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“Romance at its best!”

-Publisher’s Weekly

Jo Beverley, New York Times bestselling author of ST. RAVEN, returns with a sizzling new novel of love, family secrets – and unbridled passion...

WINTER FIRE

by

Jo Beverley

Signet Paperback Original

Discover why Booklist hailed the novels of Jo Beverly as “Delightfully spicy” and “captivating”. *New York Times* bestselling author Jo Beverley spins a tale of seduction and royal intrigue. Resourceful and beautiful, Genova Smith has found herself in a difficult situation. Despite her mixed feelings about the Marquess of Ashart, she must accompany him to the home of his evil cousin. Neither Genova nor Ashart expect the trip to be a pleasure; though neither expected the greatest surprise of all- falling in love.

Her previous books have been sold to Toymania in Russia, Domino in Czech Republic, Mondadori in Italy, and Audax in the Netherlands.

The Magazine For Women Who Love Books!

ROMANTIC TIMES

BOOKclub

WINTER FIRE

Jo Beverley

Signet

★★★★½

Setting: 1763, England

Previous Titles: *Secrets of the Night, Devilish*

When elderly ladies Calliope and Thalia Trayce invite Miss Genova Smith to a ball at the home of their great-nephew Rothgar, Genova accepts.

Their other great-nephew, the Marquis of Ashart, decides to join them. Though he has a reputation as a rake, Ash intrigues—and exasperates—Genova. He has reasons of his own for attending the revels, as he harbors hatred for cousin Rothgar. But with love at stake, Ash may have to find a way to let go of old hatreds when Rothgar offers an olive branch. Can there be peace at Christmas for them all?

A mistress of her craft, Beverley brings together characters from her Malloren and Trayce families in this page-turning, memorable story. Sensual, at times funny and witty, and delivering some of the best innuendo-filled dialogue I have ever read, this one is a holiday story for the whole year.

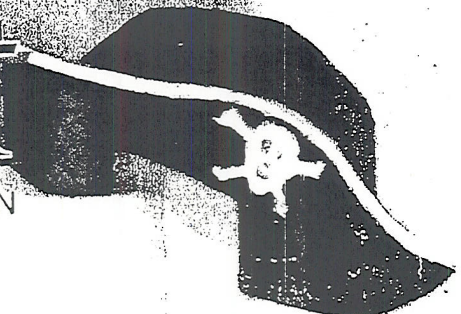
SENSUAL (Nov., 303 pp., \$6.99)

Joan Hammond

BOOKlist

Vol. 100 No. 4
10/15/03

Includes REFERENCE BOOKS BULLETIN



Beverley, Jo. Winter Fire. Nov. 2003. 320p. NAL Signet. paper, \$6.99 (0-451-21065-4).
Geneva Smith convinces her employers, the elderly Trayce ladies, to let her bring an abandoned baby with them to a Christmas party at Rothgar Abbey, even as she does her best to get the Marquess of Ashart, the man she mistakenly believes to be the father, to accept responsibility for his actions. Ash has no intention of claiming the child, but he agrees to accompany his great-aunts to the holiday fête, despite the family tragedy that has turned Ash and the Marquess of Rothgar into mortal enemies. When he is caught with Ash in a seemingly compromising situation, Geneva agrees to a pretend betrothal but has no intention of giving in to her desires for the wickedly handsome Ash. While truth and forgiveness unite two long-restranged branches of a family, an intelligent, ever sensible heroine and an elegant, sinfully seductive rake spar with splendid, sexy results as RTF Award-winning Beverley, with her usual delectable wit and smoky characterization, returns readers to the unforgettable world of her Malheur novels. —*John Chaffin*

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NOVEMBER 15, 2003

VOLUME 128 NO. 19

Beverley, Jo. *Winter Fire.*

Signet, NAL, Nov. 2003, c.320p, ISBN 0-451-21065-4, pap. \$6.99, historical

Rothgar Abbey is the Christmas destination of the Malloren family-- and at least one old enemy bent on revenge. While fans of the series (*Secrets of the Night*; *Tempting Fortune*) will be interested in revisiting the various family members they have met before, the real focus here is on



Genova Smith and the notorious Marquess of Ashart, who end up entangled in a faux betrothal and spend the holidays at the home of Ash's cousin and bitter adversary, the Marquess of Rothgar, accompanied by two elderly relatives and a baby.

