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The Rise of HR HarperCollins

Luke uncovers a plot to steal a famous painting and gets caught up in the gang's attempt to break a code that will lead them to a stash of Nazi gold.

Autodesk Revit 2018 MEP Fundamentals - Metric Units Bink Books

The Bad Boy Series Collection I've been in love with Hunter Saint my entire life. He was my first love and the one I could never forget. Then Fate intervened and we became enemies. Now, I must go to Hunter on my hands and knees to beg him to save my brother's life. I'll pay any price to save him. I'll do anything Hunter wants. Anything... The Bad Boy Series by S. E. Lund's is a sexy new novella series, featuring a bad

boy with a heart of gold and a heroine who can't get him out of her life or her heart. When Fate forces them back together again, can they deny what has long simmered between them?

Why the Bottom Line Isn't! Simon and Schuster

Jason is a cynical rich playboy. He doesn't take life seriously, He doesn't believe in settling down. Eileen's thirtieth birthday is almost here. But as always she's her parent's afterthought. Her family is too busy planning a shotgun wedding for her older sister—and she has to help. It's just another year where she's overlooked. But the best man is smoking hot and actually notices her and makes her feel special. Jason doesn't believe in commitment, but Eileen intrigues him. She's not the kind of girl he usually hooks up with. She doesn't even fall for his charm. He's made it his task to convince her that he's not the shallow man she thinks he is. But can Jason give up his playboy lifestyle to become what Eileen needs?

Miss Julia Delivers the Goods Hocus Pocus Publishing, Inc.

"A sweet, sexy read, featuring a couple that feels both

true-to-life and aspirational. ” Kirkus Review, Starred Review American Angie Donovan has never wanted much. When you grow up getting bounced from foster home to foster home, you learn not to become attached to anything, anyone, or any place. But it only took her two days to fall in love with Australia. With her visa clock ticking, surely she can fall in love with an Australian—and get hitched—in two months. Especially if he ’ s as hot and funny as her next-door neighbor... Jace Walters has never wanted much—except a bathroom he didn ’ t have to share. The last cookie all to himself. And solitude. But when you grow up in a family of seven, you can kiss those things goodbye. He ’ s finally living alone and working on his syndicated comic strip in privacy. Sure, his American neighbor is distractingly sexy and annoyingly nosy, but she ’ ll be gone in a few months... Except now she ’ s determined to find her perfect match by checking out every eligible male in the town, and her choices are even more distracting. So why does it suddenly feel like he—and his obnoxious tight-knit family, and even these two wayward dogs—could be exactly what she needs? Each book in the Patterson's Bluff series is STANDALONE: * The Aussie Next Door * Her Aussie Holiday

To My Arrogant Boss Ascent, Center for Technical Knowledge

When it comes to evaluating a firm, leadership matters. We know that financial outcomes can predict about 50 percent of a firm's market value. Intangibles like strategy, brand, talent, R&D, innovation, risk, and so on account for the rest.

But leadership underlies them all. And despite how important we know it is, we've been forced to rely on subjective and unreliable ways to measure its impact—until now. In this landmark book, leadership scholar, author, and consultant Dave Ulrich proposes a “leadership capital index”—a Moody's or Standard and Poor's rating for leadership. Drawing on research from investors and business leaders, and synthesizing the work of dozens of consulting firms and leadership experts, Ulrich analyzes two broad domains, each comprising five factors. The individual domain includes personal qualities, strategic prowess, execution proficiency, interpersonal skills, and fit between the leader's style and the organization's market promises. The organizational domain encompasses a leader's ability to create customer-focused cultures, manage talent, demand accountability, use information to gain competitive advantage, and set up work processes to deal with change. Ulrich details rigorous metrics and methods for evaluating leaders on each of these factors. The result is a groundbreaking book that will be of vital interest not only to equity and debt investors but also to boards of directors, executive teams, human resource and leadership development professionals, government and ratings agencies—and of course to leaders themselves.

Death Waits in the Dark McGraw Hill Professional

Come home to 59 Memory Lane with a new novel from the top Kindle and USA Today bestselling author Celia Anderson!

