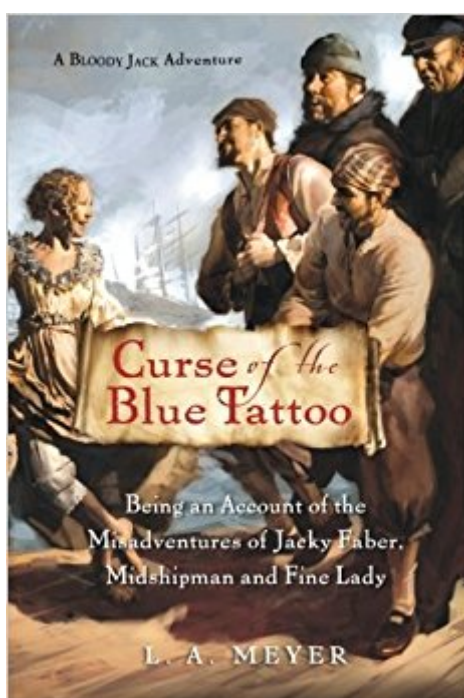


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Curse Of The Blue Tattoo: Being An Account Of The Misadventures Of Jacky Faber, Midshipman And Fine Lady (Bloody Jack Adventures)



Synopsis

After being forced to leave HMS Dolphin and Jaimy, her true love, Jacky Faber is making a new start at the elite Lawson Peabody School for Young Girls in Boston. But growing up on the streets of London and fighting pirates never prepared Jacky for her toughest battle yet: learning how to be a fine lady. Everything she does is wrong. Her embroidery is deplorable, her French is atrocious, and her table manners--disgusting! Then there's the small matter of her blue anchor tattoo. . . . Despite her best efforts, Jacky can't seem to stay out of trouble long enough to dedicate herself to being ladylike. But what fun would that be, anyway?

Book Information

Series: Bloody Jack Adventures (Book 2)

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Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

Shiver me timbers! Bloody Jack is back and this time, she's facing a situation far worse than a ship full of murderous pirates. Curse of the Blue Tattoo, L.A. Meyer's sequel to the enormously popular Bloody Jack: Being an Account of the Curious Adventures of Mary "Jacky" Faber, Ship's Boy is just as bawdy and entertaining as the original. Left in Boston by the H.M.S. Dolphin crew when they discover her true sex, Jacky Faber finds herself navigating entirely new waters. It turns out that bloodthirsty buccaneers have nothing on the young ladies at the Lawson Peabody School! As Jacky observes, "they're like any bunch of thirty or so

cats thrown in a sack and shaken up good. They're mean in ways that boys never even thought of being." It isn't long before Jacky shows her true colors by being arrested for "exposing a Female Part" (her knee) while jiggling in the streets and is "busted down" to serving girl instead of student. Jacky soldiers on, getting herself into scrapes that her darling beau midshipman Jaimy Fletcher couldn't even begin to imagine, including uncovering a shady minister's evil secret and fixing a horse race with voodoo. And where in the world is seafaring Jaimy? As her letters to him continue to go unanswered, Jacky grows more and more worried. Still, at book's end she takes an assignment as "lady's companion" to the captain's wife aboard a whaler headed for London. Astute readers will notice that the whaler's crabby captain has a peg leg and won't be surprised if in the next *Bloody Jack Adventure*, Jacky ends up hunting the great white whale! Utterly engaging and incredibly well-paced, *Curse of the Blue Tattoo* is the very best kind of historical fiction: the kind that won't leave teens snoring. Meyer effortlessly maintains Jacky's sassy voice and conflicted conscience in what is shaping up to be a great series. While many readers will groan with despair as Jacky sets off yet again at the end of the book, they will also sigh with relief that they will most likely be meeting her again! --Jennifer Hubert

--This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

Grade 8 Up – In this sequel to *Bloody Jack* (Harcourt, 2002), Meyer continues the adventures of the wild and wanton Jacky, who sailed aboard HMS *Dolphin* as a crewmember until it was discovered that he was really a girl. Here, she must leave her true love, Jaimy, when she is put ashore in Boston for a new start at an elite girls' school. She describes her snobbish classmates and the failed attempts of the headmistress to make a lady out of her. A natural show-off, Jacky loves to play her pennywhistle and dance on the streets. When she is arrested and jailed for showing some knee, she is demoted to serving girl. She hooks up with a drunken violin player to perform in taverns to earn money to get back to England and her Jaimy. With her propensity for plunging headfirst into trouble, the irrepressible Jacky rolls quickly from one adventure to another. As the story ends, she signs onto a whaler bound for England, leaving an opening for a third volume. Meyer does an excellent job of conveying life in Boston in 1803, particularly the rights, or lack thereof, of women. Jacky's headstrong certainty that she's in control and her cocky first-person account make her a memorable heroine. The narrative is full of lecherous men, and Jacky herself is free in her ways. This fact and the sometimes-strong language make this book more appropriate for older readers. Sure to please fans of the first title, this adventure-packed historical novel also stands on its own.