Confusion reigns as Genova and Ash try to sort out their feelings for each other and solve the mystery of the baby. But the real challenge lies between Ash and Rothgar, as they both must choose between vengeance and reconciliation and eventually come to terms with the past. Holiday fun, lively family interactions, and romance abound in this heartwarming tale that, while serious, is a shade lighter than others in the Malloren series. Best-selling romance author Beverley, is a member of the RWA Hall of Fame and lives in Canada.

ROMANTIC TIMES

BOOKclub

ST. RAVEN

Jo Beverley

Signet

★★★★½

Setting: London, 1816

Previous titles: Devil's Heiress, Hazard

TOP PICK When her father loses everything in a game of cards to Lord Crofton, Cressida Manderville comes up with a scheme to retrieve a hidden cache of jewels that will save them from poverty. Though she might lose her virtue, she enters into a bargain with Crofton.

When Tristan Tregallows, Duke of St. Raven, inadvertently rescues Cressida from the nefarious lecher, she is incensed, for her plans to find the jewels are ruined. The ever-gallant Tris admires this courageous but naive young woman and decides to help her. As they search for the jewels, Tris discovers a hidden sensuality in this innocent and finds that she is already entwined around his heart.

But a duke must marry an eligible woman, not a delectable, witty female, mustn't he?

Beverley's delicious, well-crafted and wickedly captivating romance is a sure fire winner. She combines strong characters, sensuality and a witty sense of humor that should win readers' praise.

SENSUAL (176, 365 pp., \$6.99)

Joan Hammond

Best Sellers Expanded List

PAPERBACK FICTION

- 16 **THE MANHATTAN HUNT CLUB**, by John Saul (Ballantine)
- 17 **DUST TO DUST**, by Tami Hoag (Bantam)
- 18 **BACK WHEN WE WERE GROWNUPS**, by Anne Tyler (Ballantine)
- 19 **A KISS TO REMEMBER**, by Teresa Medeiros (Bantam)
- 20 **THE LAST TIME THEY MET**, by Anita Shreve (Back Bay/Little, Brown)
- 21 **MAY THERE BE A ROAD**, by Louis L'Amour (Bantam)
- 22 **KENTUCKY RICH**, by Fern Michaels (Zebra)
- 23 **THURSDAYS AT EIGHT**, by Debbie Macomber (Mira)
- 24 **FALL ON YOUR KNEES**, by Ann-Marie MacDonald (Scribner Paperback Fiction)
- 25 **HOT RAIN**, by Kat Martin (Zebra)
- 26 **SPIDER-MAN**, by Peter David (Del Rey/Ballantine)
- 27 **WARRIOR CLASS**, by Dale Brown (Berkley)
- 28 **THE EDGE OF TOWN**, by Dorothy Garlock (Warner)
- 29 **HAZARD**, by Jo Beverley (Signet)
- 30 **THE BEACH HOUSE**, by Mary Alice Monroe (Mira)
- 31 **AMERICAN GODS**, by Neil Gaiman (HarperTorch)
- 32 **DARK GUARDIAN**, by Christine Feehan (Leisure Books)
- 33 **TELL NO ONE**, by Harlan Coben (Dell)
- 34 **SULA**, by Toni Morrison (Plume)
- 35 **GOOD IN BED**, by Jennifer Weiner (Washington Square Press)

