



## The Warrior Vampire

*Kate Baxter*

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## **The Warrior Vampire** Kate Baxter

*The vampire was built for sin, every inch of him tight and bulky with corded muscle. A killer, that much was apparent, and she couldn't help but wonder if his appetite for violence would rival his appetites for other...things.*

### **A WOMAN SEDUCED**

Naya Morales is no ordinary mortal. Born with a shaman's power, she has devoted her life to tracking down stolen magic—and punishing those who take it. But one fateful night, she follows the alluring call of a sensual magic that is too glorious to be true—and finds herself face to face with a stunningly handsome thief who is too magnificent to resist...

### **A VAMPIRE ENSLAVED**

From the moment he sees her, Ronan knows Naya is his mate. Driven by a deep, almost mystical connection, he aches for her body, hungers for her blood, and swears their souls are anchored together. Naya refuses to believe the words of a vampire—or risk the wrath of her tribe. But when she tries to make Ronan her prisoner, neither chains of silver nor fires of hell can help her escape the truth: she is the one who's been captured...

## **The Warrior Vampire Details**

Date : Published December 1st 2015 by St. Martin's Paperbacks

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Author : Kate Baxter

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## From Reader Review The Warrior Vampire for online ebook

### PepperP0t says

Bororo magic enforcer, Naya is on her way home from a hard night of retrieving stolen magic when her pod leader calls to try to line up potential mates for her. Naya's thinking, I'd rather die than have a mate when the purest magic she's ever heard sings to her. Geared up for the retrieval, Naya follows the trail to the magic and is literally bowled over by more than six feet of muscle vowing to protect her.

Ronan Daly is so much more than an ordinary man. He's a newly turned vampire and only the second in existence. He barely remembers his name and that he stopped in Crescent City so the situation and the woman standing before him are new developments. She could be part of the Sortiari, a berserker group intent on destroying vampires. One thing that is clear is this woman is his mate.

Naya's holding Ronan at her secret apartment hoping to get some answers about the influx of infected magic. Meanwhile Naya's pod leader has summoned her to a meeting where he informs her of her upcoming wedding and her intended mate. Stunned, Naya goes home and tries to figure out how to avoid a mating and how to keep her pod from finding out about Ronan.

Ronan realizes he can't account for at least two weeks when he remembers he was searching for his twin sister in the Crescent City area. Deciding to kill two birds with one stone, Ronan accompanies Naya on her nightly hunts while he looks for his sister. Meanwhile, Siobhan, Mikhail and the Sortiari are fruitlessly searching for answers and Jenner's slowly adjusting to his new reality.

The secondary characters brought enough attitude to share with everyone this time around. Loved cousin Luz and the villain was elusive enough and the reader was teased enough that guessing what/who was behind the infection was fun itself.

While a good outing, this reader was in the mood for vampires and found the read a little slow for my taste. Also, while there wasn't much to tie back to book one this read did touch on the reach of the Sortiari and expanded the world to include magic users.

Rating 4stars

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### Lover of Romance says

This review was originally posted on Addicted To Romance

In **The Warrior Vampire** we have a stunning and vibrant romance that pulls me quickly into the story and I didn't want to let go. I will admit, I wasn't sure if I would be in the mood for this story, but honestly with Kate Baxter at the helm...you never need to be in the mood. You just know that you will enter her world of magic, of vampires, of danger and spirited heroes and heroines and become captivated and thus it was for myself while reading **The Warrior Vampire**.

This wonderful story starts out with our heroine, who finds those using magic in a depraved form and binding them. But while out hunting one night, she comes across a man, who sees her across a vampire, and a man who comes at her, claims her as his and passes out. So Naya has no clue what she needs to do with

Ronan, only that she feels some sort of connection with him. Naya thought that vampires were extinct, until now. Apparently, in Naya's mind, all the males of her association have gone crazy wanting her as their mate. But Ronan is quite different, even while in chains, he has a tender and protect regard for Naya. As Ronan and Naya join forces, trying to figure out the location of his missing sister, the reason why her clan are so crazy in their intentions...they discover a binding love and become a fighting force their enemies won't see coming.

