

AN ISLAND INTRIGUE



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A WOMAN AS UNTAMED AS THE ISLANDS THEMSELVES.
A GUARDED DOCTOR WHO CAN HEAL EVERY HURT BUT HIS OWN.
WILL THEIR DIFFERENCES BIND OR BREAK THEM?

AUTHOR'S NOTE

Isabella Bird was a real-life Englishwoman who traveled around the world by herself in a time when it wasn't common for a woman, and an unmarried one at that, to do so.

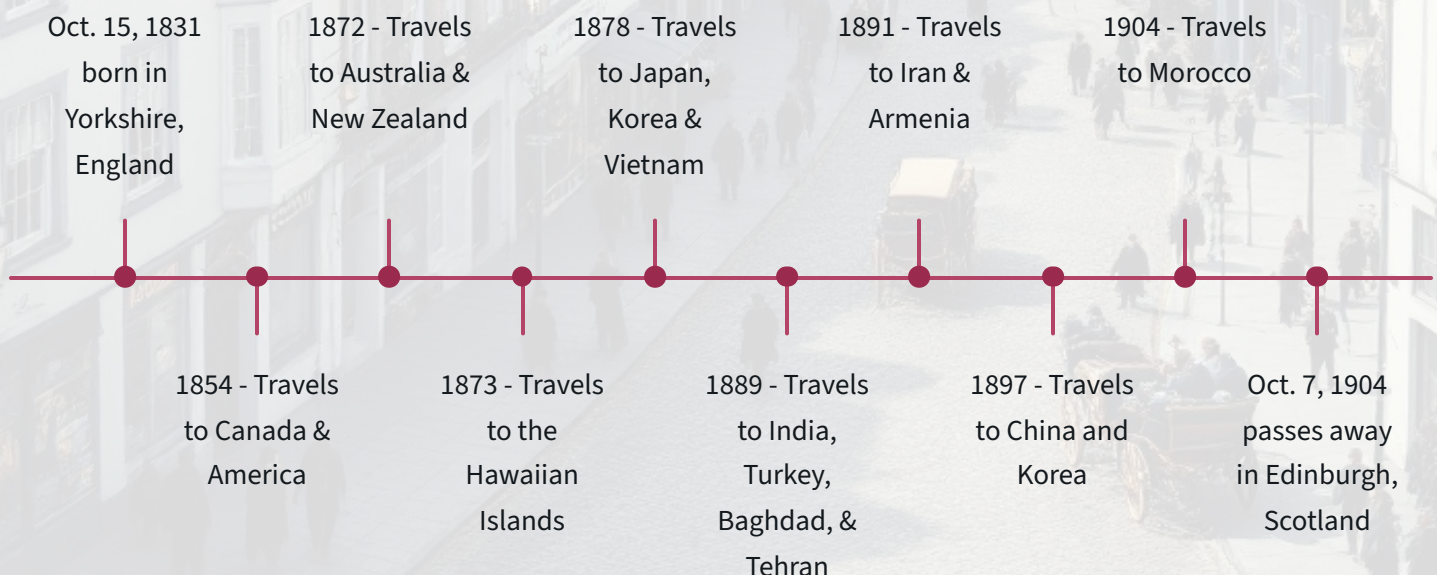
In *An Island Intrigue*, I have tried to remain as true to Isabella Bird's actual travels in the Hawaiian Islands in 1873 as possible, as detailed in Isabella's first-hand account in [*The Hawaiian Archipelago*](#). The author's note in *An Island Intrigue* explains more about what was fact and what was creative license.

It's an intimidating prospect to bring a real person from history into a fictional novel, and I wanted to ensure I did justice to her character while at the same time creating a compelling love story in a cast of characters that were my own creation.

Because I only just grazed the surface of Isabella's adventures in my novels, I encourage you to learn more about her and even read her firsthand travel accounts. After all, as Isabella has said herself in *A Lady's Life in the Rocky Mountains*, "Everything suggests a beyond."



