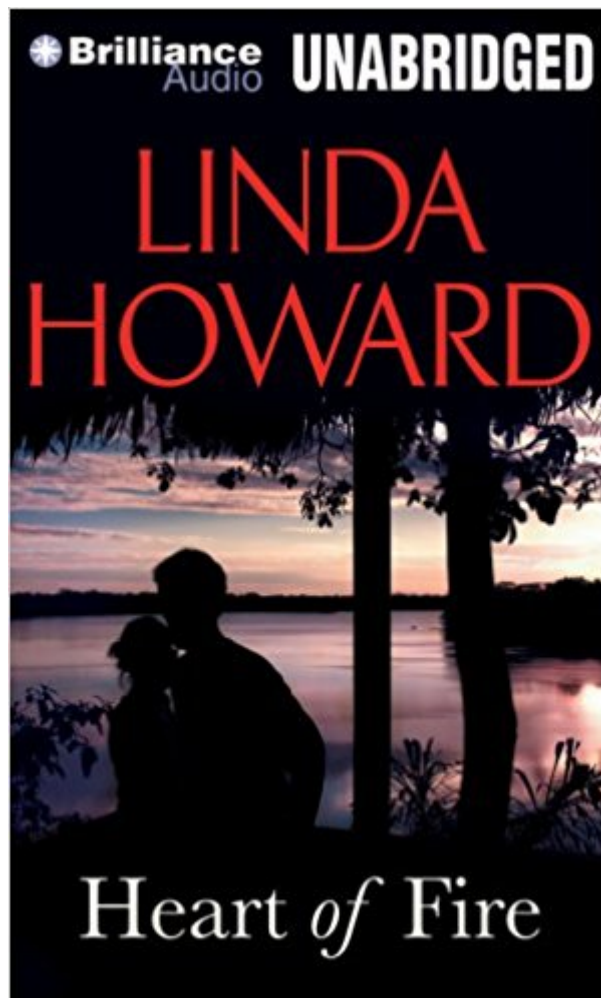


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# Heart Of Fire



## Synopsis

A fabulous lost city once inhabited by women warriors and containing a rare red diamond: it sounded like myth, but archeologist Jillian Sherwood believed it was real, and she was willing to put up with anything to find it—•even Ben Lewis. Ruffian, knock-about, and number one river guide in Brazil, Ben was all man—•over six feet of rock-hard muscles that rippled under his khakis, with lazy blue eyes that taunted her from his tanned face. Jillian watched him come to a fast boil when she refused to reveal their exact destination upriver in the uncharted rain forests—•and resolved to stand her ground. Neither of them could foresee what the days ahead promised: an odyssey into the fiery heart of passion and betrayal, and a danger that would force them to cast their fates together, immersed in the eternal, unsolved mysteries of love. —Â|

## Book Information

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> [Authors, A-Z](#) > ( H ) > Howard, Linda #3007 in [Books > Books on CD > Romance](#) #8514  
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## Customer Reviews

Archeologist Jillian Sherwood attributes her lackluster professional reputation to the fact that her late father, also an archeologist, was notorious for his supposedly crackpot theories, such as one about a lost city in the heart of the jungle that was home to a band of women warriors. Equipped with a map from her father's papers, Jillian is determined to find the lost city, thereby salvaging her father's reputation and her own. She is accompanied on the two-month expedition by Rick, her half-brother, who still resents her being daddy's favorite; Steven Kates, an unprincipled crook who has money to fund the venture and plans to steal anything valuable that turns up; Ramon Dutra, a jungle-wise thug; and Ben Lewis, an experienced guide who is more macho than any human being needs to be.

Unfortunately, the more intense their adventures, the less realistic they appear because the characters have charmed lives. A pirate attack, an encounter with a jaguar and a hazardous walk along the side of a mountain give Howard's ( *The Touch of Fire* ) romance an adventure-yarn feel, but since Jillian seems to be virtually indestructible and Ben, as her only possible love interest, is inevitably guaranteed survival, the book lacks real suspense. Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an alternate Audio CD edition.

Linda Howard is the award-winning author of many New York Times bestsellers, including *Drop Dead Gorgeous*, *Cover of Night*, *Killing Time*, *To Die For*, *Kiss Me While I Sleep*, *Cry No More*, *Dying to Please*, *Open Season*, *Mr. Perfect*, *All the Queen's Men*, *Now You See Her*, *Kill and Tell*, and *Son of the Morning*. She lives in Alabama with her husband and two golden retrievers.