PAPERBACK NON-FICTION

- 17 **BLACK HAWK DOWN**, by Mark Bowden (Penguin)
- 18 **A MAN NAMED DAVE**, by Dave Pelzer (Plume)
- 19 **WE WERE SOLDIERS ONCE ... AND YOUNG**, by Harold G. Moore and Joseph L. Galloway (Perennial, HarperTorch)
- 20 **COMFORT ME WITH APPLES**, by Ruth Reichl (Random House)
- 21 **THE PIANO SHOP ON THE LEFT BANK**, by Thad Carhart (Random House)
- 22 **ME TALK PRETTY ONE DAY**, by David Sedaris (Back Bay/Little, Brown)
- 23 **BEHIND THE MASK OF SPIDER-MAN**, by Mark Cotta Vaz (Del Rey/Ballantine)
- 24 **PERPETUAL WAR FOR PERPETUAL PEACE**, by Gore Vidal (Thunder's Mouth/Nation Books)
- 25 **THE FIRST AMERICAN**, by H. W. Brands (Anchor)
- 26 **STAR WARS: THE NEW ESSENTIAL GUIDE TO CHARACTERS**, by Daniel Wallace. Illustrated by Mike Sutfin (Lucas/Del Rey/Ballantine)
- 27 **KITCHEN CONFIDENTIAL**, by Anthony Bourdain (Ecco, HarperCollins)
- 28 **APRIL 1865**, by Jay Winik (Perennial)
- 29 **FROM BEIRUT TO JERUSALEM**, by Thomas L. Friedman (Anchor)
- 30 **BRUNELLESCHI'S DOME**, by Ross King (Penguin)
- 31 **PERSONAL HISTORY**, by Katharine Graham (Vintage)
- 32 **THE NOONDAY DEMON**, by Andrew Solomon (Touchstone/Simon & Schuster)
- 33 **PARIS TO THE MOON**, by Adam Gopnik (Random House)
- 34 **WALKING THE BIBLE**, by Bruce Feiler (Perennial/HarperCollins)
- 35 **THE TIPPING POINT**, by Malcolm Gladwell (Back Bay/Little, Brown)

- Historical war novel about the American Revolution (F) \$7.99
- 139 147 **The Adventures of Spider-Man**
Adapted by Micheal Teitelbaum Avon
Children: Novelization based on the movie is for ages 8 to 12;
movie tie-in (F) \$4.99
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Corkscrew**
Peter Mayle Vintage
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specialties (NF) \$12.95
- 141 New **Fatal**
Michael Palmer Bantam
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murder (F) \$24.95
- 142 110 **The Great Gatsby**
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American classic was first published in 1925 (F) \$12.00
- 143 New **Hazard**
Jo Beverley Signet
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man (F) \$6.99
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David Weber, John Ringo Baen
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\$7.99
- 145 132 **Love You Forever**
Robert Munsch, art by Sheila McGraw Firefly
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\$4.95
- 146 111 **The Two Towers**
J.R.R. Tolkien Del Rey
Part 2 in the Lord of the Rings three-book epic; movie scheduled
to be released December 18, 2002 (F) \$6.99
- 147 127 **Blinded by the Right**
David Brock Crown
Reporter chronicles his break with the conservative movement
(NF) \$25.95
- 148 New **The Art of Star Wars: Episode II: Attack of the Clones**
Mark Cotta Vaz Del Rey/Ballantine/Lucas Books
Gallery of astonishing images; includes the screenplay by
George Lucas and Jonathan Hales; movie (NF) \$35.00
- 149 New **Again and Again**
Susan Johnson Brava
Historical romance set in 1821 Yorkshire (F) \$15.00
- 150 88 **Star Wars: Episode II: Attack of the Clones**
Adapted by Henry Gilroy; art by Jan Duursema, Ray
Kryssing Dark Horse
Star Wars saga told in comic book form (F) \$17.95



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Booklist



Beverley, Jo. Hazard. May 2002. 331p. HAL/Signet, paper, \$6.99 (0-451-20520-4).

