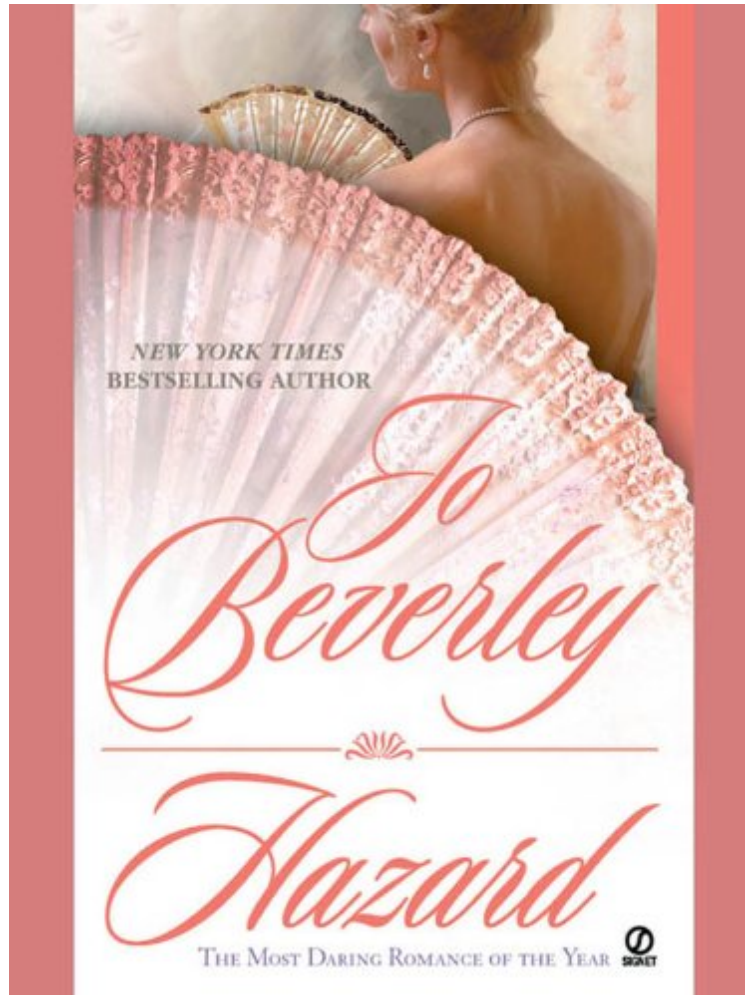


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Hazard (The Company of Rogues Series)

Von Jo Beverley

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Von Jo Beverley : Hazard (The Company of Rogues Series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hazard (The Company of Rogues Series):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A five star Jo BeverleyVon Helen HancoxI've read three of Jo Beverley's books before and none of them have quite made it to five stars for me. However, Hazard was a definite improvement - the story and characters worked much better for me.Lady Anne Peckworth (who has appeared in two of the Rogues books) seems to have an unfortunate habit - that of being jilted by the Rogues. When the second Rogue who has been courting her marries someone else the Rogues, worried about Lady Anne who really is a very nice woman, send Race de Vere to check that she is OK. Race teams up with her brother Uffham, working as his secretary/assistant, and thus gets invited to the Duke of Arran's home (Anne's father) and is able to get to know her.Anne can't decide what to do with herself. Two betrothals that haven't quite

happened make her wonder if it's safe to get married but the alternative, dwindling to a spinster, isn't appealing. When she meets Race de Vere she enjoys her conversations with him, particularly when he shows her more of the fun side of life - brandy drinking, playing hazard, kissing. Of course he's wildly ineligible, being from a family line which was born the wrong side of the blanket, but she finds herself coming out of her shell in his company. Then he disappears and Lady Anne sets herself the task of finding a husband with her friend, Tris St Raven, giving her advice on their suitability. Anne very much comes out of her shell in this book - she turns from a quiet, reclusive lady with a limp to a bright, lively woman who seems to slay passing men with her charms and who behaves in a rather indecorous way at times. In fact I wasn't entirely sure how believable Anne was her behaviour towards the end of the book gets pretty shocking. De Vere is far too low down the social scale to even consider an alliance with Anne and yet the quality of this book is in the way in which it shows them as equals in terms of intelligence and interests which makes the reader eager to see things work out well for them. Although there is romance in this book the plot and characterisation takes more of a central position than in many Regencies, plus the different social classes in this book sets it apart a little. The Rogues appear in this book in many places, and there are also references to characters in some of Beverley's other books, but this one can be read as a standalone book without any difficulties. It's an enjoyable way to while away a few hours and I can recommend it.

Kurzbeschreibung You've never met a heroine like Lady Anne Peckworth. The sheltered daughter of a duke, she has always been a perfect lady, even when jilted. Twice. Now, however, she's angry, and she's angry at the single most reckless, most irresponsible, most irresistible man she's ever known... You've never met a hero like Race de Vere. Far below Anne's station in life, he has invaded her orderly world like a pirate, tempting her to the edge and beyond. He leads her into impropriety, into wickedness, and then into the most dangerous step of all - the adventure that could win or lose her everything in one hazardous night.... From Publishers Weekly 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. Racecombe 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 charms is exaggerated, and her reactions sometimes overpower their interplay. Nevertheless, Anne's rare combination of intelligence and spunk enlivens this standard plot, and fans will appreciate the spicy chemistry between her and Race. Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc. From Booklist It's another quiet day in the life of Lady Anne Peckworth. 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 spinsterhood, 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 is determined that she must marry. Both are excruciatingly aware of the huge difference in social standing. Anne looks elsewhere, but no one comes close to Race. Fans of Beverley's *Company of Rogues* series will truly enjoy this delightful adventure. Maria Hatton Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved