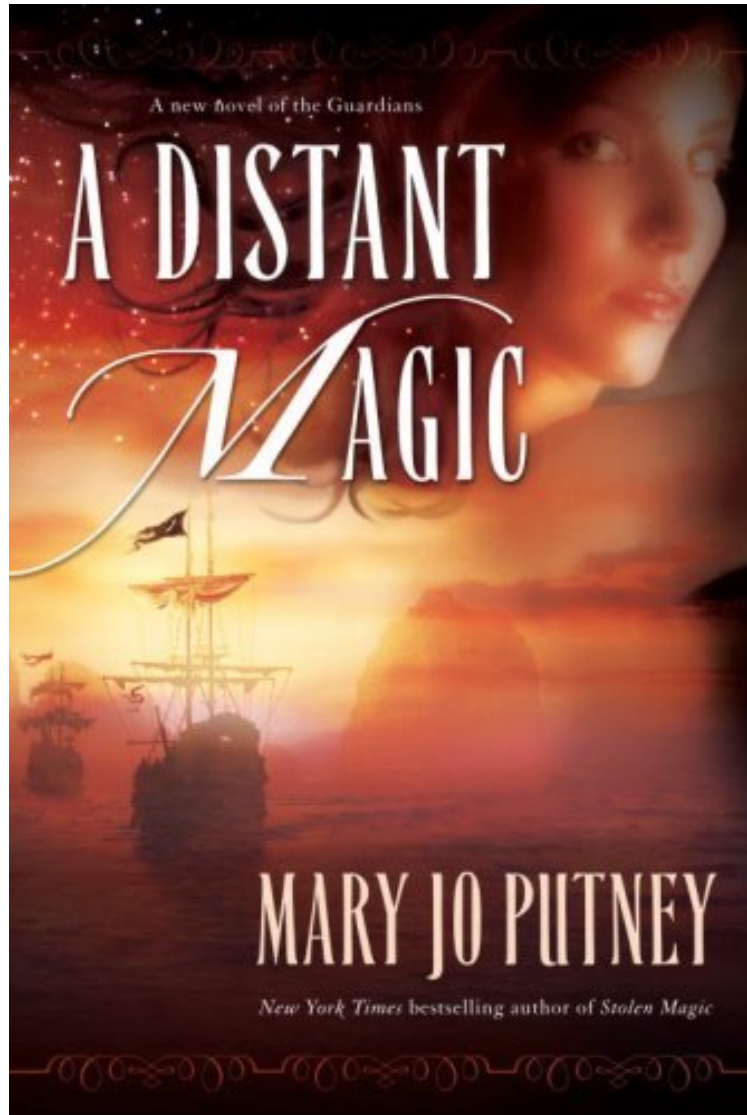


(Free) A Distant Magic (Guardian)

## A Distant Magic (Guardian)

Von Mary Jo Putney

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**Von Mary Jo Putney : A Distant Magic (Guardian)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Distant Magic (Guardian):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A mish-mash magic and slavery storyVon Helen HancoxThis book, released in 2007 (the 200th anniversary of the abolition of the slave trade) takes the theme of slavery and explores what might happen if two people with magical skills helped those who were working to bring an end to slavery. It's also another instalment in the Guardians series although can be read on its own without any previous knowledge of the series.The book has two distinct threads which intertwine in