It's another quiet day in the life of Lady Anne Peckwith. Cosseted daughter of a duke, considered fragile because of her limp, she is somewhat looking forward to her pending engagement. But when her sister reads a letter that announces that Anne's fiance has married another, she's not really surprised. After all, that's twice she has been jilted. There was no great love lost anyway. Just when she has resigned herself to a quiet life, her brother shows up with a guest. Race De Vere has been sent by Anne's latest ex-fiance to make sure she'll be all right after she hears the news. When Anne's sister goes into labor that same night, Race and Anne spend a long evening together. Each is reluctantly fascinated by the other. Race determines to bring Anne out of her shell. Anne determines that she must marry. Both are exasperatingly aware of the huge difference in social standing. Anne looks elsewhere, but no one comes close to Race. Fans of Beverley's companion of Pogue's series will truly enjoy this delightful adventure. —*Maria Hatten*

PUBLISHERS WEEKLY

International News Magazine
Book Publishing and Bookselling

April 1, 2002 • \$5.00

Poetry in Abundance
for April

Reader's Digest Buys
Reiman

A Look at Multnomah

A Talk with Daniel Silva

HAZARD

By BEVERLEY SIGNET, \$6.99 (384p) ISBN 0-451-20580-4

Beverley's newest (following *The Devil's Heiress*) is an engaging, if thinly plotted, Regency-era love story featuring Lady Anne Peckworth. Demure, reserved and polite to a fault, even after being jilted twice, Anne is the perfect heiress. Although her substantial fortune guarantees a certain amount of attention from the beaux of London, her crippled foot means that she is always seen as slightly damaged goods. The combe de Vere is a charismatic ex-soldier with no prospects and a mysterious family background. Although he's completely unsuitable as a match for Anne, she finds herself irresistibly drawn to him. Determined to find herself a husband and shake off her self-imposed isolation in the country, Anne heads to town on a mission to make her way in society, but she can't rid herself of her feelings for Race. Will she settle down with a proper husband, or will she take a chance on exactly the wrong man? Race remains a bit of a cipher throughout the novel—Anne's initial resistance to his charm is exaggerated, and her reactions sometimes overpower their interplay. Nevertheless, Anne's rare combination of intelligence and pluck enlivens the standard plot, and fans will appreciate the psychomystic between her and Race. **A** *M*

Best Sellers Expanded List

PAPERBACK FICTION

- 16 **THE TALISMAN**, by Stephen King and Peter Straub (Ballantine)
- 17 **THE SKY IS FALLING**, by Sidney Sheldon (Warner)
- 18 **THE TEXAS RANGER**, by Diana Palmer (Mira)
- 19 **FOUR BLONDES**, by Candace Bushnell (Grove)
- 20 **THE HOUSE ON HOPE STREET**, by Danielle Steel (Dell)
- 21 **TRUE JUSTICE**, by Robert K. Tanenbaum (Pocket)
- 22 **FRONTIER WOMAN**, by Joan Johnston (Island)
- 23 **LORD OF THE RINGS**, by J.R.R. Tolkien (Houghton Mifflin)
- 24 **REFLECTIONS AND DREAMS**, by Nora Roberts (Silhouette)
- 25 **HOT BLOODED**, by Lisa Jackson (Zebra)
- 26 **AMAZING ADVENTURES OF KAVALIER & CLAY**, by Michael Chabon (Picador)
- 27 **HOUSE OF DREAMS**, by Brenda Joyce (St. Martin's)
- 28 **THE NEW JEDI ORDER. EDGE OF VICTORY II:REBIRTH**, by Greg Keyes (Dell Rey/Ballantine)
- 29 **DANCE UPON THE AIR**, by Nora Roberts (Love)
- 30 **BRIDGET JONES'S DIARY**, by Helen Fielding (Penguin)
- 31 **DEVIL'S CLAW**, by J. A. Jance (Avon)
- 32 **DARK FIRE**, by Christine Feehan (Love Spell)
- 33 **THE MARK**, by Tim LaHaye and Jerry B. Jenkins (Tyndale)
- 34 **THE DEVIL'S HEIRESS**, by Jo Beverley (Signet)
- 35 **SUSPICION OF MALICE**, by Barbara Parker (Signet)

