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Mutiny's daughter

Lillian Heil

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Rinaldi, Ann. *Mutiny's Daughter*. HarperCollins, 2004. ISBN 0060296380. \$15.99. 224 pp.

Reviewer: Lillian H. Heil

Reading Level: Intermediate

Rating: Excellent

Genre: Historical fiction; Adventure stories;

Subject: Historical fiction, English--Juvenile fiction; Christian, Fletcher, 1764-1793--Juvenile fiction; Christian, Mary, 1792- --Juvenile fiction; Fathers and daughters--Juvenile fiction; Family pride--Juvenile fiction; Book--Reviews;

If you have ever wondered what happened to the instigator of the famous mutiny on the HMS *Bounty*, Rinaldi's *Mutiny's Daughter* is one you will want to read. Based on stories that Fletcher Christian returned to England with his daughter Mary (by a Polynesian wife), Rinaldi tells about a girl whose grandmother does not want any hint of her scandalous background to taint the Christian name. Sent to a private school in London, Mary tries to preserve the family honor and still find her father. She discovers adventure aplenty and appears at the end of the book to have found her father.

Rinaldi's vivid characterizations bring the super strict grandmother, street wise boy, nasty blackmailing roommate, and Mary to life. Mary deals with hiding her identity and searching for her father, consequently there is plenty of personal conflict in this "what if" Fletcher Christian story.