This book truly was a whirlwind for me to read and I just couldn't get enough of it. I honestly just wanted more of these two, because they both pack quite a punch together. So what makes Ronan and Naya so great together? Well let me tell you what impressed me most about these two. First their mating bond. When a vampire first exists, their souls are taken away until they find their mate who tethers their soul back to them. We see that Ronan isn't the typical alpha male who just "claims" Naya. He sees her as his salvation, his peace and the reason to fight for what is right. I love how he views her as a partner, he is always insistent on craving a passionate and a woman who fights and stands on her own.

### **I fucking love a female with a violent streak**

Naya has her own self worth, she is strong and a fighter. She doesn't see what is the appeal of being a "mate" until she meets Ronan. She sees the important and strength behind a bond of love and respect and passion. Seeing these two together is unique and simply wonderful.

Overall **The Warrior Vampire** is a sexy filled romance that is packed with action, magic, a villain you won't suspect and a love story that is vibrant and memorable!!

**My soul was returned to me the moment I laid eyes on you. The only thing I know with certainty right now is that you are mine.**

**What do you love most about a kick ass couple fighting and falling in love?**

**Have you read this series yet? What do you love most about it?**

[foogallery id="44075"]

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**Claire Robinson says**

**4.5 - "I'm not an all-you-can-drink dinner buffet. Got it?" Stars!**

Kate Baxter continues on with the *Last True Vampire* series with absolutely stunning story-telling in *The Warrior Vampire* we met Ronan Daly in the previous book as Michael Aristov's right hand man, a lot happened in that book and some of the changes directly involved Ronan, especially towards the end.

*The Warrior Vampire* is Ronan's story, and boy was it a good one. I was pulled in from the beginning, and I liked that the author took us away from Los Angeles for most of this one and gave Ronan his story in a

different setting, you are given an indication that this may be the case at the end of the last book as Ronan sets out to find his sister Chelle.

I really like that the author gives us really strong female leads in this series as well, Claire in the previous book and now Naya in this one. Both were strong and assured in themselves, and although there is vulnerability there it is not played upon and it added to the characterizations in a positive light rather than making either women seem weak or clingy.

**"I fucking love a female with a violent streak."**

Naya gives as good as she gets, the verbal sparring in the early stages of the book between her and Ronan is really enjoyable, and the dirty-sexy chemistry between them from the get-go positively vibrates through your Kindle.

**"Whats it like?"**

**"Whats, what like?"**

**"Drinking my blood."**

**"It's Everything".**

There is a bit of a slow burn going with this one, but I liked that, Ronan's past allegiances really do rear up and affect his present connections, and Naya is dealing with a whole set of issues herself in that her Pod and the rules that she is governed by do not leave room for a relationship in any way, shape or form with a Vampire. Magic is being used and for nefarious purposes and it is very much something that she needs to be dealing with. I found it refreshing that the author worked through everything at a steady pace rather than finding a quick resolution to some of the more important tropes and moving on, the suspense, the romance and the character development all worked in-line with the overall pacing of the book and the development of the rest of the story-line going on around them.

**"It's like finding peace after centuries of restlessness.**

**I don't want to want you...**

**I can't afford to need you.**

**Especially now."**

The story does continue to play out back in Los Angeles and we are given snippets of it through Claire, Michael and Jenner to name but a few. This is my only small niggle in that due to quite a large time lapse since reading *The Last true Vampire* my mind is a tad fuzzy on the whole *Sortiari* element of the story now. It didn't really impact my enjoyment of this one though, but I did at points wish I could remember the relevance of them especially in the latter stages of this book.

**"I'm lost to you... Addicted. I don't have any control when it comes to you."**

From the snippet we are given at the end of this instalment, *The Dark Vampire* is due in May 2016, and it is Jenner's book, the guy pops up quite a bit in this one, and from what you see it is evident that he is struggling with his newly turned Vampire status and the uncontrollable urges that come with it, I think the author may have another hit on her hands if she offers up another strong female (and from the blurb it sounds like it) to take him on!