PAPERBACK NON-FICTION

- 16 **UNDAUNTED COURAGE**, by Stephen E. Ambrose (Touchstone)
- 17 **A YEAR BY THE SEA**, by Joan Anderson (Broadway)
- 18 **IN A SUNBURNED COUNTRY**, by Bill Bryson (Broadway)
- 19 **A WALK IN THE WOODS**, by Bill Bryson (Broadway)
- 20 **DRIVING MR. ALBERT**, by Michael Paterniti (Delta)
- 21 **ON WRITING**, by Stephen King (Pocket)
- 22 **BOBOS IN PARADISE**, by David Brooks (Touchstone)
- 23 **THE PROFESSOR AND THE MADMAN**, by Simon Winchester (Harper Perennial)
- 24 **THE GREATEST GENERATION SPEAKS**, by Tom Brokaw (Delta)
- 25 **THE SEAT OF THE SOUL**, by Gary Zukav (Fireside)
- 26 **THE BETRAYAL OF AMERICA**, by Vincent Bugliosi (Nation Thunder's Mouth)
- 27 **GREAT DAMES**, by Marie Brenner (Three Rivers)
- 28 **FROM DAWN TO DECADENCE**, by Jacques Barzun (Perennial)
- 29 **I'M A STRANGER HERE MYSELF**, by Bill Bryson (Broadway)
- 30 **TRAVELING MERCIES**, by Anne Lamott (Anchor)
- 31 **BOWLING ALONE**, by Robert D. Putnam (Touchstone)
- 32 **ETHICS FOR THE NEW MILLENIUM**, by the Dalai Lama (Freehead)
- 33 **RIVER-HORSE**, by William Least Heat-Moon (Penguin)
- 34 **DALE EARNHARDT: REMEMBERING THE INTIMIDATOR** (Triumph)
- 35 **THE LAST RIVER**, by Todd Ball (Three Rivers)

WEEKLY

July 2, 2001 • \$4.00

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Decision

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Gary Fisketjon

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THE DEVIL'S HEIRESS

By BEVERLY SIGMUND, \$6.99 (384p)

ISBN 0-451-20254-6

With this deftly woven tale of romantic intrigue, Beverly (The Dragon's Bride, etc.) completes her Regency-era trilogy devoted to "The Georges," three lifelong friends who return from Waterloo to find themselves facing trying circumstances. Major George "Hawk" Hawkinville would be relieved to be home if it weren't for his father, John Gervase. In an attempt to obtain the title of the recently deceased, notorious Lord Devent, John, a distant relative of Devent's, has squandered his estate on lawyers and bad investments. The only way Hawk can save Hawkinville Manor is to marry the Devil's Heiress, the "scheming slut" who was betrothed to Devent and wrongfully inherited his fortune. To Hawk's surprise, the heiress is Clarissa Greystone, a plain woman whose only wish is to live quietly outside a society where people won't sneer at her family name or her legacy. Upon meeting Hawk, however, she is tempted to entertain thoughts of a future with another, but before she and Hawk can come together, they will have to join forces with the Company of Rogues, a band of friends who never stay out of mischief, to sort out Devent's complicated legacy. Head and shoulders above the usual Regency fare, this novel's sensitive prose, charismatic characters and expert plotting will keep readers enthralled from first page to last. (Aug. 2)

ROMANTIC Times

WWW.ROMANTICTIMES.COM

THE DEVIL'S HEIRESS

Jo Beverley

Signet

★★★★½

Setting: England, 1816

Precious Titles: Devilish, The Dragon's Bride



When Major George Hawkinville returns home after the war to his ill father, he discovers it will take a fortune to save Hawkinville Manor and the land from his sire's machinations to regain an old family title.

The title is that of the late Viscount Deveril, who has left a sole beneficiary, Clarissa Greystone, known as The Devil's Heiress. It is widely known that Clarissa abhorred the viscount yet was willing to marry him to gain his fortune. If Hawk can prove that Clarissa had a hand in the viscount's death, he will be able to wipe out the debts and save his family manor.

