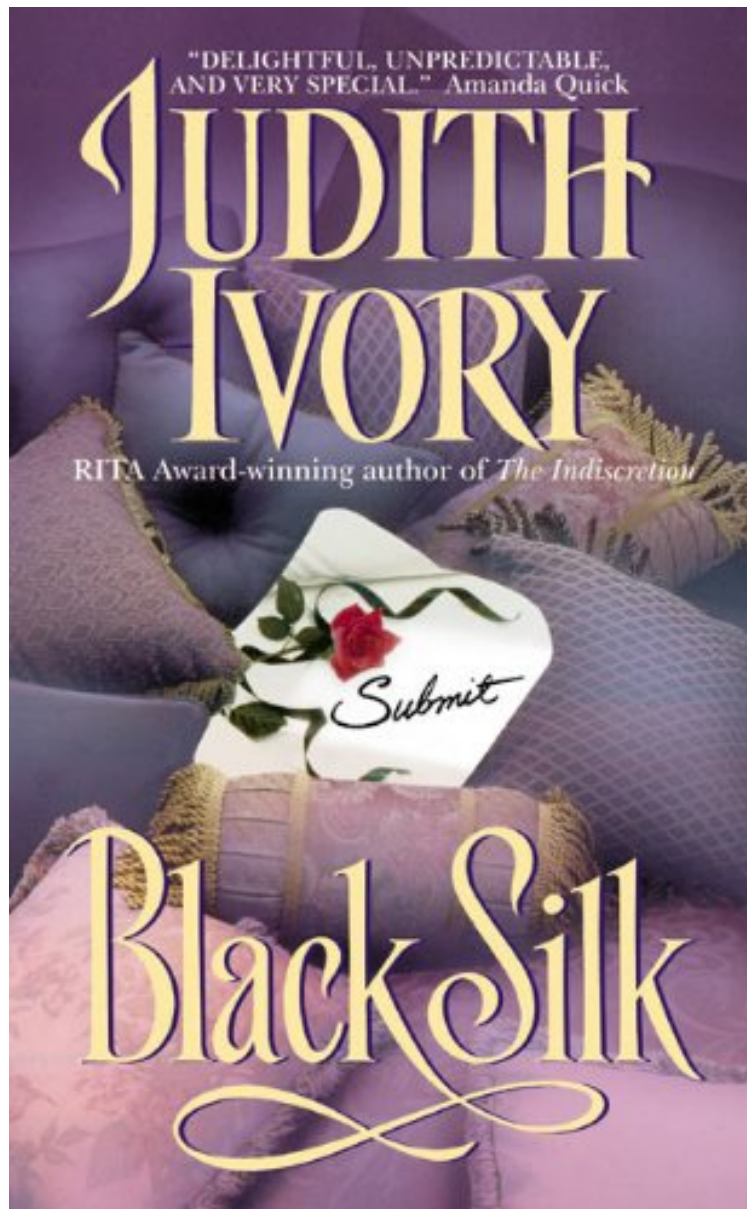


## Black Silk

Von Judith Ivory

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**Von Judith Ivory : Black Silk** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Black Silk:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen7 von 7 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A remarkable novelVon Vivien LubojanskyAmong readers, there seems to be a definite division between those who love

BLACK SILK and those who couldn't get through it. I myself love it. It is a slow and meandering book, but I found this kind of pacing oddly compelling. I kept turning page after page, moving along at a leisurely pace, but all the same unable to stop. Strictly speaking, there is no real plot, but rather an intersection of lives, of scenes, of events. Graham Wessit, at first sight a jaded rake, but really so much more than that, is involved in a paternity lawsuit. Submit Channing-Downes (what a strange name, and yet so intriguing) is trying to retain her deceased husband's estate, while she is still mourning for him, her mentor, lover and friend. The two meet when Submit hands over a box of obscenely erotic drawings to Graham, supposedly his only legacy from the dead aristocrat, his guardian. The rest of the book consists of random meetings, latently sensual encounters, giddy parties and various other trials and tribulations. If there is a climax to the whole plot, it occurs at the end, so you basically have to be very patient while reading this book. At first I was just admiring Judith Ivory's smoothly elegant style, her daring metaphors, her eloquent expressions. I couldn't connect with the characters yet, but felt strangely distant from them, and yet fascinated, and then surprised by them. So Graham is a dandy, but he definitely has class and an innate sense of honour, slowly revealed. Submit is a starchy widow who loved her husband (how refreshing), and who apparently conforms to the strictures of Victorian society. But lo and behold, there is a world of sensuality hidden beneath starched lace and hoop skirts! And it is Graham who coaxes Submit out of her shell of mourning and repression, and it is Submit who strips Graham of his dandyish clothes and behaviour. I was waiting for the finale with bated breath, and yet was only fed little savouries, never the whole meal. Unlike in so many other romances, I actually felt that those two were beginning to love each other, not only lust after one another. Ivory lingers over their characters, there is a wealth of introspection, but it never got tedious to me. On the contrary, it deepened my understanding of the protagonists. Graham, for instance, was almost prototypical in the beginning, but in the end, he was really sweet and loving, vulnerable and poetic. Submit was untouchable, stubborn, slightly nave, but there were all those indications that she could also be flirtatious, sensual and carefree. BLACK SILK wasn't a light and fast read, but it was very uplifting to me. Anybody who likes their romances to be a bit of a challenge will love this book.

Kurzbeschreibung As befitting her name, lovely Submit Channing-Downes was the proper, obedient wife of an aging Marquess--until her husband's death left her penniless and alone...with one final obligation to fulfill. Entrusted with delivering a small black box to its rightful owner, she calls upon Graham Wessit, the notorious Earl of Netham, whose life has been marred by rumor and scandal. But Graham wants nothing to do w/ her gift. Fate however, has entwined these two lives in astonishing ways neither Submit nor Graham could ever imagine. Kurzbeschreibung As befitting her name, lovely Submit Channing-Downes was the proper, obedient wife of an aging Marquess--until her husband's death left her penniless and alone...with one final obligation to fulfill. Entrusted with delivering a small black box to its rightful owner, she calls upon Graham Wessit, the notorious Earl of Netham, whose life has been marred by rumor and scandal. But Graham wants nothing to do w/ her gift. Fate however, has entwined these two lives in astonishing ways neither Submit nor Graham could ever imagine. Buchrückseite A Dutiful Heart As befitting her name, lovely Submit Channing-Downes was the proper, obedient wife of an aging marquess -- until her husband's death left her penniless and alone...with one last marital obligation to fulfill. Entrusted with delivering a small black box to its rightful owner, she calls upon Graham Wessit, the notorious Earl of Netham, life has been forever marred by rumor and scandal. But Graham wants nothing to do with a bequest from the man he holds responsible for his ruin -- or with the bewitching emissary who brings it. In the face of breathtaking erotic mystery -- in the throes of an inflamed passion unbeckoned but impossible to deny -- a rogue's hardened heart may be undone by love...and a staid beauty in straits may learn the exquisite, sensuous freedom of surrender.