Isabella Bird (Source: Public Domain)



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1 ISABELLA BIRD'S LEGACY

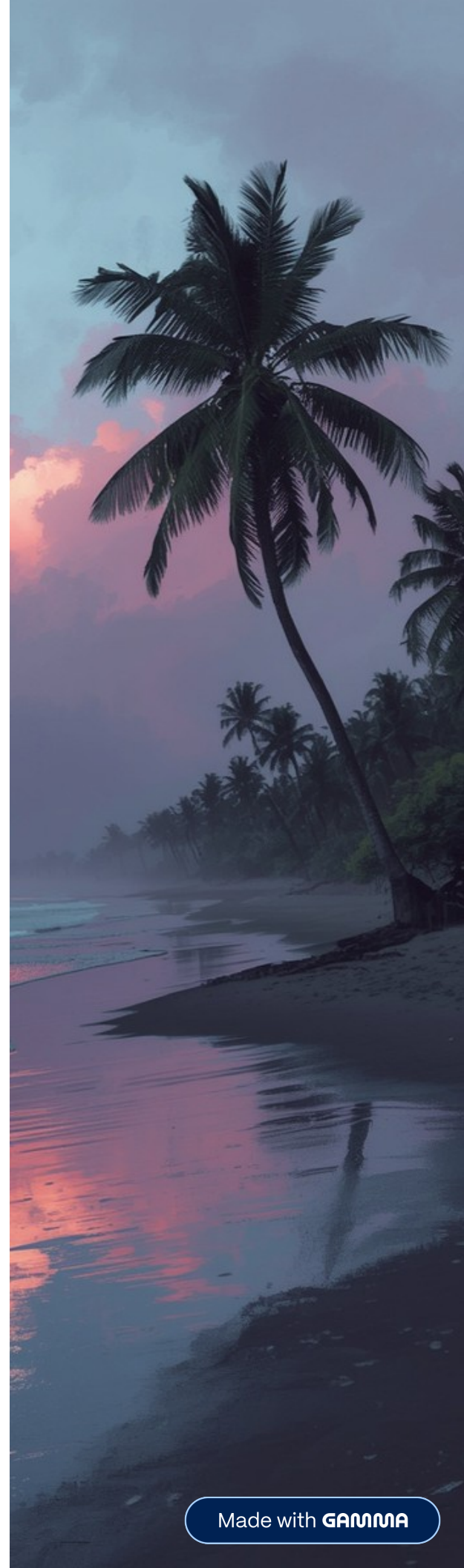
Whether you had heard of Isabella Bird before or not, did *An Island Intrigue* spark your curiosity to learn more about this remarkable woman from history? Why or why not?

2 HISTORICAL JOURNEY

What historical places, events, people, or cultural details stood out to you the most? What place in the story would you most like to have visited and which person would you most like to have met alongside Isabella in 1873?

3 FIRST IMPRESSIONS

What were your first impressions of Georgina and Joseph and their meeting on the dock in San Francisco? How did the tension between their contrasting personalities carry through the rest of the story?



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

4 GEORGINA'S TRANSFORMATION

Georgina's emotional journey transitions from naive impulsiveness to deeper self-awareness and consideration for others. Which experiences on the trip, especially the growing relationship with Joseph, most influenced this transformation?

5 JOSEPH'S GROWTH

Joseph struggles with self-worth shaped by his neurodiversity and the medical community's limited understanding of it at the time. How did his experiences, particularly Georgina's perception of him, help him to accept himself and open his heart?

6 ISABELLA'S INFLUENCE

In what ways did Isabella encourage Georgina and Joseph (and their romance) along the way?

7 WHO ARE YOU?

Which character did you relate to the most—Georgina, Joseph, or Isabella—and why? Did that change as the story progressed?

8 SYMBOLISM

Joseph's handkerchief appears repeatedly throughout the story. How did it reflect both Georgina's and Joseph's personalities as well as their individual growth?

9 DREAM CAST

If *An Island Intrigue* were adapted into a film, who would you cast as Georgina, Joseph, and Isabella, and why?



ENDORSEMENTS

An Island Intrigue is the perfect escape for any reader who craves adventure and a love story that truly earns its happily-ever-after. When Georgina Wright discovers that the doctor who will be accompanying her to the Hawaiian Islands is the younger Dr. Joseph Livingston, and not his father, the entire tone of the voyage changes. Still, she wants to establish her independence despite her medical limitations. As Joseph's reserve begins to soften, Georgina's fierce determination to prove herself threatens to become her detriment. The couple must decide if they are brave enough to let down their walls and be open to love in this sweeping, beautifully written historical romance."