ARC generously provided via Netgalley, and it was my pleasure to provide the above honest review.

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### **Sportochick says**

This book is uniquely interesting and will cause the reader to not want to stop reading. It has well thought out descriptions, full of forward movement in the plot and incorporates a series of linked events that brings in the shifter and vampires stories.

Naya is my type of women; strong, fearless, faithful to her beliefs and a kickass fighter. The author does an astounding job of incorporating all these attributes while keeping her femininity in tact. There is a vulnerability in Naya that makes you like her as the heroine and want to help her fight her cause.

I love how the storyline introduced Ronan causing me to laugh and want to know how he came to be in that position. This vampire is not the common vampire you read about in most vampire books. Instead there is a uniqueness to the authors take on vampires and how she tells their story.

This book is a good read for all people 18+ and I give it 4 STARS.

An ARC copy was gifted in exchange for an honest opinion via Netgalley.

VISIT MY BLOG FOR MORE REVIEWS: SPORTOCHICK'S MUSINGS

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### **Emily (Mrs B's Books) says**

This book continues the building world and story started in the first book, however it could be read as a stand a lone book.

In this book we have newly turned Ronan Daly, the second in command for the king of the Vampires. He has left his coven in search of his sister who contacted him at the end of the previous book saying that she needed him.

Ronan has missing memory, but waking up in Naya's bedroom he immediately knows that he has been tethered (mated) and that the woman is his mate. He only has to convince her that they are mated and to help him find his sister.

Naya is a mother strong female with smarts and skills of her own. It's good to see strong women who can stand up to their men and show strength and that they could look after themselves if required.

This is a brilliant book in the series and i look forward to reading more from this author.

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### **Jo-The Hopeless Romantics Book Blog says**

For someone who is not yet a fully fledged and paid up member of the paranormal fan club, I sure am loving this series. "The Warrior Vampire" was a brilliant and addictive read. It was so fantastic that I could not turn the pages quick enough, desperate for more of Ronan and Naya's story. I was consumed by the exciting world of vampires, witches and magic. Not once was there a dull moment or a time where my mind wondered to some place else. The story was fast-paced, thrilling and contained the most hottest couple I have

ever come across from the this genre. Kate Baxter sure can create some steamy scenes. I am surprised that my kindle didn't catch fire during some parts of the book. Sucking someone else's blood has never been so hot! No wonder I was hooked! Lol.

"You're my family, Naya. My tribe. My pod. My coven. Whatever you want to call it. I don't give my vows lightly. And I've given mine to you."

Together Naya and Ronan made a dazzling couple, all fiery heat and sexiness. The chemistry between the two was palpable from their very first moments together and they just became more intense as the story progressed. I fell for Ronan, just as hard as I'd fallen for Michael in "The Last True Vampire", if not harder. I know that I've said it before but I do love a bloodthirsty vampire. They are all so damn erotic, so deliciously passionate and one hundred percent alpha. Ronan encompassed all of these gorgeous qualities so it was a given that he would be a vampire for me to lust over. I also loved Naya. She was a strong and feisty heroine, not essentially needing a hot-blooded male in her life, but it certainly improved things for her. Naya made a kick-ass character, ideal for the dark world in which they both belonged to, and that in turn made them the most perfect couple.

"Your blood is life. It gives me breath. Makes my heart beat.  
And your body...  
your body is an alter at which I pray. There is no greater power than that."

Please don't think that this series is all about the sex though, because it really wasn't. There was a gripping plot that kept me on my toes throughout. The writing was fantastic, keeping me engrossed and entertained through every single chapter. I really feel that the series is now beginning to open up, with the introduction of new characters and the beginnings of their own stories that have piqued my interest. I also loved catching up with Claire and Michael again and I am already excited for the next book which is Jenner's story. He appeared to be the one who was the most troubled of the underworld so I can't wait to discover how his book will play out.

