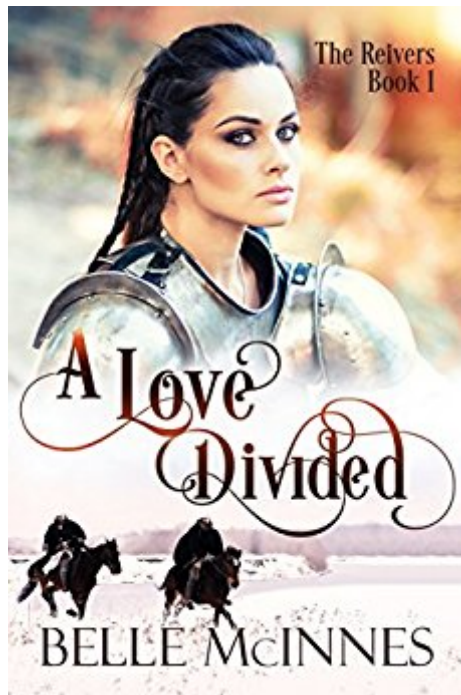




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# **A Love Divided: A Scottish Historical Romance (The Reivers Book 1)**



## Synopsis

\*\*\* Mary Queen of Scots is on the throne, and the frontier between England and Scotland is a powder-keg \*\*\*More interested in raiding into Scotland with the rest of her clan than womanly pursuits like embroidery or finding a husband, Alexandra Graham is a feisty English heiress who rides and fights as well as any man. But when a daring rescue goes wrong, she ends up in the dungeons of Scotland's most forbidding castle, prisoner of the notorious Earl of Bothwell and at the mercy of the Queen's justice. As Deputy Warden responsible for keeping the law on the Queen's borderland, Michael Cranstoun is a Scottish laird with a reputation for fair-mindedness and the looks of a viking warrior. But when he meets the beguiling Alexandra, both his life and his honour are at risk - not to mention his affections. With more than just the border separating them, Alex and Michael are on opposite sides of an ancient divide, and destined for different paths. But a shared love for horses draws them together and kindles a passion that respects no boundaries, endangering more than just their hearts...Please note:- This novel was written by a Scottish author, and therefore uses British English spelling and grammar :-)- This is a complete story with a HEA - no cliffhangers!- However, if you enjoy the story, read more of Mary Queen of Scots and the intrigues of her court in 'A Love Beyond', [amzn.com/B06XXCX5MQ](https://amzn.com/B06XXCX5MQ)

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## Customer Reviews

I loved this story. The author has done a lot of research and I felt transported back in time. I could not put this book down until I finished reading it. This book is easy to read, the story just sailed along. Great work for the first attempt of this new author. Can't wait to read the next one. Five star rating well earned

This is a page turning story of the meeting of Michael and Alex. The story starts with their meeting while Alex is training her horse Duke. Problems arise again between the two countries and the story follows the trials they bear. Very enjoyable. Read in one day. Could not put it down.

Loved this book! I'm always a sucker for a good romance and this is that, plus a lot of history. Will be watching this author and reading more of her books. This was a good clean historical romance about Scotland. Would recommend this book to anyone.

Set in the year 1566 Alexandra and Michael's story begins. She's a English heiress, he's a Scottish Laird. Tis forbidden for them to be together. But love always finds a way. This time with the Queens help. The first time he sees Alex he mistakes her for a lad. She's in lads clothing, he's intrigued by watching her and her proud stallion Duke dancing? Was it magic? A horse dancing? And then he finds out she's a lass. They share a love of horses. He's on a mission for the Queen and time is of the essence so he asks her to meet him in 2 days at the same spot. I loved their story. It's so refreshing to read a love story that's a wonderful story that isn't filled with foul language and extreme explicit sex scenes. If you're looking for a new author to read. Look no farther. I Can't wait til the her next book in the series comes out in June..

Just finished reading A Love Divided and absolutely loved it! The relationship between Alex and Michael was both really touching and believable. Loved this book and look forward to the next one in the series.