the middle of the book. The first is the stories of Captain Nikolai Gregorio, ex-slave who nurses his vengeance against a Scotsman who promised him a better life and didn't deliver when Nikolai was young and of the Scotsman's daughter, Jean Macrae. Jean is travelling to the Mediterranean and she fairly soon bumps into Nikolai who kidnaps her as the first stage of his vowed revenge against her father and brother and herself. However Nikolai really isn't up to being an evil captor, he can't bring himself to rape her (phew!) and in the end Jean's magical skills save his ship from a storm, although Jean had to pull on some of Nikolai's magical powers to effect the rescue. They soon realise that they are bound together in some way to explore their magical skills together. Fortunately Nikolai seems to dispose of his long-nurtured need for vengeance against her family remarkably quickly. The second strand is the story of Adia Adams, a young woman who is captured by slave traders, taken to America, eventually escapes to London during the American war of independence with her husband. However she is a powerful witch and realises that for abolition to be successful they need special help and so she travels back in time 70 years to work with Jean and Nikolai to empower them for their task of working to abolish slavery which leads on to the second half of the book and the part that is far meatier. The story now follows Jean and Nikolai as they dip in and out of the history of the abolition movement, meeting the main players and having a pivotal role in keeping the movement going, advancing through the years through beads on a time travel bracelet. It's an interesting tour through the history of the slave trade in Britain but there doesn't seem that much depth to this part of the writing with just a side issue of Jean and Nikolai putting off sex until they reached their 'full powers' which seemed rather pointless. The history is interesting although partly fictional but there's little character development and it dragged a little sometimes. This book is part historical romance, part time-travel story, part witch/magic story and somehow the three strands never really settled comfortably together for me. The book made a strong case against the slave trade and although not detailing the horrors of the trade as some books might it was interesting reading the story of Adia and why the quest for freedom was still overriding for her. Adia was an interesting character, someone who grew up through her experiences and who appeared able to accommodate to very different life circumstances. But the overall way that the story worked, with Jean and Nikolai's initial meeting (a captor/captive relationship), the explorations of their magic (fantasy) and then the historical aspect of the slave trade felt too disjointed to make it a truly enjoyable book. Originally published for *Curled Up With A Good Book*, [...] Helen Hancox 2007

Kurzbeschreibung Mary Jo Putneys passionate, vivid characters and captivating stories have earned enthusiastic acclaim from reviewers and readers everywhere. Now the New York Times bestselling author weaves a new tale in the Guardian series a dazzling romantic fantasy that takes readers not only from the elegant streets of London to a dangerously tempting Mediterranean island but across time. Jean Macrae's family is one of the most prominent clans of Guardians, humans whose magical powers come from nature, but Jean considers her skills modest at best. She has never been able to summon the intense, earth-altering ability that has marked the most talented Guardians, and she is content without the adventure that such skill brings . . . until the day she is confronted by a handsome stranger whose magic imprisons her on his pirate ship. Captain Nikolai Gregorio is convinced that Jean's father abandoned him, as a child, to slavers. Now he seeks vengeance against the Macraes, no matter the cost. But Jean soon finds his untrained magical gifts far more dangerous than his thirst for revenge, especially when they intensify her own powers to an unthinkable and enticing degree. And when Jean and Nikolai's irresistible connection summons a woman from the future, they are charged with a formidable task: protect those who will oppose slavery's evil and forever change the future of two nations. This quest will sweep Jean and Nikolai into the most fantastic of realms and try their powers beyond even what the Guardians themselves would dare. And when ultimate disaster threatens, they will stake everything on a shattering test of love that could secure the fate of generations . . . or destroy them and all they cherish. From the Hardcover edition. From Booklist When Nikolai Grigori is a homeless urchin in Malta, the visiting Macrae of Dunrath recognizes his magical powers and offers to foster him. But on the voyage to England they are attacked by pirates, and Macrae does nothing to stop them from taking Nikolai as a slave. Years later Nikolai exacts revenge by kidnapping the late Macrae's daughter. Jean, a Guardian, saves the day, first when their ship is attacked by pirates, and later when she adds her magic to Nikolai's to survive a horrifying storm. Adia, a woman from the future who survived the Middle Passage and went to England at the end of the American Revolution, turns up on Nikolai's private island, Santola, with the message that Jean and Nikolai must travel to the future to ensure the success of the abolition movement. As they travel through time, they use both African and Guardian magic and discover the synergistic effect of intimacy on their paranormal powers. Not the page-turning escapist fare readers usually expect from Putney, this tale features admirable characters and a fascinating approach to slavery and the abolition movement. Tixier Herald, Diana Pressestimmen Praise for Mary Jo Putney and her novels of the Guardians *Stolen Magic* Putney's fully imagined magical system, combined with Georgian detail, is a terrific setting for a tale of intrigue and danger. Booklist (starred review) *Delightful . . . enchants from beginning to end.* Elizabeth Haydon, author of *The Symphony of Ages* series *A Kiss of Fate* Mesmerizing in its emotional breadth, stunning in its backdrop, and

spellbinding in its paranormal overtones . . . a marvelous, fast-paced tale. *Romantic Times* A unique spin on reality, magic, and love . . . [Putney] takes romantic fantasy to a new level. *Library Journal* From the Hardcover edition.