
Carrie Vaughn

Steel



Title: Steel

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Description

It was a slender length of rusted steel, tapered to a point at one end and jagged at the other, as if it had broken. A thousand people would step over it and think it trash, but not her.

This was the tip of a rapier.

Sixteen-year-old Jill has fought in dozens of fencing tournaments, but she has never held a sharpened blade. When she finds a corroded sword piece on a Caribbean beach, she is instantly intrigued and pockets it as her own personal treasure.

The broken tip holds secrets, though, and it transports Jill through time to the deck of a pirate ship. Stranded in the past and surrounded by strangers, she is forced to sign on as crew. But a pirate's life is bloody and brief, and as Jill learns about the dark magic that brought her there, she forms a desperate scheme to get home—one that risks everything in a duel to the death with a villainous pirate captain.

Time travel, swordplay, and romance combine in an original high-seas adventure from *New York Times* bestseller Carrie Vaughn.

Insightful reviews

Cindy: I would give this 3.5 stars actually.

I love the cover on this book, it is amazing! I normally love pirate stories, but this one was just likable. The story just seemed to be missing something. It just felt loose, I don't know if that's the right word or not. The main character wasn't actually my favorite character, Henry or Captain Cooper, or even the Captain Bain. As a reader I found them more interesting than the main and I found myself wanting to know more about their lives. That was another thing, felt like I was given bare bones information on characters. I wanted more!! The story is good and interesting, however I did not feel that there was depth to it. The romance in this was barely in existence. I did like the fencing take on the story. This story had lots of interesting things, but for me just didn't pull together, and have the depth I was looking for. Teen books seem to be this way some read like a teen book and some read more like an adult book. With all that said I am glad I read it.

hand full swear words
clean romance LOL

C: What a great YA book for fans of pirates!

A co-worker said this was her favorite stand alone of Carrie Vaughn's & I have to agree. It took a chapter or two to get going, but once in, I really enjoyed it. I loved the pirate lore - she has a short explanation in the back about what is real history and what is embellished...there's some sailing 101 mixed into the story, as well.

She makes the main character's progression believable, especially the change from fencing to fighting for "real." I liked the character (she got a bit whiny at a couple points, but who can blame her?) and her story. She was a good mix of plucky and believably vulnerable.

One nitpick:

[\(view spoiler\)](#)["br"]>["br"]>["br"]>["br"]>["br"]>["br"]>["br"]>["br"]>["br"]>

Jamie : I saw this book one day when I was looking on the Barnes and Noble web page and thought that the premise was good enough to add it to my shopping cart. After checking out it's page on Goodreads I found that Steel got mixed reviews. A lot of 3 and 4 star ratings.

I thought that the idea behind the story was right up my alley...mainly because it was a new-to-me idea. I think reading Steel helped me get into the proper frame of mind for the new Pirates of the Caribbean movie that came out last weekend.

I thought Jill overall was a like able character, though in the beginning she was a little bit to "woe is me" for me personally. There is being dedicated to your sport then there is addicted. I think that at the beginning of the book she was leaning closer to addicted....To the point of NOT being able to enjoy a family vacation a MONTH after her last match. Which leads up to Jill being transported back to the 18th century and becoming a member of the crew on the pirate ship Diana. The more time that Jill spends on the Diana the more she's able to not only conquer her own issues she's also able to help the crew with some of their own problems. When Jill is finally transported back to her own time she takes the lessons that she has learned on the Diana with her to use in her life from that point on. Plus, there is a REALLY COOL "souvenir" too.

The pirate portion of the book was my favorite part of the book, meaning I'm not really a fan of the beginning but it got much better. There was a TON of action. The captain of the Diana was a WOMAN and I learned a TON. Did you know that pirate ships are where the first forms of democracy were formed? The main positions (captain, quartermaster, first mate, etc.) were all voted on. Each ship has it's own rules which are known as in Steel the "articles." Also, I really enjoyed that Carrie Vaughn brought actual pirates out of the history books and put them in her book.

The only part I had a slight misgiving with was the "romance." There were plenty of hints at it but there was only 1 real kiss in the whole book.

Overall, I would recommend this book if you are looking for a fun, quick read, or a slight departure from what you've been reading recently.

RATING:

4/5

Maree: This book, whereas relaxing and solid, used to be a bit a letdown for me. I am a fencer myself, and that I rather preferred the attitude the writer used. Such a lot of books (and movies) simply supply their personality a fencing historical past and voila! they could care for sword fights no problem. That is not the way it goes, and that I was once rather thankful to the writer for taking part in out that fact within the book. I additionally imagine that the publication as a complete had loads of information regarding how pirates used to live, and whereas a few liberties can have been taken (particularly within the girl pirate captain category), it was once attention-grabbing to really take into consideration a number of the issues mentioned, like how the wooden needed to be scraped and scrubbed to avoid mould from rotting it and sinking the ship. It kind of feels so visible now, yet I would by no means rather consider it ahead of today of contemporary varnish and steel. Still, the publication looked to be lacking anything to make it stupendous. The transition from one international to the opposite used to be a piece tough and fast for me. Splash splash and you are a century within the past. And the trouble she was once having at domestic which needed to flip in spite of everything wasn't much. The so-called romance was once nothing, too. There has been no ardour in the back of it, only a great man and a pleasant girl. Certainly now not a soulmate thing. The magic within the tale was once jagged and not rather explained. Horrific, while published what sort of magic is at the sword, of course, yet I am not yes why that might imbue the blade with any kind of magic. Yet I suppose the realm was once a special position again then.

Sara: This ebook troubled me. Whilst I learn the precis a couple of fencer who's pulled again in time to the period of pirates, I assumed that it had that capability to both be quite distinctive or quite cheesy. It ended up being the latter. The characters had little depth, the most character's cause of going again in time felt love it used to be no longer good inspiration through, the romance wasn't quite a romance, the plot felt lackluster, and the finishing was once very disappointing.

Olivia Script: I'm going to admit that this publication took me it slow to complete it being summer. Do I will be able to say this ebook isn't worthy it no longer worthy it all. The woman is going on a time experience discovering a boy simply so occurs to fence simply in addition to she will and that immediately makes him the most love protagonist and blah blah blah sappy finishing and finishing that everybody desires and this booklet used to be simply no longer wonderful to me. I would not say I did not take pleasure in it used to be simply now not very interesting it did not quite hold you hooked for that lengthy and at components you simply felt like meh I am not going to learn this anymore. So I might basically suggest this to the folk who actually need to learn this yet to not people who find themselves similar to "I'm no longer sure."

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