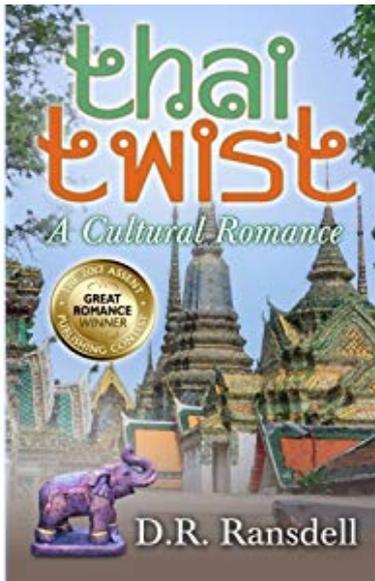




Readers' Favorite[®]

Book Reviews and Award Contest

Book Review Mini-Critique



Below you will find ratings (scale of 1-5) with descriptions for the major parts of your book followed by your Readers' Favorite review. Although these are general ratings we hope they will give you an insight into how others may view the different components of your book.

These are the opinions of your reviewer, and although your reviewer is not an expert literary critic or professional editor, they are at the very least, an avid reader of books just like yours.

Title: Thai Twist
Subtitle: A Cultural Romance
Author: D.R. Ransdell
Genre: Fiction - Cultural

Appearance: The appearance of a book can make a significant impact on the experience of a reader, whose enjoyment is often enhanced by an enticing cover, an intriguing table of contents, interesting chapter headings, and when possible, eye-catching illustrations.

5

Plot: The characters of a book should be well defined with strengths and flaws, and while they do not have to be likable, the reader does have to be able to form a connection with them. The tone should be consistent, the theme should be clear, and the plot should be original or told from a unique perspective. For informative books -- those without plot and characters--this rating refers primarily to your concept and how well you presented it.

3

- Development:** Development refers to how effectively you told your story or discussed your topic. The dialogue should be realistic, the descriptions should be vivid, and the material should be concise and coherent. Organization is also a key factor, especially for informative books -- those without plot and characters. The order in which you tell your story or explain your topic and how smoothly it flows can have a huge impact on the reader's understanding and enjoyment of the material.
- 4**
- Formatting:** Formatting is the single most overlooked area by authors. The way in which you describe scenes, display dialogue, and shift point of view can make or break your story. In addition, excessive grammatical errors and typos can give your book an amateurish feel and even put off readers completely.
- 5**
- Marketability:** Marketability refers to how effectively you wrote your book for your target audience. Authors may include content that is above or below the understanding of their target reader, or include concepts, opinions or language that can accidentally confuse or alienate some readers. Although by its nature this rating is very subjective, a very low rating here and poor reviews may indicate an issue with your book in this area.
- 4**
- Overall Opinion:** The overall starred rating takes into account all these elements and describes the overall reading experience of your reviewer. This is the official Readers' Favorite review rating for your book.
- 4**

Review:

Reviewed by Katelyn Hensel for Readers' Favorite

Thai Twist: A Cultural Romance by D.R. Ransdell is a fun and mysterious adventure across cultural boundaries. Gina Campanello wins the trip of a lifetime, and she only just graduated high school. Life has begun. Thailand is the light at the end of the boring life tunnel, so when she's gifted with an important quest from her neighbor, she can't resist. Yet finding Koon Somchai, an engineer, proves hard and she and her sister Rachel turn up no leads until the second city on their cross-Asiatic adventure. The mystery of the man deepens as Gina's time grows short and her sister starts looking ahead to the luxury beaches of Phuket. Yet Gina is determined to find Koon, no matter what the cost.

Thai Twist is a pretty good book. I'm a big fan of books that involve travel and other cultures, so that was a huge plus for me. Unfortunately, the plot was a little thread-bare for me. I enjoyed it, but I could have used a bit more substance. While I empathized with Gina and her travels and quest to find this guy, I wasn't all that impressed by her motivations. If my neighbor asked me to do them so extensive a favor when I was on vacation abroad, I probably would laugh and tell them I would buy them a postcard. Still, the trip was funny and I enjoyed both Gina and Rachel's thoughts. Overall, this was a fun and light read that could easily be someone's summer beach read and bring a bit of a laugh and sense of adventure to your everyday lives.