

REDGAUNTLET: A Filmscript by Michael Black

Revenge - Rebellion - Romance

Redgauntlet is a tale of royal revenge and rebellion. It's *Rob Roy* meets *The Highlander* featuring the return of Bonnie Prince Charlie to seize his throne once more in 1765. His rebellion failed in 1745. Will fortune favour him now?

Supporting him in rebellion against the Hanoverian rulers of Britain is the staunch and unruly Edward Redgauntlet himself whose faith in the Stuart cause can never die. Ever aware of the dangers facing her is his niece, the young Lillias, aka Greenmantle. Caught up in the crossfire are two young Edinburgh lawyers, the romantic Darcie Latimer and his best friend Alan Fairford. Both are kidnapped. Greenmantle is the heroine of the script, allaying the rebellion and rescuing Alan, who she marries.

Darcie Latimer is on a walking tour of the Solway Firth. He meets Redgauntlet salmon fishing. Darcie meets Greenmantle in a drinking house and falls in love with her. There is a dispute with one Joshua Geddes as to salmon fishing rights, who takes the case to law in Edinburgh, where it is handled by Alan Fairford. Redgauntlet discovers Darcie is worth a fortune upon his imminent maturity, and kidnaps him. Greenmantle, who discovers she is Darcie's sister, travels to Edinburgh to enlist the help of Alan Fairford in freeing Darcie. Alan falls in love with Greenmantle.

Meanwhile, Edward Redgauntlet has fought in 1745 for Bonnie Prince Charlie's Scottish Stuart rebellion against the English and lost. Twenty years later he plans a new rebellion to seize Carlisle with 500 Highlanders and then march south to London, where King George had prepared to flee twenty years before. But this time King George is made of sterner stuff. Aided by General Campbell, King George gains access to Bonnie Prince Charlie's plans through the Bonnie Prince's mistress, Catherina Wilkinshaw, aka the Countess of Alberstorf. The Bonnie Prince has a weakness for women, and has come to Scottish shores with the Countess, despite assurances to the Highlanders that he would not. There are rumours that Catherina is also the Prime Minister's whore...

Alan races to the Solway and discovers himself caught up in liquor smuggling. He meets Bonnie Prince Charlie in the disguise of a Roman Catholic priest, Father Buonaventure. Alan has a letter from the Provost demanding Darcie's release from Redgauntlet's kidnap. The Bonnie Prince throws it on the fire saying he is Redgauntlet's confessor. Alan is kidnapped also.

The rebellion gathers at Carlisle, and Greenmantle, who fears for the consequences, enlists the help of the daughter of Joshua Geddes, Sharon, to free Darcie and Alan. Female heroics abound. The two women succeed. General Campbell makes sure the rebellion fails, but he lets Redgauntlet leave Scottish shores with the Bonnie Prince. Catherina Wilkinshaw hangs. Joshua Geddes wins his salmon fishing rights case in Edinburgh with the aid of Alan Fairford. Sharon marries Darcie. Greenmantle marries Alan.