Shades of Lovers Entangled: Amara

It took all of thirty seconds for two shots to bring the world of

Margaret Tabaaha crashing down around her. After losing her husband in Afghanistan during the first year of Operation Enduring Freedom, her two sons were all she had left. Now they had been taken from her violently, deliberately, plunging her into a whiskey bottle and stripping away her reason for living. When Arthur Nakai receives a call from his first love, Margaret, her voice pleading for his help, it comes as he is attending a wake for one of the men he considered a brother from his days in the Marines 6th LAR Wolf Pack Battalion. Feeling a deep and responsible obligation to help her, Arthur soon finds himself involved in the multi-billion-dollar world of the oil and gas industry and coming face-to-face with an old adversary, Elias Dayton. Their paths had crossed when Arthur was a member of the Shadow Wolves, an elite tactical unit within US Customs and Border Protection. Now Dayton runs Patriot Security, a Blackwater-type firm that keeps the oil rigs, gas wells, and man camps secure from the Water Protectors, protesters pushing to stop the fracking and poisoning of Native lands. As Arthur works through the case from his end, Navajo police chief Jake Bilagody tackles it from another angle, looking into the strained relationship between the oil company and the Navajo people, all while searching for a missing Navajo man that may have become an unwilling piece on the reservation checkerboard. But when Arthur learns the identity of the boys' killer, he struggles to make sense of it. Because if the clues are right, he will be forced to make a decision that will haunt him for the rest of his life.

The Descendants Complete Series (Books 1, 1.5, 2, 3) Sourcebooks, Inc.

This little book is written in a simple, easily understandable style. The animals do the talking and tell their individual stories. Each and every

one comes from the street. They speak for the thousands that didn't find a safe home-that died on the street as road-kill, or simply starved to death for lack of food and water-for which we, the humans, shall be held accountable. This book hopes to give comfort and courage to the disabled and to anyone hurting or grieving in body and spirit. It hopes to alleviate the loss-when it invariably comes-and reminds one in all, what life is all about. Till we meet again. Auf ein Wiedersehen. A vizsont latasra."

One Hot Holiday Penguin

HR thought leader Dave Ulrich—bestselling author of *HR Champions*, *The Why of Work*, *HR from the Outside In*, and more—is back with his international colleagues to unpack and distill the finest, most up-to-the-moment thinking from the HR world. Indeed, this book looks at best practices from companies on every continent, offering an expert survey of universal and regional HR dos and don'ts. Because new and developing global circumstances often require adaptability and changes in best practices, *Global HR Competencies* documents the decision and policymaking of some of the world's foremost, leading-edge HR practitioners. Together with his team of researchers, Ulrich has broken down all there is to know about best HR practices around the world—and how they might take shape in the future. *Global HR Competencies* will teach you: The guiding principles that HR's next generations can't afford to be without How HR professionals integrate across all levels of business life in each major region of the world HR's impact on short-term individual and business performance, and how it can have sustainable impact on customers and

society as a whole How to best employ, develop, and make the most of HR professionals, giving you and your organization the maximum advantage—wherever you are in the world Advance Praise for Global HR Competencies "An invaluable resource for crafting sustainable organizations in a world of fast-moving technological change and innovation." -- Paul Norman, Chief Human Resources & Corporate Affairs, MTN Group (Africa) "[Global HR Competencies] brings important research to life with the injection of regional context and local knowledge, turning the findings into lessons for the profession globally." -- Peter Wilson, National President, Australian Human Resources Institute (Australia) "Provides both the gold standard in global HR competencies, as well as a compelling overview of how these competencies apply to China. Outstanding!" -- Bo Lianming, President, TCL Corporation (China) "An invaluable guide to boosting the understanding of the nuanced role the HR function plays in different markets. . . . Highly informative." -- William S. Allen, Group Senior Vice President, Group HR, A.P. Møller – Mærsk (Europe) "An excellent research-based account of how contemporary HR practices are helping corporations across the world excel and globalize. . . . A must-read for CEOs and HR professionals alike." -- Adi Godrej, Chairman, Godrej Group, and President, Confederation of Indian Industry (India) "Should be read by any HR professional who has a true interest in the standards of excellence of the HR function in each region." -- Eduardo Villar, HR VP, Hochschild Mining (Latin America) "Will greatly assist any company achieve its strategic goals and objectives." -- Khalid S. Al-Mudaifer, President & CEO, Ma'aden Saudi Arabian Mining Co. (Middle East) "This is a must-read for any leader who is responsible for managing global businesses." -- Dennis W. Shuler, Chief HR Officer and Senior Vice President, The Kellogg Company (North America) "A must-read for HR professionals." -- Murat Ulker, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Yildiz Holding (Turkey)

