

Leslie Vollard

Historical Romance Author

About

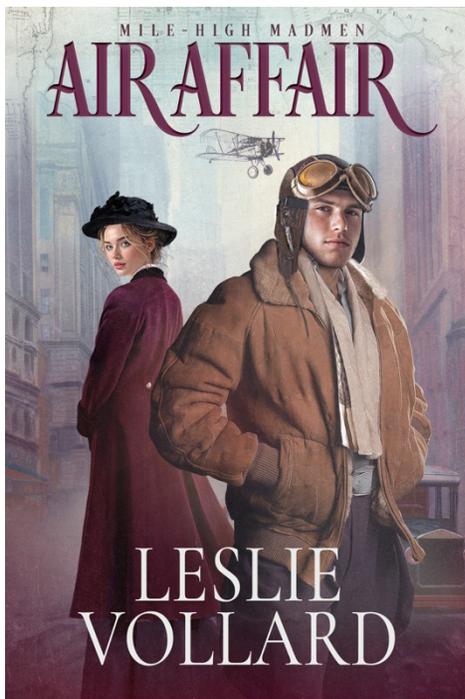


Leslie Vollard writes award-winning historical romance spanning from the medieval period to the early 20th century. Romance reigns supreme in her steamy novels about how love conquers all. A 2023 Passionate Plume winner and 2025 Romance through the Ages finalist, she lives on Long Island with her delightfully nerdy husband and cat. She loves gardening, baking, and reading love poems in dead languages.

Leslie Vollard is represented by Jason Yarn Literary Agency and can be contacted at leslie@leslievollard.com.

New Release: *Air Affair* (Coming March 24th, 2026)

ISBN-13: 979-8900431192



She's the city's wildest heiress. He's a haunted pilot with nothing left to lose. Together, they're pure combustion.

Rory Belmont has always loved speed, trouble, and the sky—usually in that order. New York society calls her reckless. The newspapers call her scandalous. Her father calls her engaged to a man she doesn't want. But when Rory slips away from her engagement party to sit in the cockpit of a sleek biplane, she meets the one man who makes her heart race faster than flight itself...

Hank Hawley.

Army ace. Airmail daredevil.

And a Mile-High Madman with enough ghosts to ground an entire squadron.

Hank doesn't need distractions—especially not a spoiled, sharp-tongued socialite with eyes full of fire and a hunger for the clouds. But Rory is nothing like he expected. She's brave. Fierce.

Lonely. And when she looks at him, he starts to believe there might be more to life than just staying alive.

Their connection is instant. Their chemistry is explosive. But when Rory's father disowns her and danger shadows Hank's every flight, loving him might cost Rory everything—her fortune, her freedom, even her life. And Hank knows too well that the sky doesn't spare the things he cares about.

In a world built on risk, passion becomes the most dangerous dare of all... and the only one worth taking.

Welcome to Mile-High Madmen—where every pilot is a legend, every kiss is a free fall, and love always flies into the storm.

Leslie Vollard delivers a sweeping Jazz Age romance filled with danger, heart, and breathtaking passion. Perfect for fans of Beatriz Williams, Julie Klassen, and high-drama historical love stories, this tale of daring dreams and healing hearts proves that sometimes love soars where courage begins.

<https://www.amazon.com/Air-Affair-Mile-High-Madmen-Book-ebook/dp/B0G454HNNX>

Praise for Air Affair

“This author has the historical tone, setting and behavior of the characters nailed. The backstory shared on Aurora made her present antics totally believable. The setting of the story is fresh and pairing an heiress with a pilot is in keeping with the era. Love the combination of strength and femininity in the heroine. Hero is really strong without being too overbearing.” – *Passionate Plume Judge* (Air Affair was a 2023 Passionate Plume winner in the pre-published category)

Teasers

- She's the city's wildest heiress. He's a haunted pilot with nothing left to lose. Together, they're pure combustion.
- Every pilot is a legend, every kiss is a free fall, and love always flies into the storm.
- The higher they fly, the harder they fall.
- When every flight is a deadly gamble, falling in love is the greatest risk of all.

