



The 7 Question Interview with Loretta Chase

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Loretta Chase is an award winning author of romance novels. Some of her novels are:

- Don't Tempt Me
- Your Scandalous Ways
- Lord of Scoundrels
- Lord Perfect
- Mr. Impossible
- Miss Wonderful
- The Last Hellion
- The Mad Earl's Bride, novella in Three Weddings and a Kiss
- Captives of The Night
- The Lion's Daughter
- The Sandalwood Princess and Knaves' Wager
- Viscount Vagabond and The Devil's Delilah
- Isabella and The English Witch
- Falling Stars

Her official website can be accessed here: <http://www.lorettachase.com>

The WritingRaw.com 7 Question Interview

Please let us know who you are and how we might know you:

As Loretta Chase, I write historical romances with a definite comic slant. They're set in the general environs of the English Regency (early 19th C), although not always in England. One of my novels, *Lord of Scoundrels*, has remained very popular over the years, and I think my name is most usually associated with that book. It's won more awards than all the rest of my books combined.



Any news you would like to share concerning upcoming projects:

I seem to have found my niche, and am very happy exploring the early part of the 19th century, whether it's London, the English countryside, Albania, Egypt, or Venice. In my July book, *Don't Tempt Me*, the heroine embodies the clash between the culture of Ottoman Egypt and that of the English upper classes. My work-in-progress is a continuation of my Carsington series, featuring two popular characters from one of the books.

Those are the book activities. Meanwhile, I'm preparing to embark on a project that will allow me to release my inner nerd. Historical novelist Susan Holloway Scott (author of *Duchess*, *Royal Harlot*, *The King's Favorite*, and the forthcoming *The French Mistress*), and I truly, deeply love historical research. We are fascinated by the details of daily life in times past. We love to dig up useless information and share it with each other. We've decided to share this stuff with the world, whether the world wants it or not, starting in June, when we launch our blog, Two Nerdy History Girls (www.TwoNerdyHistoryGirls.com).

Thoughts concerning the current state of the literary world:

As a history nerd, I tend to do a lot of historical compare and contrast. There have been times when few could read and times when few could afford books. Then came the time when books became readily available to a large, literate audience. There have been good and bad economic times. In the Great Depression, people still went to the movies. They still read books. We authors can't control global economics. We can't control the business side of our business: distributors and publishers disappearing, what's popular today and what isn't. Good grief, most of us can't even control what goes on the covers of our books! So my philosophy is, Just Write--and Hope for the Best.

Who is your favorite author and why?

My list of favorites is a mile long. Dickens continues to head the list. Sometimes the sentiment gets goey and some of the women characters get on my nerves but none of that changes my opinion, which is that he's a genius, his writing is beautiful, his imagination is stupendous, his characters are delicious, and the issues in his books remain relevant today, although their outer forms have changed somewhat. The Circumlocution Office is still with us, for instance. So are the poor, so is political knavery, so is abuse of power and law . . . and on and on it goes. And yes, in some places of the world, they are still cutting off people's heads for puzzling reasons, so *A Tale of Two Cities* is by no means obsolete.



Have you written a book you love that you have not been able to publish?

No. I've written or half-written a couple of not-so-good books, but eventually realized they were no good, and abandoned them, with no regrets.

Do you have anything specific that you want to say to your readers?

Hi, readers. Thank you for buying my books. Please keep it up.

How do you feel about what WritingRaw.com and other literary sharing sites are attempting to do for new writers?

Well, now I know where to send the aspiring authors who email me for advice. I do think sites like this are valuable for writers who seek a community where they can present their work and get feedback. The site also clearly demonstrates that there's no one way to write. Each author has his or her approach, his or her attitude about the job. Some of us, for instance, continue to work with a critique group, though we are multi-published. Some of us run screaming from the idea of group participation in the creative process. Some of us delight in a hermit existence. Some of us require human contact on at least a daily (hourly, in some cases) basis. Some of us can't begin working on a story until we've written an outline. Some of us sink into catastrophic depression just thinking about writing an outline. With writing, all you can do is do it your own way. What's most important is to do it and stick to it. And, as always, hope for the best.

WritingRaw.com would like to thank Ms. Chase for taking the time out of her busy schedule for this interview.