



A novel of love, conflict, and redemption during the Creek War

Swimming with Serpents

A Novel

by Sharman Burson Ramsey

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Macon, Georgia—"Swimming with Serpents is a lush plunge into a forgotten corner of American history—the brutal Indian wars at the beginning of the eighteenth century," says Janis Owens, author of *My Brother Michael*. "Star crossed lovers share the page with the larger than life figures of history, creating a vivid, detailed story that reflects the passion and brutality of the day and gives insight to the nation we have become."

Cade Kincaid and Lyssa Rendel meet as children traveling with a pack train into Creek country—both are of mixed blood. Ten years later Lyssa manipulates a wedding based on a childhood promise. The two must then survive the Fort Mims massacre and ensuing Creek War to reunite.

Savannah Jack, the cruelest and most frightening of all the villains of the age, captures Lyssa, Pushmataha's adopted daughter. Lyssa valiantly draws Savannah Jack from the glade where children she has rescued and nursed back to health are secluded after the murderous Red Stick attack and vicious depredations were committed on the nearly 500 inhabitants of a one-acre stockade built around the once-gracious plantation home of Samuel Mims.

Cade knows Savannah Jack well. He was himself captured by this bloodthirsty Creek years ago when he was associated with William Augustus Bowles who sought to set himself up as the emperor of the Creek nation upon the death of Alexander McGillivray.

The compelling stories of individuals caught up in the seismic forces of conflicting cultures conveys a human drama of war weaving a tale the theme of which is as applicable today as it was 200 years ago when this pivotal event occurred August 30, 1813. The voices of these forgotten people cry out to have their lives remembered.

Swimming with Serpents is an astonishing accomplishment, a debut novel of historical importance that is not only a riveting page-turner but also beautifully written. Keep your eye on Sharman Ramsey, an exciting new voice in Southern fiction.

—Cassandra King, author of *The Same Sweet Girls*

Sharman Burson Ramsey, a native of Alabama, received an MS in Education from Troy University and a BSE from the University of Alabama where she was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority. She is a member of the Alabama Historical Association, the Georgia Historical Society, Historical Novel Society, and the Wilcox County Alabama Historical Society. Ramsey is a former radio host, freelance writer, and adjunct professor who lives in Dothan, Alabama and Panama City, Florida, and writes about Southern culture, manners, etiquette, and genealogy on her website www.southern-style.com and sharmanbursonramsey.blogspot.com.

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