– Connie Tyrrell Burns, Mahoney Middle School, South Portland, ME Copyright

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This is the second book in the Bloody Jack series and picks up where "Bloody Jack" left off. Jacky, who had previously taken a position as a ship's boy has been discovered to be a girl. She is sent to live at an exclusive all-girls school in Boston. She would probably have an easier time herding cats than fitting in with the daughters of the rich and famous of England, France, and America. It seems that Jacky just can't stay out of trouble no matter where she goes! This book is just as exciting as the first book but with a lot more humor. Highly recommended for anyone who enjoys reading about life during the eighteenth century, pirates, romance, and adventure. Best to read this series in order.

This is a great book. I usually read romances that are a bit more racy but this caught and held my attention with colorful, dynamic, interesting characters that kept the story line moving on. I couldn't put it down; honestly it is a book I'd love to read to/with my niece when she reaches about 12 or 13. The heroine is written so well that you love her and at times hate her but you are always cheering her on. Everything about this book is captivating, the writing, the setting, the plot and of course the characters. I can't recommend it enough... even if you don't think you'll like it - it is worth a try simply because the writing is so great.

I really enjoyed this second adventure of Bloody Jacky Faber... or should I call her "Tacky?" I ask, because whoever was in charge of digitalizing this work for Harcourt Books apparently scanned the original with Optical Character Recognition (OCR) software, but didn't proofread too well. Jacky refers to herself as "Tacky" about a dozen times, words like "I'll" become "III" and "thinking" becomes "thmking," etc. Ch. 46 was especially bad. That said, the mistakes happen several times per chapter, not per page, so they may not bother other readers as much as they bothered me. As for the story itself--great yarn! Jacky does tend to get herself into the worst trouble, and since she's no longer a starving urchin, she comes off as a tad less sympathetic in the doing so. I sided a lot more with her friend Amy than with her. But Jacky's good heart, free spirit, and love of animals go a long way toward redeeming her foolishness. Jacky's recollections of her life as a pickpocket felt a little like retroactive continuity, since in Book 1 the only real reference to that was "we steals a bit," and the Dramatic Theft of a Loaf of Bread. But despite all that? This is easily a 4-star book. The historic details were a delight--especially the relationship b/t a certain preacher and Cotton Mather, and the continual reference to the important "Adams" family of the area! It was a pleasure to read. I'm

definitely off to download Book #3.

I read the first book of this series through another source and was immediately drawn in. What an amazing story!!!! I power read this in about 12 hours. I LOVE ALL THE CHARACTERS! I'm certainly looking forward to the next installment.

Yes, the main character is a female that experiences dilemmas as she grows up and we get to travel through these experiences as she deals with them all on her own!! Very exciting and wound around historical data from a females point of view. Listening to the audio is a huge benefit because the readers accent adds to the authenticity and setting. I shared my audio CDs with students, nieces and my adult daughters; which then led to many wonderful, enlightening talk sessions about Jackie's decisions in solving her dilemmas. L.A. Meyer is an author with amazing insight. Thank you Mr. Meyer!

When a friend recommended *Curse of the Blue Tatto*", I was in the process of hunting for a new book on my Kindle. What a find!! Jacky Faber is the most outrageous, courageous, and bold girl I have ever "met". Her adventures and lapses into mischief captivated me and I found it difficult to go away from her for even several hours. She has the "guts and gumption" that applies to many women I know today, including myself. If you want a fun ride, read this book. I have already started the sequel and am learning much about swordsmanship, and how to sail a warship in 18th century England.

This entire series is wholly enjoyable, and I've read it many times without growing bored. I would recommend it to anyone who loves a good adventure with a plucky female protagonist who nevertheless has her own flaws. Just an all-around great time!

Once again, "little Jackie Farber" gets into more scraps than a girl ought to! Hooray for our Jackie!! The fantastic fun continues!!

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