If you haven't yet picked this series up and you love a passionate read to sweep you away to another world, I strongly recommend one-clicking this book, but be sure to read "The Last True Vampire" first, you don't want to miss out on Michael and Claire's story. It's equally as good as this one.

"He was the air she needed to breathe. Water. Food.  
Ronan was everything."

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### **L.E.Olteano says**

Review originally posted at Butterfly-o-Meter Books on Nov 18 2015 :

In a Flutter: Rich world & witty style!

Fluttering Thoughts:

Worldbuilding: If in the first novel of the series, Last True Vampire, I thought the world was rich, in The Warrior Vampire things got even more yummy. The Bororo tribe with all their unique features were kickass! Plus ofc all the world elements from the first novel = paranormal galore!

Characters: Naya was a really fun female lead, because she was independent yet allowed traditions to rule her where she shouldn't have (imo), and following her eye-opening process was super fun. She was kickass,

funny, passionate – what's not to love?

Ronan was as delicious as you'd expect him, all smexy and determined and loyal to his mate \*love-struck\*

Their couple was charming and charismatic, and their one on one moments were uber-hot xD

Plot: The romance arc was really fun, the odds-against-the-couple thing came with awesome tension and the action outside the romance was interesting too, with Chelle and the artifact and...lots of fun, in short.

Writing: Third person, past tense narrative, his/her POV (with minor inserts from another character's POV).

I liked the style, the snarky tone of Naya and the way her voice came through.

Curb Appeal: Cool cover, hooking blurb, cool series – impulsive buy material for sure for my PNR moods!

All in all, I recommend The Warrior Vampire to lovers of vampire romance, mates-trope fans, and also to fans of diverse worldbuilding. The Last True Vampire is a series that promises a lot, I'll for sure keep an eye on it!

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### **Christie«SHBBblogger» says**

[Yes (hide spoiler)]

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### **Tanya says**

Naya is a witch in a tribe of shifters. In her Bororo tribe, the males are shifters but the females hear and control the magic. Like many ancient societies though, she is treated as second class despite her being the one to control the magic while the male elders and leader of the tribe dictate all her actions, including her impending arranged mating.

Along comes the mysterious Ronan, vampire, one of the few in this world. And shocking them both, Naya is the one to tether his vampire soul, meaning she is his fated mate. That creates quite a problem because not only is she not vampire but there is a bit section of his memory missing of why he is in here area and there is some serious evil afoot.

This is book 2 of the series, and the series itself is a dense type of world. Some paranormal series go with a fairly simple world setup and focus on the characters while others create a really elaborate tapestry of lore and rules for the world. This series is of the second variety. Given that, I do highly recommend you read book 1 prior to reading book 2. Book 2 may stand alone, but you may be a bit lost honestly, and I definitely think you would enjoy it less than you would having read book 1 first, which is about Ronan's Vampire King, the first of his kind at the time, and it also introduces Ronan and Siobhan, along with the troth that creates some major problems in this book.

I really did love the world setup in this series. My problem though is that this book was extremely slow to get going. Literally the first 40 percent of the book or more had nothing more happening other than the two leads meeting and going back and forth without advancement of the storyline or plot involving the villains. Our heroine threatening our hero with a dagger in fact covered what seemed like chapters. This book started with a bang and then just languished after that for way too long. The second half of the book was wonderful, but I have a feeling a lot of readers won't get that far, and it would be a shame. The second half is very interesting. So, my rating is 3 stars. I would read the next for the world that has been created.

My thanks the publisher via Netgalley for an advanced copy of this book to read and provide an honest review.

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## **Sandy S says**

### **ABOUT THE BOOK: Release Date December 1, 2015**

The vampire was built for sin, every inch of him tight and bulky with corded muscle. A killer, that much was apparent, and she couldn't help but wonder if his appetite for violence would rival his appetites for other...things.

### **A WOMAN SEDUCED**

Naya Morales is no ordinary mortal. Born with a shaman's power, she has devoted her life to tracking down stolen magic—and punishing those who take it. But one fateful night, she follows the alluring call of a sensual magic that is too glorious to be true—and finds herself face to face with a stunningly handsome thief who is too magnificent to resist...