-Heather B. Moore, *USA Today* bestselling author

An Island Intrigue is an enchanting Victorian romance set in the breathtaking Hawaiian Islands, sure to delight and entertain readers who crave a slow-build love story between opposite characters. Casey Cline has penned another historical jewel! Highly recommend!

-Teresa Wells, award-winning author

WHAT READERS ARE SAYING



I fell in love with this authors writing and storytelling abilities from the first book in this series. ... The romance between [Georgina and Joseph] was sizzling, yet sweet, and you can't help but keep cheering for them. The adventures they all go on with Isabella were just awe-inspiring.

-Goodreads reviewer



An Island Intrigue is my favorite book of the year! From the instant I began this incredible book, I couldn't put it down. The characters were humorous yet relatable. I loved the slow-burning chemistry between Georgina and Joseph. Joseph's initial reserve was balanced well by Georgina's impulsive behavior. They each helped the other learn to accept themselves for who they truly were. Many times I eagerly held my breath, waiting for them to realize they were meant to be.

The author's descriptions of the locations were magnificent. I felt as if I was transported to the idyllic beauty of the Hawaiian islands. I don't believe I've ever read anything that felt quite so realistic before.

-BookBub reviewer

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RECIPE SUGGESTIONS

“ We have had for each meal, tea, preserved milk, coffee, kalo, biscuits, butter, potatoes, goats' flesh, and ohelos. ... everything except the potatoes and ohelos has to be brought twenty to thirty miles on mules' backs. ”

The Hawaiian Archipelago, by Isabella Bird

GUAVA MILKSHAKES

In her book, Isabella recounted eating "sliced guavas ... with milk and sugar."

Here's a tasty-sounding adaptation of the same ingredients - Guava milkshakes - by Eat and Be Eaten Hawaii:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2H_q3lBVmPQ&t=2s



ENGLISH TRIFLE

For a dinner party at the Severances' home where the guest of honor was King Lunalilo himself, Isabella made a trifle, admitting to "clandestinely [using] two glasses of sherry" to make her trifle a success despite Hilo's ban on alcohol.

Try this recipe from Amanda's Cookin':

<https://amandascookin.com/traditional-english-trifle/>

SUGGESTED GAME: QUOITS

Try your hand at quoits as played by Joseph and Georgina in *An Island Intrigue*. Your choice on whether or not to declare forfeits.

01

SETTING UP

- Position the wooden pin (or “hob”) 15-20 feet away.
- Give each player two quoit rings in a 2-player game or one quoit ring for a 4-player game.
- Flip a coin to determine who goes first. Or, a gentleman would defer to a lady on her choice.

02

PLAYING

- Players alternate pitches by tossing a quoit ring at the hob. Each round consists of four pitches (two for each person in a 2-player game, one for each person in a 4-player game) with turns alternating for each quoit.
- Players must pitch the quoits from behind a foul line. The toe of the forward foot must remain behind this line when pitching. If there is a foul, that quoit is removed from play.

03

SCORING

After each round of four pitches, only one team/player receives points as follows:

- “Ringer” = quoit lands around the hob pin = 3 points
 - If a player/team lands a ringer and their second quoit is closer to the hob than the opponent’s, then add 1 more point (4 points total).
 - If a player/team lands a second ringer on top of their first, then add 3 more points (6 total).
 - If the opponent lands a ringer on top of the first ringer, the opponent earns the 3 points, unless the first player lands a second ringer, in which case they earn the 3 points.
 - If four ringers are made, the player/team pitching the last ringer automatically wins the game.
- “Leaner” = quoit leans against the hob pin = 1 point
- If there are no “Ringers” or “Leaners,” the player/team who throws the closest quoit to the hob gets 1 point. If that same player/team’s second quoit is next closest, they earn 1 extra point.

Winning: Play continues in 4-pitch rounds until one team scores 21 or more points and has at least a 2-point lead over the opposing team. Play will continue until there is a 2-point difference.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Casey Cline collects hobbies and pursuits as quickly as she reads books. She likes to believe her degrees and licenses in business, law, and real estate aren't entirely incongruous with writing historical stories about the ultimate adventure in life—love. Casey lives in Nebraska with her husband, two daughters, and three cats.



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