I first read this in 2007 and really liked it. In 2015 I read it again and skimmed a lot. In 2017 I bought the audiobook and again it was not as good as the first time. I did not care about the big misunderstanding. **STORY BRIEF:** American female archaeologist has a coded map showing the way to an ancient civilization in the jungle. Her brother arranges for a wealthy drug dealer to fund the expedition. They hire a guide. She and the guide eventually fall in love. The drug dealer brings along a hit man with plans to kill everyone after they obtain the valuable red diamond. **AUDIOBOOK NARRATOR:** Tanya Eby Sirois was good. She has a slight lisp which comes out at times. **DATA:** Narrative mode: 3rd person. Story length: 309 pages. Swearing language: moderate plus s\*\*\* and religious swear words but rarely used. Sexual language: moderate. Number of sex scenes: eight. Setting: current day mostly Brazil. Copyright: 1993. Genre: contemporary romance adventure.

I thought this was going to be just another formula story about a doomed expedition, but I was so wrong! It was an adventure but a sexy, funny, breath stealing one! Read and enjoy!

I first read this book when it was originally published, and it has always been a favorite of mine. It has romance, adventure, action, and mystery. Ben is very much the sexy, arrogant, alpha male, but Jillian is an equally strong heroine. She is intelligent, organized, competent, and independent. I loved the banter between them, and found their relationship very believable and romantic. It's refreshing and realistic that he didn't find it easy at all to get her to make love with him. The buildup to that point was all the sweeter and more poignant because it didn't happen within the first few

chapters. He was very protective of her even before that, and she was equally forceful about "having his back" (the climatic scene with Dutra is ample evidence of that). The way Ben reacted after their major falling-out on the return trip truly revealed the depth of his love for her. And you had to get smug satisfaction from Jillian's final phone call with the Frost Institute. For me, this was truly a marvelous book that I hated to see end.

I truly enjoy Linda Howard's work. This book is no exception. I read it at least 4 times already. The characters are strong, witty, intelligent & sensual. "Ben" reminds me of Indiana Jones & Mel Gibson wrapped in one sexy character --yum! Its a must read. Jillian Sherwood is determined to find a lost city and prove to the archeological world that her father, (known as Crackpot Sherwood) was a legitimate scientist/archeologist. He died while searching for the "Stone City" somewhere in South America. Jillian has come to Brazil, backed by her skeptical stepbrother and some of his henchmen friends. Jillian hooks up with river/jungle guide - Ben Lewis, and starts her personal quest. Ben is definitely the "alpha male" in every definition. He's aggressive, sometimes abrasive, and obnoxious at times. But he is shocked by & grows to admire Jillian's intelligence, her physical stamina for the 50 mile jungle hike, her compassion, and her duty to father's quest. The plot is extremely interesting and unique. Ben is not what I would call a "sensitive male" but he does grow on you as the book progresses. There are some extremely steamy sex scenes; lots of passion and sexual tension. The dialogue between Jillian and Ben is quite funny - lots of bantering & barbs. It's a good, fast read. I've kept my book for several years and have read it several times.

I read this book a decade ago and just loved it. I have never read a book multiple times but I love this story. I have not read Linda Howard in a while and glad I am back. She is no \$.99 ebook but you get what you pay for. She gives me my passion/love fix in addition to an interesting story that keeps me intrigued and excited! I recommend this book despite the cheesy title.

Whoa!!!! Linda Howard....what more can I say. Great adventure and two hilarious lovers who find themselves, and a treasure, while on a trip up river in South America. She thinks he is a jerk. He knows he is a jerk and she is nothing like his usual women so he cannot understand why being around her drives him crazy.....in a good way. They bicker all the way to the treasure and then on the way back they find out that opposites do attract until they face a real division on honor. This book was a wonderful read and I had a great time reading it, for about 10 times.

Not one of her better books and I really do like to read this authors works. Too repetitive and mysoginistic for me. Times have changed in relationships between men and women or at least they should.

I knew that I would like this book because Linda Howard is the author. It was great the adventure, romance, action, history, even the myth of the 's drew me in. This story was fun and anyone who loves Linda Howard will enjoy Heart of Fire.

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