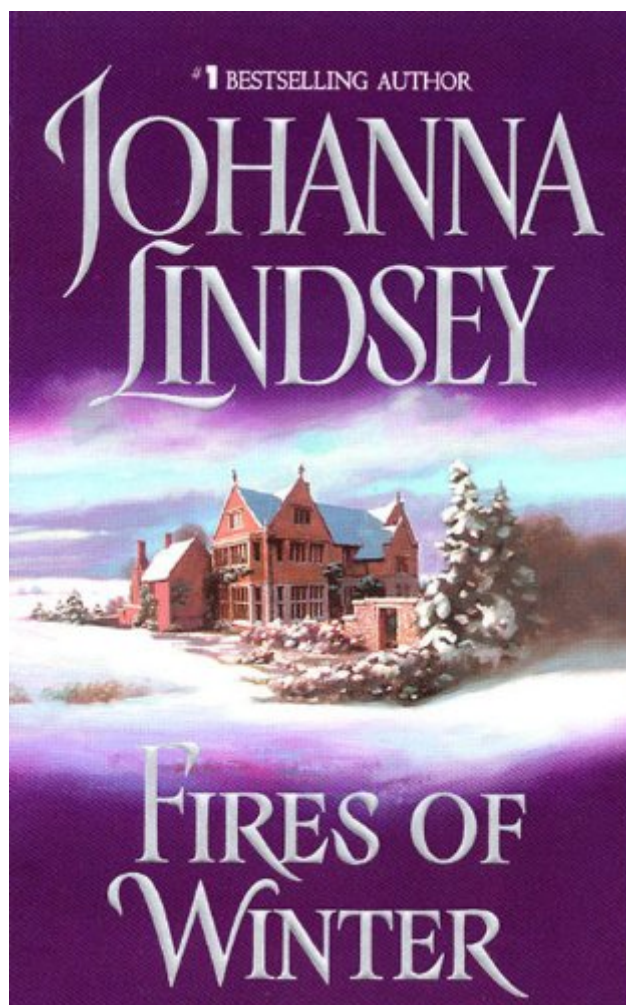


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# Fires Of Winter (Viking Haardrad Family Book 1)



## Synopsis

Lovely and dauntless, abducted by invaders from across an icy sea, Lady Breena vowed vengeance swearing no Viking brute would be her master no barbarian would enslave her noble Celtic heart, but then came Garrick Haardrad, the proud and powerful son of a ruthless Viking chieftain.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Trained in the art of war, Brenna Carmarham vowed to never take a husband until her father made a deal with the hated Vikings in hopes of saving her home. Not long after the deal is made, her much-loved father dies, but reluctantly Brenna decides to honor her father's vow anyway and awaits her intended with trepidation. On the day of her father's funeral, the Vikings finally come, but not with a bride-groom as expected. Instead, the Vikings raid Brenna's home, kill most of her family and take her prisoner, making her the slave of the man she'd once thought to marry. Having been spurned by a money-hungry woman, Garrick Haardrad has vowed to never love again. While he's away on a trading venture his father makes a false deal with the hated Celts to join Garrick with a Celtic lord's daughter. However, the marriage-pact is just a smoke-screen to allow the Vikings to raid the Celtic village and take revenge on the Celts for long-ago wrongdoing. And now, the woman

who might have been his wife is his slave. I first read *Fires Of Winter* many years ago and to this day it remains one of my favorites by Ms. Lindsey. In fact, I'd have to say it's one of my favorites in the entire genre. Johanna Lindsey always delivers well-drawn and likeable characters, and Brenna and Garrick are no exception. Brenna is fiery, brave and headstrong while Garrick is stoic, courageous and stubborn. When these two first meet, sparks fly and wills clash in a battle that will leave you wanting more. And, since you will want more, it's lucky that Ms. Lindsey expanded this book into a trilogy (this one is followed by *Hearts Aflame* and *Surrender My Love*). One of the most fascinating aspects, for me, is the history. You're thoroughly immersed in the Viking culture.

*Fires of Winter* was written in 1980 by Johanna Lindsey. It is a story of continual rape set in 850 in Norway. I realize that we all have different points of view on dominant-submissive relationships, and that is fine. Other people will have quite different points of view on this story, and that is fine too. I can only give my personal point of view, and how this story reads to me. First, the good. Heroine Brenna has grown up wielding a sword and standing strong for herself. With no mother, and an antagonistic step-sister, she has had to fend for herself and think on her feet. She takes on villains with strength and honor. She has a strong internal code of right from wrong and is willing to fight rather than give in. I love sword-wielding heroines and heroines who stand up against wrong-doing. Brenna should be my ideal kind of heroine. Next, the iffy. While a few other reviewers extol the "historical accuracy" of this story, most of those reviewers seem to do so in order to justify the continual rape. "Of course Vikings raped all their women in the 800s, so therefore you can't complain about the raping, because it was historically accurate". However, much of this story is NOT historically accurate. Most Vikings lived in large one-room homes, which stayed warm more easily. They didn't have lots of little rooms which would be inefficient and harder to heat. Lindsey invents a house with lots of rooms for one character, but even the other homes seem to be segmented. Stables also weren't separate buildings - why waste all that animal warmth! They were connected to the main building. Like in Briton, smoke went up a hole in the ceiling. It wouldn't go through a "door". The whole family tended to live together in that one house. It was an extended community.

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