

The Summer of the Spanish Woman By Catherine Gaskin Then Charlotte has to leave her home and meets this other guy Carlos and just kisses him like it's no big deal and there's no thought or hesitation considering her 'grand epic love' Robert. I felt the best of the Spanish sun.

Your perfect summer holiday blockbuster - from the windy shores of Ireland to the sun-baked earth of Spain this is a gripping story of family pride forbidden love secrets and lies. Beginning at the turn of the last century and spanning the First World War and the Spanish Civil War The Summer of the Spanish Woman is another spellbinding page-turner from the pen of the bestselling author of The Property of a Gentleman and Sara Dane. It turned into quite a page-turner although there were places where it moved very slowly and there was a lot of detail about the art of making sherry but I found the story compelling and read it eagerly. It wasn't the bits about wine-making that bored me so much as the loooong stretches of Nothing Happening (which is probably meant to mirror the process of vineyards & wine fermentation -- but discussion of such a juxtaposition is too tedious for a casual review). Carlos was a dick though a vibrant presence in the plot but IMO the true hero was Luis who gallantly took on all the shit for Charlie's sake & didn't bat an eyelash. My other fave was Lady Patricia who was frequently drunk & only half-lucid (see I told you it was depressing :P) but in a good way -- she never lost her piss & vinegar & was the only one who had the guts to take action against that shrieking bitch Elena. the final 75-100 pages) could have been removed & the story would've been much stronger; by then I didn't GAF what happened because the time gaps made for such a disconnect. For the most part it is a very well written book but to me at least did not have the exciting type of scenes that would take one's breath away and it did have a tendency to drag in some places. The main character Charlie (Charlotte) is a strong female character who loves suffers and grows immersing herself in the vineyards and bodegas of Jerez after she and her mother are forced to leave their beloved Clonmara estate in Ireland. The legend of the Spanish Woman who spent a summer with her grandfather Lord Blodmore decades before comes into play and weaves a tale of deceit betrayal and revenge through the story; events from the past that keep reaching into the future. I found the romance between teenage Charlotte and thirty year old newly married Richard the new heir to the estate after a five minute horse-ride along the beach contrived and almost ludicrous but the rest of the story had me gripped and showed me a Spain I knew little about. Because i've just relocated for the first time I identified with her move to another country IWhile the story is engaging it doesn't measure up to Mitchell's saga or meet the literary standards of the likes of A, That coupled with how long and rambly and info-dumpy the dialogue was: A disappointing DNF The Summer of the Spanish Woman My fave Gaskin book. I read this more times than I care to remember in my late teens, The Summer of the Spanish Woman Another wonderful read from Catherine Gaskin. The characters beautiful yet flawed beckon us to read on and on. When her grandfather dies without leaving a male heir Charlotte Drummond and her mother are forced to leave their family home Clonmara: A distant cousin Richard Selwin inherits her grandfather's estate and the title of Lord Blodmore, He also claims Charlotte's heart but a cruel twist of fate prevents them from being together, Charlotte and her mother begin a new life in the Spanish town of Jerez among the families and vineyards of the great Spanish sherry dynasties: There she discovers the surprising secrets of her grandfather's younger life and the mystery surrounding "the Summer of the Spanish Woman" many decades before. As Charlotte learns more about the events of that long-ago summer she realises that its far-reaching consequences stretch into the present, Drawn into a web of deceit and vengeance her destiny is shaped by both her enemies and her allies in this foreign land. And she must confront Isabel Marquesa de Pontevedra whose presence casts light or shadow over those whose lives she seeks to control: A brilliant family saga which paints a vivid picture of life among the sherry makers of early twentieth century Spain and the turmoil of the Spanish Civil War. The Summer of the Spanish Woman