I received a copy of A Love Divided by Belle McInnes in exchange for an honest review. Note: this

review contains spoilers! Writing a love story isn't as easy as some people think it is. Writing a historically accurate love story is even harder, but Bella McInnes pulls it off! Our two main characters, Alex and Michael, are not real, but many of the other characters are including Mary Queen of Scots (you might have heard of her) and her Maries. The locations are real too. I know this because the author not only wrote an excellent story, but she included a Bibliography and other books the reader might be interested in, both non-fiction and fiction. But to our love story. The Scots and English have never gotten along, especially in 1566. The area between the 2 countries was not the best for farming and families from both sides liked raiding the other side for cattle, horses, or whatever. Many were just out to get what would last them through the winter, but others were more brutal and took whomever and whatever they fancied. Alex's family falls into the first group. Although they are better off than some, they still need everything they can get to feed everyone in the extended family and home over the winter. That's why they have a hidden safe house so close to the Scottish border: the main home is too far away for quick raids. And that's why an English Miss dressed as a boy is riding her horse in a Scottish Glen. It's the closest open area to the safe house. There Alex and Michael meet over Duke, a black stallion that has been taught to dance instead of just walking. There Alex falls for the handsome Scot and Michael for the beautiful English lass. What stands in their way? Scots cannot marry English, Alex cannot marry without her father's permission, and then there's that little detail of Alex being in a dungeon. Believable characters and fast paced action made this story a thrill to read. For some history and tender love, you can't go wrong with *A Love Divided*!

Alexandra, or Alex, is a young woman from England. Being an only child makes her the heiress of her father's estate. Her mother died shortly after she was born, so Alex was raised by their staff. This gave her more freedom than other women and Alex can hold her own better than most men. That includes riding. Duke is Alex's horse and she taught herself how to train this beautiful beast. She sees Duke as her partner and not as just an animal. When a clan of violent reivers steals Duke, Alex is determined to get him back. Unfortunately she gets caught after retrieving Duke and she's assumed to be a criminal, for which she's being thrown in jail. Will Alex find justice when she stands in front of the Scottish Queen? Michael is a Scot, he's the laird of his estate and the deputy warden. He's in the woods when he spots a young person who is incredibly skilled with horses. He offers this person a job and then finds out that the young person is a woman. In the short time he gets to spend with Alex he falls in love with her. She personifies everything he has ever wanted. Michael needs to go to the Queen to deliver a message. He promises Alex that he'll come back for her when

his job is done. However, it's forbidden for a Scot to marry someone from England. If you're accused of this crime you can be sentenced to death. Will the law keep these two soul mates apart? Alex is fierce and independent. She wants the same rights as a man and will not settle for anything less. She isn't plain like most of the other women in her surroundings and this is exactly what keeps getting her in trouble. I loved how Alex is as a person. She's funny, smart and fearless. She takes what belongs to her and is not afraid of the consequences of her actions. She has high standards when it comes to finding a husband, he has to have certain personality traits. Alex is tough, but she also has a great sense of humor and I found myself laughing out loud multiple times about her comebacks. I kept wishing for Alex to get her happily ever after. I wanted her to be able to marry her one true love instead of being married off to someone she'd have no feelings for for the convenience of her clan. Finding out what would happen to her kept me on the edge of my seat. Michael is a man of honor. He has never been married and is not actively looking for a wife. He's a skilled knight who stands for his Queen and will do anything to protect her. Michael is such a sweet and caring man. He lets Alex be who she is and doesn't hold her back just because she wants to do things that are uncommon or deemed inappropriate for women during that time. Any woman would be more than lucky if she found a man like Michael and I loved that aspect of the story. A Love Divided is a beautiful story. It takes place in the sixteenth century and I found that a fascinating time to read about. Belle McInnes uses some old fashioned language that suits this particular time and it gave the story a realistic feel. Even with the use of these words I flew through the pages. I like to read about strong women and Alex definitely fits this description. A Love Divided is a story with interesting main characters and a gorgeous setting. It's Belle McInnes's debut novel and I think it's a strong one. I can't wait to read the next The Reivers book, A Love Beyond. If you love to read historical romance with handsome Scottish men and forbidden love, I'd highly recommend A Love Divided.

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