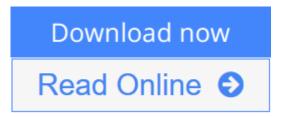


## Trial and Temptation (The Mandrake Company Series Book 2)

By Ruby Lionsdrake



**Trial and Temptation (The Mandrake Company Series Book 2)** By Ruby Lionsdrake

After ten years of flying freighter ships from planet to planet, Val Calendula never thought she would apply for a job as a combat pilot in a mercenary outfit. But her brother has gotten himself into financial trouble, and he's heading to a mining prison if Val can't pay off his debts. Mercenaries don't always live long... but they make good money while they're alive. A few combat bonuses, and Val could earn what she needs. The problem? She might have graduated from the military flight academy, but she hasn't fought anything more dangerous than dust bunnies on the bridge lately. To make matters worse, the man in charge of hiring pilots was her instructor back at the academy. Commander Thatcher was almost as brilliant as he was arrogant and condescending, and he never seemed to think Val was smart enough to be there. She has no idea if she'll be able to convince him otherwise now... or if she'll be able to stand working with him.

When Gregor Thatcher left the military, he never expected to run into any of his former acquaintances, much less the one he admired and mooned over during his two years teaching at the academy. Back then, he never told Val Calendula he cared for her, partially because officers weren't supposed to have relations with cadets, but mostly because he didn't know how to speak of his feelings. He might not have any trouble grasping navigational mathematics and astrodynamics, but people are more problematic. Gregor is elated that Val has entered his life again, but he's fairly certain she hates him. Worse, he's responsible for deciding whether she's qualified to be a combat pilot. How can he judge fairly when his tongue tangles and idiotic words come out of his mouth whenever she's around?

When the captain sends Val and Gregor on a mission to pick up a military advisor and deliver him to a planet at war, Val hopes she'll have an opportunity to prove herself capable of the piloting position. Gregor hopes he'll have the opportunity to improve Val's opinion of him. But when the military advisor goes missing, and they're forced to divert to a dangerous moon base, the mission turns into a fight for survival. Val may learn too late that there's more to Gregor than that aloof exterior... and that inside is a man she could love.

Trial and Temptation is a full-length science fiction romance novel of 73,000

words. It is part of the "Mandrake Company" series and is recommended for readers who enjoy space-based adventure (such as Firefly) and steamy love stories (in the style of Linnea Sinclair).

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#### Trial and Temptation (The Mandrake Company Series Book 2) By Ruby Lionsdrake Bibliography

Rank: #16149 in eBooks
Published on: 2014-10-16
Released on: 2014-10-16
Format: Kindle eBook

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#### **Editorial Review**

From the Author

Most of the Mandrake Company books can be read as stand-alone adventures, but for those who want to read them in the order they were published, here is the list:

- Mercenary Instinct
- Trial and Temptation
- The Assassin's Salvation
- The Ruins of Karzelek
- Mercenary Courage (now available!)

#### **Users Review**

#### From reader reviews:

#### **Angela Heller:**

What do you consider book? It is just for students because they are still students or that for all people in the world, the particular best subject for that? Just simply you can be answered for that issue above. Every person has different personality and hobby per other. Don't to be pushed someone or something that they don't want do that. You must know how great and important the book Trial and Temptation (The Mandrake Company Series Book 2). All type of book could you see on many sources. You can look for the internet methods or other social media.

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#### Jennifer Mendoza:

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