



## Blood and Sin

*Laura Thalassa , Dana Elbert-Riqs*

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## **Blood and Sin** Laura Thalassa , Dana Elbert-Riqs

Hot-blooded, prideful, feral, Lana Malesuis is a demon. She has sworn an oath to heal her war-torn, dying species. Her method: drain human blood, use it to fuel her dark magic, reap human misfortune. She has come to the town of White Sulfur Springs to cull.

Cold-blooded, ruthless, conniving, Jame Asher is a human. He has sworn to avenge his wife and baby girl, killed by demon magic. His plan: destroy demons' portals, deprive them of their human blood supply, exterminate them one by one. He has come to White Sulfur Springs to kill.

But when they meet, and he takes Lana as his prisoner, the last thing he expects to see in her wild violet eyes is the frightened innocence of a young girl. For her part, Lana never expects to feel anything but hate for the most feared demon hunter on Earth.

Neither of them expected it to become something more.

## **Blood and Sin Details**

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## From Reader Review Blood and Sin for online ebook

### Alexandra G. says

#### 5 stars

It's official. *Laura Thalassa* is one of my favorite authors and I'm pretty sure I'll read and love everything she writes.

Now, this book, like all the others written by this author, blew my mind and my heart. It gives you an amazing story and exceptional characters, only to shatter your heart in a million pieces at the end. And your agony continues, *of course*, because you then have to wait for the next one!

I think that what I love most about her books is the way she turns hate into love. She manages to twist your thoughts and emotions so that at the end you'll be a happy mess, but *so* grateful that you had the opportunity to read about such wonderful characters.

This book focused on two very different characters:

- we have **Lana**, an Infernari (demon) princess, that tries to help and protect her dying race. I liked her personality and way of thinking. But I loved the fact that she saw the brutality of war and had everything taken away from her, and somehow she still managed to see good in things and people. Her innocence was endearing. And her curiosity over human food was hilarious.

- and then we have **Jame Asher**. Human, so very broken, full of anger and set on revenge. His story was sad and unfair, but it just seemed stupid that he would want to destroy an entire race just because some of them killed his family. I kept thinking "*if a man named Joe would have killed his family, he would have hunted every man named Joe?*". He was so hateful and I had my doubts in the beginning about him. He could barely *look* at a demon, much less care about one.

If you're curious to see what happens to them, you'll have to read this magnificent book. I assure you, it's worth it.

The author has a special talent of fulfilling every bad scenario you could think of, but she still surprises you in the end.

Now, for the next book....

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### Anne says

This book was amazing.

Lana is an Infernari (aka demon), from another world. Her race is nearly decimated, and she's doing all she can to save them by using human blood. But it's called misfortune magic -- the blood she takes curses the blood donor.

And while she feels badly about it, it's what her people need to survive.

Jame is a ruthless demon hunter.

To avenge his wife & child's death's from misfortune magic, he has sworn to exterminate the demons. He has no mercy for them, no pity for their suffering.

But all that starts to change when Jame captures Lana.

She's the key to the demons' destruction, everything he's wanted.

And a lot more.

Laura Thalassa is one of my favorite authors.

Her specialty is redemption through love.

Dan Rix, I am not familiar with (except that he is Laura's husband), but I will be getting some of his books.

Lana and Jame are enemies -- they loathe each other.

The story of how they go from enemies to allies to more is completely believable, and it's a great story journey.

The ending was incredible, and I cannot wait for the next book!

Please, Laura, write faster!!!

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## **Lillian says**

*I received an eARC of this book from the author in exchange for an honest review. This does not affect my opinion of the book or the content of this review.*

### **Initial Reaction**

**Blood and Sin** was everything I wanted and more!!!! I could not have asked for a better read after a month of DNFs and 3★ books. I want....no I NEED more books from the husband-wife duo, Laura Thalassa, Dan Rix. I've read Laura Thalassa before, in fact I've read every one of her books and loved them, but I have yet to read any of her husband's. I will be rectifying that VERY soon.

