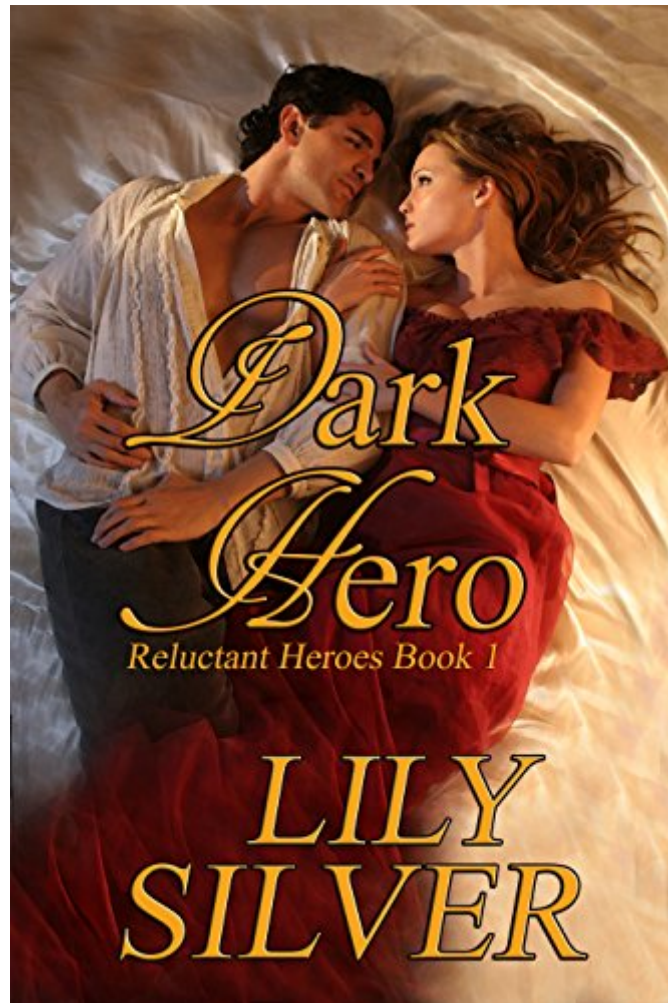


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# Dark Hero; A Gothic Romance (Reluctant Heroes Book 1)



## Synopsis

Elizabeth is a survivor. Betrayed, kidnapped and left for dead, she awakens on a ship bound for the Indies, in the bed of a stranger claiming to be her husband. As she recovers from her ordeal, the gift of the seer emerges; the ability to see and speak with the dead. A descendant of druids, Elizabeth knows she must hide her strange gifts as her new husband could claim she's insane and commit her to a madhouse. Can she trust this Dark Hero her grandmother conjured from the Gothic romances Elizabeth once devoured? Donovan survived betrayal, imprisonment and torture. Deception and subterfuge are the weapons used to keep people at a distance. Donovan's penchant for deception and disguises may be his undoing when his bride awakens after her rescue and doesn't recognize him. As he struggles to rekindle their love, he fears he may be locked in a prison of a different kind; a loveless marriage to a woman who fears him and cannot abide his touch. The Reluctant Heroes Series: Bold Men, Independent Women; finding true love was never in their plans! Book One: Dark Hero, A Gothic Romance Book Two: Bright Scoundrel Book Three: Gallant Rogue

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I don't get the 4-5 star reviews. I thought this book was a hot mess. It seemed like 3 or 4 books that got mushed together. Too many story lines all going in different directions with few explanations. I

had a lot of why's during reading:1. Why did he feel a need to pretend to be several different people and wear disguises? Were we supposed to believe it was due to his capture/torture? If so, how did this cause the need for disguises?2. What was done to her to cause the head injury? The book talked about attempted rape and hair pulling, and hitting her head. But for her to forget two years of her life and start having seizures that then just went away left me asking why?3. Why did the author feel a need to add yet another story line that added hokey ghost and supernatural powers?4. Why, once the brother/heir was an adult, did he not try to contact his family?5. Why was the heroine so reluctant to tell the truth about her mothers murder when she was married to a man who could protect her and thought the murderer (her stepfather) was an ocean away?I read the book all the way through thinking that it had to all make sense at some point, but it never did.