Short Excerpt

He put the flashlight down on the bottom wing of a nearby biplane and stepped close. Their shadows stretched larger than life against the far wall of the hangar.

“You know a high-class girl like you really shouldn’t spend time in an empty hangar at midnight with a guy like me.”

She stayed still and silent, praying he would let her go, though some part of her relished the danger. The heart-pounding rush of courting peril had always held an undeniable appeal for her.

“So why is a nice girl like you sneaking around here like a burglar?”

“Who said I was a nice girl?” The words came out before she could stop them. God, she must have lost her mind to blurt out something like that to a stranger in the night.

“Hmm,” he said with an appreciative smile. “You do look like sin wrapped in silk.” He leaned in, and his breath tickled her neck. Something electric crackled between them, and she could hardly breathe. Then he took a step back, holding his hands up again. “But on the off chance I’m not dreaming, I’m going to keep my hands off you and behave like a gentleman.”

Long Excerpt

“I’m not going to hurt you,” he said, his chocolaty voice soothing her as he put his hands up. “Frankly, I’m wondering whether this is real. Maybe I’m dreaming up the gorgeous angel that has landed in my cockpit.”

His brilliant brown eyes had a reckless, wild look to them, and a lock of dark hair fell over his forehead. He was clean-shaven, but the shadow of a day’s growth darkened his jaw.

“A dream. Yes, definitely a dream. Now go back to sleep and pretend you never saw me.”

Climbing out of the wooden fuselage, trying not to expose too much leg, she stepped down the ladder hurriedly. Her high heels crunched as she reached the gravel floor. She backed away from him, carefully keeping out of reach.

“Forgive my haste,” she said, “but I do believe I’ll be going.”

She turned and started walking briskly, trying not to wobble on the uneven ground. There was always a chance it would work. Then she had to go and trip.

“Now hold on a minute.” He clamped a hand strong as a vise around her arm and steadied her before she fell.

Damnit. She was caught.

“It’s not safe for a lady like you to wander around an empty racetrack in the dark. Tell me what you’re doing here, and I’ll take you back where you belong.”

He let her go slowly, making sure she was steady, then pulled a flashlight from his pocket and turned it on her. Frozen in place, she watched him take her in—the shimmering golden gown that hugged her curves and barely covered her knees; the dripping diamonds that flashed and sparked in the light; the blonde curls, tied back in a careful chignon. She looked every inch the tipsy socialite that she was, damn it all.

His smoldering coffee-colored eyes sparked with dangerous interest for a moment. Then he shook his head as if to clear it. “You look familiar. Do I know you from somewhere?”

Oh hell. He recognized her. It was only a matter of time until he realized who she was.

“Don’t be ridiculous,” she said, heart pounding a mile a minute. “Just let me go, and pretend you never saw me. It’s all a dream. I’m not really here.” Sweat trickled down the back of her neck as she waited to see how he would respond.

He put the flashlight down on the bottom wing of a nearby biplane and stepped close. Their shadows stretched larger than life against the far wall of the hangar.

“You know a high-class girl like you really shouldn’t spend time in an empty hangar at midnight with a guy like me.”

She stayed still and silent, praying he would let her go, though some part of her relished the danger. The heart-pounding rush of courting peril had always held an undeniable appeal for her.

“So why is a nice girl like you sneaking around here like a burglar?”

“Who said I was a nice girl?” The words came out before she could stop them. God, she must have lost her mind to blurt out something like that to a stranger in the night.

“Hmm,” he said with an appreciative smile. “You do look like sin wrapped in silk.” He leaned in, and his breath tickled her neck. Something electric crackled between them, and she could hardly breathe. Then he took a step back, holding his hands up again. “But on the off chance I’m not dreaming, I’m going to keep my hands off you and behave like a gentleman.”