**Blood and Sin** by Laura Thalassa, Dan Rix begins with a robbery, torture, and a demonic gateway. Lana Malesuis is in disguise as a human, on a mission to retrieve human blood to restore hers and other demons' magic. When she returns to the portal to get back to her world, she finds more than she was counting on AND the portal destroyed. Jame Asher is a demon hunter and has kept the fact that he's alive a secret for two years since his wife and child were killed by demons. His drive in life is to destroy all the portals and kill every demon he comes across. That includes Lana.

### **The Demon and the Hunter**

Lana is an interesting character. She has the naiveté you would expect from a young woman or teen while she is in the human world. She's unexpectedly kind for a demon which comes naturally for her. She's a

healer and for her it doesn't matter what race or animal you are, if you're hurt she wants to help. When Jame saves her, she owes him a life debt. Her conflicting feelings towards the hunter is understandable and even relatable. My heart ached for her and her situation. I found myself liking her despite the fact she was a demon.

Jame ♥? Asher is one of those characters that you love one minute and hate the next. He's a man on a mission. His family was killed by the Infernari, "demons" he calls them and it's a fitting name. His only goal in life is to destroy the portals that allow the demons into our world and kill every demon that crosses his path in the process. When his family was killed, the demons believed him dead as well, and so Jame has lived his life in the shadows for two years. Any one that had ties to him are dead or believe him dead. When he finds Lana, he's conflicted. She's a demon and he should kill her, but it's the scared look in her eyes that stops him. What demon gets scared? And so he takes her as prisoner.

### **The Gray Area Between Good and Evil**

The authors really explore the right vs. wrong and good vs. evil angle in the plot of this story. Jame believes what he is doing is right. He's a vigilante with a just cause. Lana believes what she does is for the best. She's a healer and can heal any demon from afar. However to access her magic she needs blood, and when that blood is used, the owner of the blood is cursed.

This is Jame's issue with the Infernari. They steal human blood and then the humans are cursed. Sometimes it's as simple as a bad day, other times it's a heart attack or something fatal depending on the magic the blood was used for. For Lana, a small curse or even a large one to save one of a 1000 of her people left living is worth the risk. Jame doesn't see it this way and well neither do I. It's a gray area and one I found myself questioning over and over again in the book.

### **My Conclusion**

Overall *Blood and Sin* is well worth the read. It's fast-paced, unique storyline had me invested from page one. I could not sit it down. In fact, I sat down to read it after dinner and stayed up to finish it. It is THAT GOOD! If you're a fan of either author, a fan of paranormal romance or urban fantasy, I highly recommend you pick up a copy ASAP. Now Laura Thalassa, Dan Rix, when will book two be out? I need more Jame and Lana!!!!

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### **KimberlyRose says**

Excitingly paced, filled with compelling characters and an intriguing world(s). The relationship built naturally, believably, enemies-to-lovers theme. There were a few occasions of uber-cliched writing that made me roll my eyes, but overall, an excellent first book to a new paranormal romance series of three books.

I will hold my rating and my more complete review until I read the full series; I do hope the authors keep the releases prompt or they'll lose the story's momentum and my interest.

And for the love of god, please no memory loss. Nothing makes me feel like I've wasted my time more than when a dramatically developing relationship in a series is reset \*cough\* Queen of All That Dies \*cough\*. Perhaps death. Character death would ruin it more.

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### **Katie Jones says**

“My heart was a dying thing”

This was not like any other Laura Thalassa book I've read. It had a slower pace. It definitely had a different feel. It was dark, at times bleak & the ending was just painfully heartbreak. I feel kinda bummed. I really liked Lana, I found her innocence & naivety of human things sweet & funny. I pretty much hated Asher. I think maybe I'm supposed to, but I think I'm also supposed to hope for his redemption, which I don't... but we'll see what the next book brings.