I got annoyed with Elizabeth's mercurial mood but thankfully Donovan was more patient with her than I was. The mood swings remained but were more understandable with the near epileptic episodes she kept having. Throughout it all, ghosts, pirates, bad bad men, it was a very good book that really held my attention prisoner. The romance was beautiful, and when they finally made love it was very well written, delightfully slow, and yes, hot. This is a book to lend, get back, and read again. My ONLY problem came with the utterly abrupt ending. I felt a bit at a loss when I reached the last page. I am guessing that one of the sequels take care of this but if I never read them then all I am left with is this book.

Dark Hero is historical paranormal set in England and the West Indies. In the story we meet Elizabeth the daughter of English noblewoman who is murdered by her 2nd husband, an army captain with a gambling problem. Sheila, Elizabeth's grandmother uses her Druid magic to call forth a Dark Hero to love and protect Elizabeth someday. Two years later Elizabeth, her grandmother and brother are living in near poverty when she finally meets her hero in the form of Donovan Beaumont. A tortured soul himself, Donovan marries Elizabeth and takes her to his plantation in the West Indies. Where to two must overcome many obstacles if they are to save each other and find their Happily Ever After. Overall I really enjoyed this book and would recommend it to any romance reader who enjoys paranormal romance. The characters were likeable and sympathetic. The author used the perfect combination of history and paranormal elements to weave a captivating story that takes the reader on a roller coaster of ups and downs. The characters' actions are plausible given the setting and circumstances. The reader finds themselves rooting for everything to work out for the hero and heroine so that they both can finally put their pasts behind them and embrace their new

love. I heard that this is the first in a series and that the author is currently working on the second book. I will definitely pick it up when it comes out.

I could not believe how few reviews there are for this book. Rarely do I find a book either good enough or bad enough to log on and write a review, this was worthy of the time. The characters are well developed, the grammar and editing was clearly paid attention to, and the plot remained consistent and intriguing. Can you say yes please!? This is the type of romance novel that isn't rife with sex scenes, there are very few and they are by no means explicit, but the actual story that it told was absolutely enjoyable. Not only was this story unique, it had depth and breadth that was an exceptionally pleasant surprise. The hero of this book is believable and equal parts gallant and rogue. Both main characters are realistically flawed and the supernatural theme kept the story moving at a pleasant clip while remaining interesting. I couldn't put it down! I definitely recommend to anyone looking for a romance book that's about the romance, and not steamy scenes. This well written novel is worthy of your time.

This author was all over the place and the H/h fall in love within a few hours together. So much so that he contrives to marry her. That he goes around incognito was equally silly to me. He changes his accent and wears an egg and oatmeal disguise all over his face. She can't recognize him or his beautiful eyes and he has to verbally identify himself. She is SOOOO relieved and they share a passionate kiss with this stuff covering his face. Really. It was a struggle to keep reading and then it just got to absurd for me. I quit reading and am glad this one was free.

The above reviews have stated what happens within the novel so I won't repeat them here, but will add that the story moves from beginning to end with plausible (and scary!) events that had me reading on to learn the secrets that power the plot. The characters are believable given the varied circumstances and settings from England to the West Indies. I was as puzzled by Donovan (the Dark Hero) in the beginning as was the heroine, Elizabeth, herself, but I wanted to know more of their frustrating relationship. Suffering from seizures and loss of memory following trauma, she has more than one problem to conquer, and gaining the trust and love from Donovan becomes a challenge. Additional family members and minor characters add interest and intrigue. The story climaxes with a bloody confrontation and ancient spirits fighting for truth and right, and all in all results in a thoroughly satisfying read. I look forward to Silver's next book!

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