With her talent for writing powerful love stories and masterful plotting, Ms. Beverley cleverly brings together this dynamic duo. Her latest captivating romance of the Three Georges series is easily a "keeper!" SENSUAL (Aug., 380 pp., \$6.99)

Joan Hammona

Full

Beverley, Jo. *The Devil's Heiress.*

Signet, NAL, Aug. 2001, c. 382p. ISBN
0-451-20254-6, pap., \$6.99. ROMANCE

Returning from the Battle of Waterloo and yearning for a little peace, Maj. George Hawkinville learns that his aging father has pledged his beloved estate in order to gain a peerage and that they will lose everything unless he can either prove a will false or marry the brazen gold digger who inherited the wealth. But quiet, sensible Clarissa Greystone is not at all what he expected, and in spite of themselves, they are attracted to each other. Memorable, well-developed protagonists, complex plotting, and a number of delightful characters from earlier stories in Beverley's "Georges" trilogy neatly combine to form a darkly intriguing, well-written, richly sensual tale that is classic Beverley. The author of *The Dragon's Bride* (1995) is a member of the Romance Writers of America (RWA) Hall of Fame and lives in Canada.

Booklist

Beverley, Jo. *The Devil's Helress*. Aug. 2001.
384p. Signet paper. \$6.99 (0-451-20254-6).

Waterloo is over, and Major George "Hawk" Hawkynville is dealing with the aftermath. Greeted warmly by the villagers upon his return, he can't help but notice the sorry state of the village. Although his father has spent the family fortune in reacquiring the title of Lord Deveril, Hawk feels responsible for the villagers and is loathe to lose the home he loves. The previous Lord Deveril had no direct heirs but left his considerable fortune to his young fiancé in an unusual will. Hawk is determined to prove that the will is a forgery and that Clarissa, Deveril's fiancée, had a hand in his murder. Clarissa Greystone is hiding something, and suspects that the major is after her money, but, smitten, she doesn't care. Hawk and Clarissa soon come to mean more to each other than they ever expected, yet both are stifled by secrets they cannot share. Intriguing and funny, this installment of Beverley's Georgian series is a real page-turner. —*Maria Walton*

Best Sellers Expanded List

PAPERBACK FICTION

- 16 **BRIDGET JONES: THE EDGE OF REASON**, by Helen Fielding (Penguin)
- 17 **THE BRETHERN**, by John Grisham (Dell)
- 18 **WE WERE THE MULVANEYS**, by Joyce Carol Oates (Plume)
- 19 **PURPLE CANE ROAD**, by James Lee Burke (Dell)
- 20 **ALMOST INNOCENT**, by Jane Feather (Bantam)
- 21 **THE EMPTY CHAIR**, by Jeffrey Deaver (Pocket Star)
- 22 **ALONG CAME A SPIDER**, by James Patterson (Warner)
- 23 **ANIL'S GHOST**, by Michael Ondaatje (Vintage)
- 24 **BIG STONE GAP**, by Adriana Trigiani (Ballantine)
- 25 **OFF THE MANGROVE COAST**, by Louis L'Amour (Bantam)
- 26 **ALWAYS DAKOTA**, by Debbie Macomber (Mira)
- 27 **THE SECOND SILENCE**, by Eileen Goudge (Signet)
- 28 **THE DRAGON'S BRIDE**, by Jo Beverley (Signet)
- 29 **STANDOFF**, by Sandra Brown (Warner Vision)
- 30 **STONEHENGE**, by Bernard Cornwell (Harper)
- 31 **THE HEIR**, by Johanna Lindsey (Avon)
- 32 **THE CASSANDRA COMPACT**, by Robert Ludlum and Philip Shelby (St. Martin's)
- 33 **THE FIGHTING AGENTS**, by W. E. B. Griffin (Doubt)
- 34 **THE MARRIAGE LESSON**, by Victoria Alexander (Avon)
- 35 **UNDER COVER OF DARKNESS**, by James M. Grippando (Avon)