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### **Ruth says**

I devoured this book! Can I just say that I love Laura's books, I haven't read them all but I will! One of the things that I loved about this book was that it was written by Laura and her husband! Really awesome to read from a mans perspective. Blood and Sin introduces us to Lana and Jame (Asher is his last name). Lana is a demon from a land called Abyssos. Asher is a human who's wife and child were murdered by demons and for the past two years he's been avenging their deaths by killing the demons and destroying their portals. Asher and Lana meet under unfortunate circumstances and he takes her as his prisoner. Asher later realizes that Lana is not the cold blood sucking demon and Lana believes that he may have a heart behind that cold, vicious facade. Asher's emotions were so real, I definitely had a love hate relationship with him but I totally understood his side and his feelings. Lana was so refreshing to read, she too had real emotions. I found her easy to connect with, she was strong, fearless and innocent. I really enjoyed the character development and was glad it wasn't rushed. I can't wait for the next book!

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### **Shelby Palmer says**

Holy cliffhanger batman

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### **Tammy says**

Hmmm slow start but toward the end Laura Thalassa threw in her signature emotional turmoil situation that was gripping and wrenching. I like the theme of war, revenge, forgive, redemption, love and peace. There were moments that things seem to go into cliche arc but did not of course at certain point some plots did get quite cliche but with an interesting angle. I hope the next book carry on without cliche as well because I'd hate to see Lana become a bitter person....her character was a breath of fresh air for me with her innocent and optimistic attitude while still be able to kick-ass if needed. For Asher.....he was every bit bitter male hero whom I can understand his burdened guilt and confusion. All in all this is a very Laura Thalassa style

romance, a star cross lover with even doomed situation, that will have you wonder about emotion, moral and reason and bite your nail in anticipation for how things will end.

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### **Kelly Clare says**

\*gasp\* That ending!

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### **Alexandra says**

**I received an ARC from the author in exchange for an honest review. Review can be found on [\\*Milky Way of Books\\*](#)**

I love Laura Thalassa's writing. She knows how to give depth to her characters and how to create worlds that are believable and realistic. I was quite surprised when I saw that this book was co-written with her husband and I admit that they did an amazing job!

"Blood and Sin" takes place in today's US where Lana, an Infernari Healer Demon, must find a way to save her dying race which resides in a parallel world. When Jame Asher, a notorious Hunter, gets in her way, an adventure will begin which might bring the two enemies together.

Told by alternative POVs we get to see both Lana's and Asher's mind. They are both tormented, have their own ghosts to deal with and the way they try to name their thoughts is quite well-written and greatly developed.

Also, the way other demons were shown was damn amazing. I thought for a moment that I was watching an anime with those fighting scenes and not reading a book.

The ending was brutal. It's kind of cliffhanger-ish which I hope to be solved in the next one. Asher did THAT horrible thing and has a lot to answer for.

Highly recommended and my deepest thanks to the authors who provided me with this ARC! ;)

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### **Monika says**

This was an interesting read to start with. A young and immature infernari named Lana and Hot and ruthless hunter Asher - Total enemies by birth and by races - Fall for each other -- TOTALLY FORBIDDEN. Well that's the story all about. I liked how the story was plotted and the characters as well.

I really loved sweet little Lana, though so capable and loaded with super natural powers but still naive and immature and inexperienced at the same time. For sweet little Lana the world was a beautiful place with no reason for any fight and blood shed whereas the reality was far, far away from it.

Asher was hot and sexy. I loved this guy, this poor guy who lost his beloved wife and sweet child as byproduct of the doings of the infernaruses. So he condemned them and goes overboard to get rid of them

all.

But --- But But But, that's not the design of destiny. Beautifully, they fall for each other and I loved it that they finally got together. I did not like that it took 58% of the book for the first kiss :( though. And then the way this book ended - Bloody Hell! My mouth is zipped - sorry can't say it - you gotta read the book for it.

All in all, I loved Lana and Asher, beautiful and interesting plot, fascinating magic and characters of the demon world, magical powers hooked me up and I loved many more thing about this book. One more thing could have given this book more liking as a new adult book is a bit more of steam. Otherwise - really interesting and I am surely waiting for the next book now!