### **A VAMPIRE ENSLAVED**

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**REVIEW:** 3.75 stars--THE WARRIOR VAMPIRE is the second full-length installment in Kate Baxter's adult, contemporary LAST TRUE VAMPIRE paranormal, romance series. This is vampire Ronan, and enforcer/demon hunter Naya Morales's storyline. We were first introduced to Ronan in book one--THE LAST TRUE VAMPIRE. Ronan was a bit of a 'manwhore' who trothed himself to wicked female in order to save the life of Mikhail-the king of the vampires and the last known 'Ancient One'. THE WARRIOR VAMPIRE can be read as a stand alone but for cohesion and back story, I recommend reading the series in order as there is quite a bit of detailed information revealed in each successive story.

Told from several third person perspectives THE WARRIOR VAMPIRE focuses on the building relationship between Naya and Ronan, and their hunt for legendary 'mapinguari'. Naya is an enforcer-she tracks the 'mapinguari-a host (human or otherwise) infected with malicious, dark magic and destroys the demon that evolves from the stolen magic. But an increase and infestation of mapinguari finds our heroine face to face with a species once long thought to be extinct-the vampire- and the vampire's declaration that Naya is his mate, finds our heroine caught between what it is she has to do, and losing her heart to her 'tethered' male.

THE WARRIOR VAMPIRE follows several building plotlines including the development of future storylines and a revisit to previous couples and characters. Kate Baxter adds, vampires, witches, demons,

shifters and an assortment of supernatural beings that all play secondary and supporting roles throughout the story and series. Naya is an ‘enforcer’ from the South American tribe of the Bororo, made up of male feline shifters, and female shamans and witches. The premise is a slow build as many different and intersecting plotlines are revealed and addressed, as well as some of the history of Naya’s people and their responsibility of policing magic; and the vampire’s struggle to survive in a world that believes they no longer exist.

The relationship between Naya and Ronan focuses on Ronan’s attempts to convince his mate that what she feels is real but Naya is a strong, independent female who is slowly pulling away from the people in control. As an enforcer, she goes above and beyond, but as a female ‘Bororo’, she is expected to mate with one of her own. Ronan’s declaration of Naya as his mate has thrown a few problems into the already frigid waters of the Bororo hierarchy. Naya’s personality is aggressive and sometimes unforgiving but her attraction to, and need for Ronan, slowly calms her angry façade. Ronan is a male vampire who literally falls into Naya’s life as he searches for his missing sister-the twin who has gone in search of an ancient vampire relic. The \$ex scenes are intimate, erotic and intense.

There are several intersecting conflicts including Ronan’s troth to another female and the darkness that continues to encroach upon his soul. We also look at the men who control Naya’s life-their demands, their punishments, their patriarchal society of men in charge; and the hunger for power that begins to corrupt the people in charge.

THE WARRIOR VAMPIRE is an entertaining and intriguing storyline with engaging characters and a passionate romance. The requisite evil comes in many forms but all with a singular vessel of control. The writing style flows smoothly with a number of introspective thoughts from our leading characters that let the reader get up close and personal in the minds of Ronan and Naya.

Copy supplied by the publisher through Netgalley.

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### **Cassandra says**

My Thoughts - 5 out of 5 Unicorns - I loved it!!!

\*\*\*Received a copy of the ebook for an honest review

The cover is definitely a work of steamy art :)

This is book 2 in the series and is for adults only due to the steamy scenes and violence. While it is not mandatory to read the series in order, I highly recommend it because you will know the histories and references made from book 1, and it just makes it so much more together!

I loved reading this one as much as the first. You get pulled right into Ronan and Naya’s story. I don’t want to give anything away, so it is hard to decide what to say. I really love Naya’s feistiness and warrior nature. She definitely has personal issues that you have no problem seeing and even relating to. Ronan is a cocky male, but he has his own issues to work through too. They both had moments where you wanted to yell at them and tell them to stop overanalyzing, but love them both!