The Widow Waltz Springer

The novel *The Island of the Elyms* is set in a village of Sicily. It touches four generations of a well-to-do family and relates the tragic and humorous occurrences in the life of each member of that family. The story is narrated by a young girl, Marianna, whose romantic ideals and openness are often in conflict with the secretive and reserved nature of her family. Marianna loves the more salubrious and rustic lifestyle of the land-workers as opposed to the refined and sophisticated lifestyle of her aristocratic family. She feels the former to be an honest way of life and the latter a pretentious and artificial one. Marianna, with the exuberance of youth, would like to see a radical change in the way her family deals with certain issues. She herself represents a slowly changing society. However, the people whose beliefs have been forged and impressed into their very soul by generations of tumultuous historical events, are resistant to change. Eventually, Marianna learns to appreciate the island's cultural richness and its paradox. A

sense of history and mythology, superstition and religion, in fact, often exist alongside one another and are portrayed in the novel. The novel touches also on both the First and Second World Wars because two members of Marianna's family, her grandfather and father, fought in each war respectively. It depicts every human emotion by means of adopting humor and tragedy throughout. One might say that in the novel *The Island of the Elyms* there is a book within the book as the lives of Marianna's great grandparents and grandparents emerge. The former being read by Nonna from her mother's memoirs and the latter narrated by Nonna herself. When finally Marianna is comfortable with who she is - different from the rest of her family, she is torn away from her birthplace for the great unknown which happens to be Australia. The story ends with the uprooting of the girl by the family, who, in turn, has to forfeit and abandon every dream, and thus becoming the innocent victim of the tragedy of emigration.

A Secret in Time Central Avenue Publishing

Famous "Work-Out" change-management tool explained by the people who helped develop it. GE's legendary Work-Out program played a key role in the company's phenomenal success over the past decade and has been implemented in many other organizations. Now three executives and consultants who developed the original Work-Out approach at GE often working directly with CEO Jack Welch discuss the inner workings of Work-Out and their experiences at successfully implementing the program at GE. Filled with

effective assessment and decisionmaking tools, *The GE Work-Out* provides concrete and realistic guidance for anyone who wants to implement Work-Out and break down bureaucracy and hierarchy within an organization.

Leadership in Asia: Challenges, Opportunities, and Strategies From Top Global Leaders McGraw Hill Professional

Spanning more than two centuries in Ireland, *Castle on the Rise* unites the legacy of three women who must risk mending their broken places for life, love, and the belief that even through the depths of our pain, a masterpiece of a story can emerge. When Laine Forrester travels overseas to attend her best friend's vineyard wedding, she expects to find the bride on the brink of a fairy-tale life. But after a series of unforeseen setbacks, it seems the storybook lives they'd imagined are suddenly ripping apart. With hopes of resurrecting a happy ending, Laine agrees to accompany the newlyweds to the groom's home in Ireland—never expecting she'd be the one drawn in by its wide-open moors, backroads bordering the Irish Sea, and a mysterious castle that dares to keep its secrets hidden. From the storied streets of Dublin to the shores of the Emerald Isle, Laine is drawn in to the land and its rich history. The castle ruins whisper stories of Issy—a photojournalist battling through the 1916 Easter Rising, and Maeve—the castle's lady of legend, fighting for survival through the 1798 rebellion that started it all. Praise for *Castle on the Rise*: "Enchanting and mesmerizing!" —PATTI CALLAHAN, New York Times bestselling author of *Becoming Mrs. Lewis* "Castle on the Rise perfectly showcases rising star Kristy Cambron's amazing talent! Perfect pacing, lovely prose, and an intricate plot blend together in a delightful novel I couldn't put down. Highly recommended!" —Colleen

Coble, USA TODAY bestselling author of Secrets at Cedar Cabin and the Rock Harbor series “Cambron’s latest is one of her best. Gripping and epic, this intricately woven tale of three generations seeking truth and justice will stay with you long after the last page.” —Rachel Hauck, New York Times bestselling author Second in the Lost Castle series (The Lost Castle, Castle on the Rise, The Painted Castle) Can be read as a stand-alone, but best if read in order Sweet romance set in three time periods: present day, World War I/Easter Rising, and late 1700s Full-length novel (over 110,000 words)

Violence and Mental Health White Pine Press (NY)