PAPERBACK NON-FICTION

- 17 **THE SEAT OF THE SOUL**, by Gary Zukav (Fireside)
- 18 **UNDAUNTED COURAGE**, by Stephen E. Ambrose (Touchstone)
- 19 **ELEANOR OF AQUITAINE**, by Alison Weir (Ballantine)
- 20 **DESIRE OF THE EVERLASTING HILLS**, by Thomas Cahill (Nan A. Talese/Anchor)
- 21 **GEORGIANA: DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE**, by Amanda Foreman (Modern)
- 22 **TRAVELING MERCIES**, by Anne Lamott (Anchor)
- 23 **RIVER-HORSE**, by William Least Heat-Moon (Penguin)
- 24 **THE PROFESSOR AND THE MADMAN**, by Simon Winchester (Harper Perennial)
- 25 **ON WRITING**, by Stephen King (Pocket)
- 26 **FROM DAWN TO DECADENCE**, by Jacques Barzun (Perennial)
- 27 **UNDER THE TUSCAN SUN**, by Francis Mayes (Broadway)
- 28 **I'M A STRANGER HERE MYSELF**, by Bill Bryson (Broadway)
- 29 **EMPTY PROMISES**, by Ann Fink (Pocket)
- 30 **ENEMY AT THE GATES**, by William Craig (Penguin)
- 31 **BAND OF BROTHERS**, by Stephen E. Ambrose (Touchstone)
- 32 **SHRUB**, by Molly Ivins and Lou Dubose (Vintage)
- 33 **MY CAT SPIT MCGEE**, by Willie Morris (Vintage)
- 34 **THE MILLIONAIRE NEXT DOOR**, by Thomas J. Stanley and William D. Danko (Pocket)
- 35 **TULIPOMANIA**, by Mike Dutch (Three Rivers)

Booklist

Includes REFERENCE BOOKS BULLETIN

15/01

Beverley, Jo. *The Dragon's Bride*. June 2001.
384p. Signet, paper, \$6.99 (0-451-20358-5).

In a romance novel, one half of the future couple carries the most emotional baggage. If it's the man, he's the silent type who broods mysteriously. If it's the woman, she has a heart encased in ice just waiting for the right man to melt it. In this novel, both halves are equally weighted down emotionally, which makes for a nice variation on a theme. Con Somerford has inherited the earldom in a small community on the coast of England in which the citizens are involved in smuggling. Con hopes to spend as little time as possible among them, but who should he literally run into but Susan Kerslake. Although it's been 11 years, they haven't forgotten each other. Yes, Susan and Con have a past, but she's an ordinary miss. In fact, Con believes that not only does she have a taste with other men but that she's also a crook and a liar. It's all true, and although the ending is a bit messy, Beverley's latest is sure to delight.

—*Maria Hatten*

Also of Interest

K Beverley, Jo. *The Dragon's Bride*.
Signet: NAL, Jun. 2001. c.384p. ISBN
0-451-20358-5. pap. \$6.99. ROMANCE
Con Somerford, now the earl of Wyvern,
and smuggler Susan Kerlake knew each
other for only for two brief romantic weeks
as teenagers 11 years ago. But when they
meet again at gunpoint on a windswept De-
von cliff, they are disconcerted to realize
that the attraction is still there—if only they
can get past the old hurts and the new com-
plications that hang between them. A pair
of complex protagonists, a grim, faux-me-
dieval castle filled with appallingly lewd
artwork and "entertainments," courtesy of
the earlier insane Dragons of Wyvern, and
a wonderful cast of secondary characters—
many of whom have appeared in Bever-
ley's earlier works—combine in what be-
gins as an apparently simple reunion story,
but becomes more intriguing and darkly
complex as the layers of the plot are clever-
ly peeled away. The author's classic mix of
hummering sexual passion and satiating
sensuality will please her fans, old and
new. Beverley is a popular, best-selling au-
thor (*Devilish*) and a member of the Ro-
mance Writers of America (RWA) Hall of
Fame; she lives in British Columbia.