Kate Baxter has created an amazing world where you are never sure what will happen along the way, but you

will enjoy every minute of it. I didn't want to put it down. Can't wait to see what Kate cooks up next!!!

I highly recommend this series to all the PNR fans who love a great vampire romance ?

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### **B.E.Love says**

Naya was born from a long line of Shaman's, all the woman in her pod have the ability to hear magic that has been taken. And it is their jobs to get it back and take care of the person who stole it. The only other thing important is that the woman who are the only ones born with this gift find mates and make the next generation. Naya has been faithful to the cause but it has been getting hard and she has no desire to be mated and breed off. After a night of retrieval Naya hears power like none other.

Ronan has had a long and not always easy life. A vampire is without his soul till he finds his true and destined mate and she brings it back to him. Ronan wakes chained which tries to bring back memories from the past he would rather forget, only to realize he has not only found his mate and should but he doesn't know who she is. Only that she isn't human or vampire. Add to that he is already bound to the Dhampir Queen(which we learn about in a previous book).

\*Thank you NetGallery and St. Martin's Press for this ARC

This isn't a usual or easy situation for either Ronan or Naya and the things they have in their lives seem to do everything to keep them apart and want them apart including the plans and expectations that are placed on Naya's life. And if that's not enough more is added that just might make it too hard for Naya and Ronan to find their happy ending together.

This is a great vampire PR series that stands out among so many. I loved the previous book and the prequel and this one fits right in with the previous two. This author does a great job creating this world as well as creating characters that have depth and are so easy to love and hate. There are so many stories to tell in the world Kate Baxter created, and she continues to just build upon each book. With each PR or vampire book there are some constants but Ms. Baxter does a great job at making them fresh as well as adding some great new twists.

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### **Ivy Deluca says**

**[2.5 stars]**

I was left with an overwhelming sense of Meh when I finished this book. Nothing wrong with the characters, other than a lack of spark in the beginning and a dependency on the "tethering" to explain a connection, instead of really taking the time to build it on the page. There are only so many threats that can be dished out between the leads before you start to lose interest.

Mythology builds up a little but felt isolated from the main conflict of vampires and sortiari which is what I was interested in seeing more of when I picked this up. I think as far as the writing itself, it's a well edited book and I have enjoyed some of the interactions between Ronan and Naya in later chapters, but that first half was too slow going. The world itself is worth an extra look, so I'm hopeful that the series is better balanced going forward.

## [2.5 stars]

It was ok, I had hoped for more in this book, but I struggled to connect with either Naya or Ronan. That said, the teaser for the next book has me intrigued so I'm willing to stick it out and see where this series goes.

\*\*ARC provided by publisher via netgalley for review\*\*

For more reviews, visit

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## Annie (Under the Covers Book Blog) says

In the second installment to the Last True Vampire series, Kate Baxter introduces readers to Naya Morales, a woman with special powers tasked with tracking down others with stolen magic. When she is lured by a magic so different and powerful, she comes face to face with a man that somehow knows her name. He claims that he is going to protect her before passing out. Freaked out, Naya straps him to a chair, intending to question him once he wakes. But the stranger becomes all too impossible to resist.

I didn't fully warm up to Naya's character. She acts like a tough cookie and I will admit, sometimes she is. But other times she acts without really thinking about it first. As with the reader, she is kept in the dark and when Ronan wakes, not able to remember anything that happened apart from that he is Naya's mate and must protect her, Naya reacts like a child. Instead of having both characters sit down and try to communicate, they simply argue, creating a greater divide between them. Naturally, I could understand why Naya was a little bit freaked out, but the entire situation doesn't really make for a very romantic interlude. It was hard to believe in the romance when Ronan is practically throwing himself on Naya and she's batting him off like he's a disgusting bug.

I will say that I enjoyed Ronan's character. He's a charmer but boy does he seem clingy. As the book goes on, however, Baxter is able to rein them both in and create an action-packed story that does eventually amp up the romance. I'm looking forward to see what Baxter has in store for her readers next!