“What?” Naomi gasped. “I’m not going anywhere with you!” Alaric could already scent two more witches approaching her apartment. Whatever she’d done had clearly been an accident; he couldn’t rely on her magic. They had to get out of here. She flinched as he reached down to cup her face, gazing into her eyes. “Sorry about this,” he murmured, as he probed her mind. Her thoughts were frantic, moving at an impossible speed. All will be well, he told her silently. Rest now. “What—what are you—” she whispered, as her eyes drooped. She slumped forward into his arms. Cradling her, he moved over to the window, and leapt out. *** Alaric, a centuries-old vampire, lives a solitary life by choice. When he’s assigned to protect Naomi, long dormant emotions stir to life. Naomi Feldman has never understood the strange energy that hums beneath her senses. But when she comes across an ancient artifact that seems to beckon to her, she may finally find the answers she’s been seeking. Pursued by a dangerous enemy and battling their growing attraction, Naomi and Alaric follow the mystery of the artifact from the museums of Athens, the streets of London, towards a confrontation that will

decide the fate of two worlds... Start reading this complete series omnibus now!

The Highlander's Surrender Becca Jameson Publishing
Offers a broad view of leadership and shareholder value based on multiple business disciplines In *Why the Bottom Line Isn't!* authors Dave Ulrich and Norm Smallwood argue that sustainable shareholder value comes increasingly from assets not accounted for on an organization's balance sheet. These assets include a company's reputation, its ability to attract talent, and its ability to react quickly to new opportunities in the marketplace. *Why the Bottom Line Isn't!* harnesses research from a number of disciplines including human resources, finance, and leadership to establish a hierarchy of such intangibles. The authors extrapolate from these intangibles to establish leadership tools that will help create sustainable shareholder value. The book offers a broad, expansive perspective on leadership while eschewing convoluted theory for concrete practice. Dave Ulrich, Ph.D., (DOU@UMICH.EDU) has been listed by BusinessWeek as the top "guru" in management education. He has co-authored 10 books and over 100 articles, serves on the Board of Directors of Herman Miller, and has consulted with over half of the Fortune 200 companies. He is currently on professional leave as Professor at the University of Michigan to serve as Mission President for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Montreal. Norm Smallwood (nsmallwood@rbl.net) is co-founder of Results-Based Leadership (www.rbl.net), which provides

education and consulting services based on this book as well. Impact: Time: Allocate your time so your calendar matches as the ideas in *Results-Based Leadership: How Leaders Build the Business and Improve the Bottom Line*, which he co-authored with Ulrich. He has led leadership development, business strategy, organization capability, change management, and HR projects for a wide variety of clients spanning multiple industries.

Their Haunted Nights H B S Press

MAKE YOUR LEADERSHIP EFFORTS STICK Every day, thousands of people put great effort--and money--into becoming more effective leaders, through seminars, personal coaching, and employee development plans.

These undertakings can do wonders to help leaders of all stripes improve their effectiveness. But not every leader finishes what he or she starts--and many revert back to less effective habits, often without even realizing it. How can you ensure that you stick with all the positive changes you have made? How do you make sure you don't slip back into your old ways? Answer: *Leadership Sustainability* Dave Ulrich--the man BusinessWeek referred to as the "#1 Management Educator and Guru"--teams up with leadership expert Norm Smallwood to go where no leadership guide has gone. This dream team provides sophisticated, proven leadership sustainability ideas and tools that you can put to use immediately. *Leadership Sustainability* helps you turn good intentions into effective actions by mastering seven critical disciplines: Simplicity: Focus on the few key behaviors that will have the most

your intentions. Accountability: Take personal responsibility for doing what you say you will do. Resources: Support your leadership with effective, ongoing coaching and HR systems. Tracking: Develop metrics for measuring your leadership improvement. Melioration: Learn from your mistakes and demonstrate resilience. Emotion: Draw on deep personal values to keep yourself motivated. The journey to great leadership doesn't end with learning and implementing effective new skills. Great leadership is about consistency, and the drive for consistency is a never-ending process. Use *Leadership Sustainability* to ensure leadership greatness today, tomorrow, and for the rest of your life.

