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## **Gabaldon, Diana. *Outlander***

This year marks the 20th anniversary of *Outlander*, a legendary book that really has it all: time travel, romance, history, adventure and infinitely more. The story opens on Claire Randall, a strong-minded and independent nurse who is vacationing with her husband, Frank, in the Scottish Highlands after being separated for years by WWII. While investigating an interesting flower growing near a Stonehenge-type structure (botany being one of her many talents), she stumbles into a crack between two stones and is transported to 1743, landing smack in the middle of a battle between the English and Scottish clansmen. Claire, at first a captive of the Clan MacKenzie, proves herself invaluable because of her skill with "healing" and becomes quite comfortable in her new situation, despite being a suspected English spy. A romance soon blossoms between Claire and the mysterious outlaw, Jamie, and she finds herself being held to that time and place even more, despite her complete foreignness, the constant danger and her husband still living in 1945.

The plot is full of twists and turns, clan politics, witchcraft, battles, close escapes and a certain villainous English Captain who strangley resembles her husband back home. Although not a slim book (over 800 pages), you will be glued to every page. A great vacation read for historical fiction, romance and adventure fans. Find out what all the buzz is about and why *Outlander* is still such a sensation after twenty years.

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