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## Sarah says

3.5 stars

Ronan has waited centuries for Michael to turn him into a vampire and now all he wants is the chance to help his king rebuild their race. When his twin sister Chelle calls asking for his help with an ancient vampire relic that she has finally uncovered he drops everything to go to her aid. Unfortunately for him he wakes up almost 2 weeks later with absolutely no memory of where he has been or what has happened to his sister. Naya is a powerful witch with the ability to sense stolen and corrupted magic, her tribe's sacred duty is to track that magic and to kill those who have been damaged by trying to use it. She is drawn to Ronan because she can sense the dangerous magic inside him but at the same time there is something about him that resonates with the very heart of her and she can't bring herself to hurt him. Unfortunately someone or

something has left Ronan's magic corrupted and unless Naya can find a way to remove it before it turns him into a monster she might be forced to kill him before he can destroy the people she cares about most.

Although I liked the first book in this series I did have a few problems with both of the main characters, the world was interesting enough that I was willing to give it another try though and I'm very happy to say that **Kate Baxter** has definitely upped the ante in **The Vampire Warrior**. Not only has she expanded her world building to include witches and shapeshifters alongside the vampires and dhampirs but she also gave us two main characters who were likeable from the beginning. Naya is a powerful woman in her own right but she is sick of being treated like a possession by the male members of her tribe.

The Bororo culture is very male orientated even though it's only women who have the skills to detect and reclaim magic like Naya does. The males instead have the ability to shift into jaguars which makes them powerful in a different way and they hold this power over the women's heads. Naya is one of the few females left with her abilities and because of that her tribe want to see her mated as quickly as possible so that she can start giving birth to a new generation of witches. Unfortunately for Naya they aren't happy about her independent streak but she is equally unhappy about the idea of being forced into mating a man she doesn't love and having to give up her hunting duties.

Ronan never expected to find his mate but he becomes tethered the moment he sets eyes on Naya and that proves she is the only woman for him. Unfortunately, he was so convinced that he wouldn't find his mate that he has already made a blood vow to another woman and now if he acts on his feelings for Naya it could be the death of him. Now Ronan not only has to figure out a way to handle the dark and dangerous magic inside him, he also has to track down his missing sister and find a way to get Siobhan to release him from his vow. Naya has a lot of trouble accepting that Ronan is her mate, she is reluctant to escape one forced mating by being pulled into another and she is determined to fight Ronan every step of the way. She does agree to help him find Chelle along with a way to get rid of the magic though, especially since it quickly becomes clear everything is linked to a surge in magical demons in the area.

I really enjoyed the push and pull between these two. It can be hard to pull off a romance when characters are fated mates with an immediate bond but I thought the way things progressed by Ronan and Naya were believable. I understood her reluctance but enjoyed the seeing her come around to the idea as she spent more time with Ronan and realised that he was proud to fight at her side and didn't want to lock her away in cotton wool. Ronan was the right amount of possessive and growly alpha without veering too far into controlling and over the top territory. He was protective of Naya but in a way that didn't stifle her and he appreciated the strength he could see in her.

My slight complaints about the story were that it was a little too easy to guess who the mastermind behind everything was. I also could do without seeing the hero from the next book screwing around with women that aren't his mate. We had to watch Ronan with Siobhan in **The Last Vampire** (in scenes that quite frankly turned my stomach!) and in this book we got to watch Jenner (the hero of **The Dark Vampire**) working his way through a whole bevy of dhampirs. I like getting to know future characters but would rather do it outside of the bedroom please. I also thought the plot with Ronan's blood vow to Siobhan fell a little flat, I would have loved to see her character brought down a peg or two since she's been such a nasty piece of work since the beginning of the series and I didn't like the way they gave her such a brilliant gift for his freedom. I had been looking forward to seeing Naya go in there, prove that she was much more powerful and make Siobhan back off so that was a little disappointing.

Overall I enjoyed this book much more than the first though, this series is really starting to come into its own and I'm looking forward to reading the next one.

**Source:** Received from Headline Eternal in exchange for an honest review

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