Air Affair Tropes

- Pilot Romance
- Forbidden Love
- Class Divide
- Haunted Veteran
- Daredevil Heroine
- Society Scandal

Leslie's Work

- The De Veres (Medieval Romance)
 - [The Skull and the Lute](#)
 - [The Sword and the Damsel](#)
 - [The Broken and the Bold](#)
 - [The Monk and the Maiden](#)
 - [The Wager and the Wedding](#)
- The Lyon's Den (Regency Romance)
 - [The Stone Lyon](#)
- Mile-high Madmen (Jazz Age Pilot Romance)
 - [Air Affair](#) (available for pre-order)
 - [Landing Love](#) (available for pre-order)
 - [Plane Passion](#) (available for pre-order)
 - Soaring Sweethearts (coming in 2026)
- Anthologies
 - [The Spirit of Love](#) (Hearts Through History Anthology)
 - [A Season for Second Chances](#) (Hearts Through History Anthology)
 - [Lords of Midwinter's Festival](#) (Dragonblade Anthology)

Links

- [Website](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [Threads](#)
- [Bluesky](#)

Q&A

What inspired your to write this book?

I visited the Cradle of Aviation Museum in Garden City and saw an amazing exhibit about the history of the U.S. Airmail. It was madness. These guys were flying second-hand army planes made out of wood and fabric with open cockpits and no radios. They navigated with paper topographical maps, following roads and rail lines to stay oriented. And they were expected to fly all year round in all kinds of weather with only a leather flight suit to protect them from the elements. I can't resist a reckless daredevil, and I thought to myself, "Someone needs to write a romance series about these guys." So, I did.

How does this book tie into Long Island history?

This book is chock full of Long Island aviation history. It starts in Belmont Park, which was used as an air field for the brand new airmail operation, and the hero lives in Mineola. I had great fun researching life on Long Island in 1919. I combed through historical photos, read firsthand accounts of airmail pilots, and made many visits to the Cradle of Aviation Museum. An expert docent from the museum read through my flight scenes and gave me feedback to ensure historical accuracy. I even went on a biplane flight at the Bayport Aerodrome, Long Island's last remaining grass runway, to ensure I truly captured the experience of early flight.

What books influenced your writing?

I adore historical romance. It's the perfect mix of sweet and spicy, blending my obsession with history with compelling tales of passion and ensuring love. I wanted to write a book with the heat and historical detail of Joanna Shupe's *Uptown Girls* series, but I also loved Susan Crandall's *The Flying Circus* and Helen Simonson's *The Hazelbourne Ladies Motorcycles and Flying Club*. My goal was to write about the risk and exhilaration of early flight and mix in my own unique blend of soaring romance and spice.

What's your favorite scene?

In chapter two, Hank, the hero, is asked to demonstrate how to land an airplane without power to a group of pilots in training. I had so much fun putting myself in his shoes and imagining the exhilaration, bravado, and mortal danger that shaped him as a character and made the moment gripping. I saw a fantastic airshow at the Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome, and a barnstormer pilot flew up in a loop-the-loop and then careened down without engines. The crowd was silent, and the only sound was the wind whistling through the wires that held the wings together. It was heartstopping to watch, and I wanted to capture that in my book.

When did you start writing?

I've been writing stories for as long as I've known how to write, but I didn't write my first novel until I was in my forties. Some people baked sourdough during the pandemic. I wrote romances. Before I knew it, I had multiple manuscripts, and I started querying. I was very lucky and got picked up by a publisher for my first series, *The De Veres*, which was set in the Middle Ages. Several years later, Oliver Heber picked up my airmail series, *Mile-High Madmen*. I wrote the first draft of *Air Affair* in 2022, and it has been through many iterations since. I'm so happy that it's finally going to be in the hands of readers.

Why do you write historical romance?

I'm fascinated by history and love to write about odd corners that no one else is paying attention to. As a writer, I love the challenge of inhabiting another time, researching every detail, and grappling with the unique opportunities and constraints of the time and place I'm writing about. I don't see history through rose-colored glasses. I don't believe the past was a better time (even if the dresses were infinitely more fabulous). But I love the challenges and flaws of the past as

much as I love the charm. I write romance because I think we all need to blow off a little steam these days and remember how revolutionary love truly is. It transforms us, inspires us, brings out the best in us. Joy is an act of resistance. It brings us together when the world wants to tear us apart. It gives us meaning in the face of alienation. Whether we're reading it, watching it, or listening to it, romance gives us joy in the moment and hope for the future.