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### **Rebekah says**

more like 3.5

This almost had a Daughter of Smoke and Bone feel to it but not.

I found myself really enjoying this book and there is not book 2? even though this came out a few years go? come on now...

There were parts that I found myself rolling my eyes but I really enjoyed the world she created and the different monsters and characters. I was so involved in all that yes!

the romance was typical but I still became invested. so now lets get book 2 out, come on!

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### **Gundega (Rouzmary) says**

While I didn't particularly like the book itself and it constantly annoyed me it did have some good things.

*Brad frowned. "What's your problem, man? She's a freaking healer. She had no problem with humans until you went and made a problem. Now she hates us. All of us. You know, it's people like you, you and your stupid hate . . . and you wonder why demons despise us."*

That right there ^

It got it right, it certainly did. Replace demons with whatever else fits the situation and voilà - you get the idiot who started it all when there was no reason to & then keeps blaming the other party when it's in fact his/hers own fault. So damn many books and not just books, but real life too where such idiocy takes place. ugh. it's a miracle I finished this book with a total jerk like Asher as the "hero". Blech, he should've died and stayed dead.

This one is kind of spoilery for a really non important (in my opinion) but I suppose a supportive character. And since I don't really care for the character, and it happened before the half mark...the hell with spoiler tag, the more I go through the book for these quotes the more I remember just how much I actually disliked it and

that it's truly a miracle I did finish reading it!

*"Do you know why Brad died?"*

*"He died trying to save you, trying to save his brother, which is the most honorable way—"*

*"That's not what I'm asking. I'm asking why?"*

*"Because of the fire, because Azazel—"*

*"Yes, I agree, that's how he died—no, tell me why, Lana."*

*I hesitated, his icy calm scaring me. "Because of you, then? I don't know. Because you got him involved when he was perfectly fine living his own life . . ." Seeing Asher's lips begin to pucker, I trailed off. Best not to provoke him when he was like this. If he needed to express his grief as anger, fine.*

*"Brad died . . ." the words came out in a menacing whisper, ". . . because you culled his blood, and when you culled his blood, you cursed him. That's why he died, Lana. That's the only reason he died."* At his accusation, my chest seemed to tighten into a knot.

*"Do you understand that?" he asked.*

*I fidgeted in my seat, picking at my skin. "You imprisoned me," I murmured. "You left me no choice. I didn't curse him on purpose."*

Seriously? You get your friend involved, imprison the girl and what? Expect her to remain prisoner & just wait for death without trying to escape? Aaaaagh that prick Asher is making me sooo mad! How DARE he blame Lana for Brad's death!?

And the final one:

*"Grandmaddox's jambalaya?" she offered.*

*"Will give me nightmares," I finished, grateful for the change of subject. "I'm serious. Tonight, all I will be dreaming about is centipedes stewing in red Cajun sauce . . . I think some of them were still alive."*

*"They're basically the same as shrimp and crawfish," she said, "and I saw you eat a shrimp."*

*"There were spiders too, Lana . . . and cockroaches." I shuddered. That fucking dinner was just wrong."*

*"So? That's not even unique to Infernari. Humans eat spiders and cockroaches, too."*

*"I seriously doubt that."*

*"In Cambodia and China. We're not as different as you think."*

*My nose wrinkled. "Is that what they teach you demons in your geography classes? Which country you can visit to get a good deep-fried cockroach?"*

*"Demon is a derogatory word, you know." The alcohol was making her tongue sharper, and despite her hooded lids, her eyes were piercing when they met mine.*

*"That's why I use it." This conversation called for more alcohol. I got another refill from the bartender and slipped her a fifty. "Leave the bottle."*

*"What if humans had killed your family?" Lana asked. "Would you want to exterminate them, too?"*

There you have it, you good for nothing freaking annoying Asher the asshole. He's a dumb idiot. Waste of space. Humans like that should not exist. I should've never read the book.