PRAISE FOR LEADERSHIP SUSTAINABILITY: "Dave and Norm propose a practical approach to solving the problem of leaders turning what they intend into what they do. The seven principles provide a simple and practical way to get things done." -- Ram Charan, coauthor of the New York Times bestselling *Execution* "Dave and Norm do a great job about teaching leaders not just what to do, but how to make sure that they do it. The ideas in the book are insightful, specific, and actionable." -- Gina Qiao, SVP Human Resources, Lenovo "Finally, a 'how-to' book that is grounded in the real-world dynamics of leading organizations!" -- Dixon Thayer, CEO, HealthNEXT "Dave and Norm provide both an in-depth understanding of why we often fall short and a set of tools for getting on with it." -- Morgan W. McCall, Jr., Professor, Marshall School of Business,

University of Southern California, and author of *High Flyer*
 "Leaders all over the world will celebrate Dave and Norm's powerful new gift: the concept of Leadership Sustainability and its seven disciplines." -- Frances Hesselbein, President and CEO, The Frances Hesselbein Leadership Institute
 "Finally, we have two scholar-practitioners who correctly address evidence that one of every two leaders fails and offer solutions about proper execution that leads to sustainability." -- W. Warner Burke, Professor of Psychology and Education, Teachers College, Columbia University
 "Dave and Norm understand that one of the keys to success is disciplined continuity and sustainability--which constitute a required core competency among leadership." -- Kathleen Wilson-Thompson, Chief Human Resources Officer, Walgreen Co.

The GE Work-Out Fifty Forty Productions

One cowboy, one bar, one hell of a holiday! Praise for Carolyn Brown's country music romances: "You won't want to miss this boot scootin' contemporary full of sexy cowboys and sassy women."—The Romance Studio (My Give a Damn's Busted) She means business... Sharlene Waverly is determined to have the "new and improved" Honky Tonk up and running before the holiday. For that, she'll need Holt Jackson, the best darn carpenter in the state. But his warm, whisky-colored eyes make her insides melt, and before she knows it, she's sharing her darkest secrets and talking about the nightmares... He's determined to keep things professional... Holt Jackson needs the job at the Honky Tonk, but is completely unprepared to handle the beautiful new bar owner he's working for. Sharlene and Holt try like crazy to deny the sparks flying between them, but their love may just be the best Christmas present either one of them ever got. Praise for I

Love This Bar: "Heart...sass...a lot of sparks and romance...country music. What more can I say? I really had fun with this book."—Red-Headed Book Child "Guaranteed to leave you countrified and satisfied!"—Love Romance Passion

Vertical Poetry McGraw Hill Professional

Following the publication of *Leadership in Asia: Challenges and Opportunities*, the Singapore Ministry of Manpower convened a Third Executive Roundtable in 2010 to examine the various challenges confronting leadership renewal in the Asian business context, especially in the aftermath of the global financial meltdown and economic downturn of 2009. The intensive session, spread over two days, threw up illuminating examples and astute observations on the subject, which were peppered with thoughtful anecdotes and penetrating truths that will titillate the reader. Involving corporate CEOs, Chief Human Resource Officers and leadership thought leaders, the leadership focus group identified four important questions that Asian leaders must address in order to succeed at the highest level: Where are we going? How do we get there? What is work like when we get there? Who stays and who goes? With these on their minds, they set about to pinpoint eight success factors and action domains that are crucial in leaders to enable them to navigate around the pitfalls of being a leader and a change agent in the organisations they lead. These are: Creating customer-centric actions Implementing strategy Getting past the past Governing through decision making Inspiring collective meaning making Capitalising on capability Developing careers Generating leaders Edited by eminent leadership gurus Dave Ulrich and Robert Sutton, this book describes the valuable insights and lessons gleaned from individual leaders and the organisations

they lead. A useful reference for potential leaders, corporate honchos and management experts on leadership issues in organisations within Asia, it represents a significant contribution to research on the subject in the continent, which is home to a multitude of diverse cultures, languages and beliefs, as well as the unique challenges these pose to leaders in leading their organisations.

Global HR Competencies: Mastering Competitive Value from the Outside-In Berrett-Koehler Publishers

AN INSIDE LOOK AT THE STRATEGIES USED TO BUILD LEADERSHIP IN ASIA Bestselling author of Results-Based Leadership In Leadership in Asia, BusinessWeek's number one Management Educator, Dave Ulrich, brings together a powerhouse team of contributors to provide a concise guidebook to cutting-edge trends in leadership at emerging Pacific Rim companies. The region's top business and academic experts--Gerald Chan of UBS Singapore, Girija Pande of Tata Consultancy Services, and Arthur Yeung from the China Europe International Business School, among others--guide you through the critical, and often paradoxical, challenges of developing human capital into effective leaders of companies in Asia. Individually written chapters are brought to life by a wealth of revealing examples from each author's own experiences, as well as illustrative charts and graphs that offer a clear picture of how these strategies work in the real world. Throughout Leadership in Asia, the experts break down in vivid and thorough detail the eight Asian Leadership Paradoxes as well as other vital topics. For the inside track on how Asia's economic force will step into the future, you need Leadership in Asia. The impact of Asian businesses has grown exponentially in the last