Catherine Gaskin (2 April 1929 – 6 September 2009) historical fiction and romantic suspense, When she was only three months old her parents moved to Australia settling in Coogee a suburb of Sydney where she grew up. Her first novel *This Other Eden* was written when she was 15 and published two years later. After her second novel *With Every Year* was published she moved to London: Three best sellers followed: *Dust in Sunlight* (1950) *All Else is Folly* (1951) and *Daughter of the House* (1952). She completed her best known work *Sara Dane* on her 25th birthday in 1954 and it was published in 1955, It sold than 2 million copies was translated into a number of other languages and Catherine Gaskin (2 April 1929 – 6 September 2009) historical fiction and romantic suspense: When she was only three months old her parents moved to Australia settling in Coogee a suburb of Sydney where she grew up: Her first novel *This Other Eden* was written when she was 15 and published two years later, After her second novel *With Every Year* was published she moved to London. Three best sellers followed: *Dust in Sunlight* (1950) *All Else is Folly* (1951) and *Daughter of the House* (1952), She completed her best known work *Sara Dane* on her 25th birthday in 1954 and it was published in 1955: It sold than 2 million copies was translated into a number of other languages and was made into a television series in Australia in 1982. Other novels included *A Falcon for the Queen* (1972) and *The Summer of the Spanish Woman* (1977): Catherine Gaskin moved to Manhattan for ten years after marrying an American, She then moved to the Virgin Islands then in 1967 to Ireland where she became an Irish citizen, She then returned to Sydney where she died in September 2009 aged 80 of ovarian cancer. {site_link} I wanted to like this book because I loved *The Ambassador's Women* but the 'epic love' literally started out of nowhere: oh how I would love to know how it ended! *The Summer of the Spanish Woman* This is one of the older books on my *Waiting To Be Read* pile. It's a long time since I read a Catherine Gaskin novel and I was not disappointed by this one. Suffice it to say if you're looking for a fast easy read this is NOT one to pick up -- it's dense involved & (frequently) quite depressing, There's very little romance; indeed it's more of a soap about family succession, (Sidenote: rarely do I complain about first-person narration but this one really needed third-person to do better justice to the characters,) Extreme-beta Richard made me want to shake his shoulders & push him from a carriage, Charlie's epic devotion to a guy who completely lacked backbone & ballsacks felt forced & silly. Maria Luisa the old maid/family accountant was another strong feature what with her vast well of gossip & acidic self-deprecating editorials, As already mentioned *SPANISH WOMAN* has glaring issues with pace: Long long stretches of slow movement are punctuated with really good scenes; meanwhile time passes in huge chunks then pauses mid-swoop long enough for more interesting bits. The entire arc about the '30s & the Revolution buildup (i: It should've ended with Paulo's death -- just transplant a few good scenes from the last section a bit earlier in the timeline & presto! 4 stars, I quite liked Gaskin's *FIONA* but hated *THE TILSIT INHERITANCE*; this one falls somewhere in between. *The Summer of the Spanish Woman* I did enjoy reading this book and learned a lot from it especially about the events leading up to the Spanish Civil War: The discussions about wine making contributed to the setting but were not overly informative even for someone who has made wine, The story is told as a saga so there is no normal plot structure: You can't tell where you are in the novel except by looking at the page numbers. For this reason I have to disagree with the people who thought the ending was too abrupt, A work of this

nature is not going to have a crisp resolution, Yes there were some but all the characters who needed to be round were round, The Summer of the Spanish Woman Greatest epic novel written Catherine Gaskin writes true lifelike novels, Life has many trials and tribulations and she covered them brilliantly hard to put the book down: The Summer of the Spanish Woman This book moves between Ireland and Spain beginning in the early 20th Century and ending on the eve of the Second World War: It combines the romance and mystery of Ireland with the exotic warmth of Spain and its wine-growing culture and traditions. Charlie is thrown up against some daunting adversaries the powerful Don Paulo and the rich and autocratic Marquesa de Pontevedra both bent on destroying the Blodmores. She also has to care for her loveable but flawed alcoholic mother and many other people who are added to her household. The Summer of the Spanish Woman Gaskin's novel is the kind of sweeping historical romance that I enjoy escaping into: Reminiscent of Gone with the Wind it also has a fiesty female protagonist with Irish roots. That did not influence my enjoyment one whit and I wasn't disappointed when the predictable narrative ended on a happy note, Who wants to escape to a somber reality? The Summer of the Spanish Woman.

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I went along with it. Just nope. I never get tired of this author. The Summer of the Spanish Woman Magnificent!!!I was mesmerized. by this story.She was born in Dundalk Bay Louth Ireland in 1929.She was born in Dundalk Bay Louth Ireland in 1929. She also lived on the Isle of Man. Her last novel was The Charmed Circle (1988). Okay could taste the sherry hear the Spanish flamenco. The Summer of the Spanish Woman 3.5 stars. When this is good it's really good.but when it's boring it's really boring.but I digress. Bless.e.But that didn't happen so I'm sticking with 3.5. It stopped in the right place. I also disagree that there were too many flat characters. Thank you Catherine Gaskin.S. Byatt