And while this "review" turned out to be mainly of how annoying & downright idiotic is Asher, Lana wasn't all that better either, well, at least she wasn't a discriminating self-lying jerk who puts blame on everyone else so long as it's not him but anyone else who's different...she wasn't that much better, just slightly.

I can't read books where the character are so distasteful, doesn't matter if the story itself, the premise is good...the characters kill it all. That was the case here.

I was inclined to be merciful and give it 2 stars...but after going through once more...nah, 1 it is, blame Asher...and Lana.

There have been worse reads, but **Blood and Sin** isn't far off.

I'm in serious doubt if I will read the second book. Maybe when I need to be tortured.

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### **Shrimalya says**

**Review:** If you know me then it's no big secret that I love Laura Thalassa's books. I've devoured almost everything of hers from the Unearthly and Fallen World series to her standalones. When it was announced that she was teaming up with her husband Dan Rix (who also writes amazing novels and makes these awesome covers!) to write an NA PNR book, I was super excited! And let me tell you this book did not disappoint!

The blurb only shows a glimpse of the story. It is so much more than just a typical PNR novel guys! In *Blood and Sin* we have Lana Malesius, who has come topside to collect blood as her kind needs it to survive. She is also a healer and not evil like a stereotypical demon (or Infernari as they prefer to call themselves). While trying to return back to Abyssos, she is captured by Jame Asher—the most famous demon hunter.

Asher's plan is to deprive all demons of their blood sources and to destroy all portals, thus preventing them from ever entering the human plane again. His wife and daughter were killed by the demon and he is filled with hate and anger. He won't stop till he has removed every demon from the face of the earth. When Asher captures Lana, he sees her just like every other demon. But, he is also attracted to her and sees the innocence and child-like wonder in her, which makes him re-think his opinions about the Infernari.

As Lana and Asher end up saving each other's lives at different points, they are inevitably bound to each other. And as they begin to spend more time together, they learn things that they never knew before. Will Asher let go of his hate and give up his crusade to destroy all demon-kind? And will Lana manage to save her race in time and also keep Asher safe? Read *Blood and Sin* to find out!

The way the authors fleshed out Lana and Jame's characters was wonderful! I loved their interactions—the witty banter and the soft moments too! Their relationship slowly developed from hate to a beautiful friendship and a sweet romance. It didn't feel rushed at all! The writing and the pacing was also perfect. The world-building and the history behind the Infernari was fascinating and completely original.

The last few chapters had me biting my nails wondering what was going to happen. And the ending! Omg! It broke my heart but I still have hope! I can't wait for the next book and I think we'll have an even more kickass and not-so-innocent-now Lana!

So guys, this book has the perfect combination of action, romance, humor and magic in it. Take a chance and buy this! Trust me you'll definitely enjoy it!

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## **Elizabeth Stephens says**

This book is such a struggle.

Pros:

- Writing is good.
- Asher's character is fun
- Lana's character is fun
- Lots of fighting
- No weak women
- No weak men
- World-building/fantasy elements are original without being dorky

Cons:

- Ending. If you are the type of person who loves wildly unsatisfactory endings to books then you will enjoy this one. My larger issue isn't actually that this ends on a cliff hanger - most cliff hangers I can deal with - but that this ends with the two central characters (the only two GD characters in the entire book it feels like!!!) hating one another. And what is WRONG with Asher? I mean, grief I understand but sheesh dude, get it together. He flip flops over not MURDERING the woman he loves in the final pages of the book half a dozen times and I get that this is probably because that other woman bewitched him and we have to wait for book 2 for there to be any resolution, but to be quite honest, I am an HEA kind of girl - even if you end on a cliff hanger I've got to have an HEA (think Black Dagger Brotherhood). Will not be reading book two, which really frustrates me, because as is the case with Queen of All that Dies, I enjoyed/hated reading the book. It got me SO EXCITED but by the final page I can't decide if I even enjoyed it.

Sad day.

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