decade. A variety of challenges still lie ahead for the seven countries of India, Japan, Malaysia, China, South Korea, Singapore, and the Philippines as they each undergo economic, social, technological, and demographic changes. One of these challenges in particular, the need to develop quality leadership, has emerged at the forefront. In Leadership in Asia, human resources master David Ulrich puts you inside the heads of Asia's top business executives, academics, and consultants to learn their strategies for building successful leadership and human capital in the region. The result is a potent mix of theory, research, and real-world practices that will prepare you to tackle the critical issues and paradoxes in the Asian business arena. Learn how Unilever Foodsolutions Asia gives its workers clearly defined future goals. See what Microsoft Singapore is doing to develop sustainable talent. Each contributor's business ideas share a common component for succeeding in the Asian environment. Through firsthand guidance from these leaders on the frontlines of human capital and leadership development, Leadership in Asia shows you how to: Respect and work within family-centric enterprises while creating professional organizations Recognize bureaucratic, hierarchical, and political complexity while creating flexible, agile, and simple organizations Maintain grace, courtesy, and an Asian style while taking risks and demanding strong performance Tomorrow's leaders will respond more rapidly to change and will have better responses to paradoxes. Leadership in Asia presents a survey of how these future leaders are being developed in one of the world's most important sectors. DAVE ULRICH is a professor of business at the University of Michigan's Ross School of Business and cofounder of The RBL Group, a consulting firm. Ulrich studies

how organizations build capabilities of speed, learning, collaborating, accountability, talent, and leadership through leveraging human resources. He has been ranked the most influential person in human resources by HR Magazine and the number one Management Educator and Guru by BusinessWeek. He also is listed as one of the "world's top five" business coaches by Forbes magazine. He lives in Alpine, Utah.

Administering a Microsoft SQL Server 2000 Database

Outskirts Press

Get ready for The Undoing, soon to be the most talked about TV of 2020. From the creators of Big Little Lies, The Undoing premieres this autumn starring Nicole Kidman, Hugh Grant and Donald Sutherland. 'A great psychological thriller ... I couldn't put it down.' Daisy Goodwin 'Gripping ... had me in its thrall from page one ... Brilliant.' MetroA New York Times bestseller Grace Sachs, a happily married therapist with a young son, thinks she knows everything about women, men and marriage. She is about to publish a book called You Should Have Known, based on her pet theory: women don't value their intuition about men, leading to serious trouble later on. But how well does Grace know her own husband? She is about to find out, and in the place of what she thought she knew, there will be a violent death, a missing husband, and a chain of terrible revelations. Left behind in the wake of a very public disaster, and horrified by the ways in which she has failed to heed her own advice, Grace must dismantle one life and create another for herself and her child. Published previously under the title You

Should Have Known

Operation Code Breaker Faber & Faber

Eliza Knight's bestselling Scottish historical romance series, The Stolen Bride Series, is back with another amazing tale of adventure, passion and love! Ceana Montgomery had notions of marrying for love after her first disastrous marriage ended in widowhood. But now Robert the Bruce has ordered her to marry a stranger, securing a strong alliance and ending a decades-old feud. Already used as a pawn once in marriage, she is devastated that she will once more have to give up her happiness in order to please the edicts of men. And while the braw warrior standing before her might incite feelings inside her she thought long since buried, desire is a far cry from love. The rivalry between Brochan Lamont and his twin brother, John, began in the womb, and only grew worse from there. They were pitted against each other in childhood, and their father left them with a legacy that was a race to the finish-whoever has an heir first inherits the lands. The only problem is that Brochan has given his loyalty to the Scots, and his brother to the English. In order to keep the lands and ships under Scottish control, Robert the Bruce demands Brochan marry to break the iron-clad will. His new bride harbors a fiery temperament that lures Brochan into stoking her passions instead of her ire. Aligned to strengthen the Scottish claims on the realm, Brochan and Ceana must work together to overcome the obstacles that bind them. But perhaps seeing their duties through does not have to be as painful as they both predicted. Is it possible that love can be forged from a union born in alliance? Maybe Fate knew all along just who was meant for who...