



Alien Conquest (The Warrior's Prize)

Scarlett Rhone

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As a paramedic, Alaina Stafford knew that every shift would have its surprises. But being abducted by alien slave traders? There's no amount of preparation for that kind of surprise.

Before she can wrap her head around it, Alaina is sold at a high-dollar auction to be the new “donara” for a powerful, wealthy Errai family. It doesn't take long to find out what a “donara” is...it's the reward for the gladiator who wins in the Arena.

Alaina is to be the victor's prize.

Vega is the House favorite among the slave warriors, and crowds come from across the galaxy to watch him in the Arena. Unlike the other fighters, he's not swayed by the promise of winning this strange human woman. His real prize—his freedom—is within his grasp, and he won't be distracted from the chance to return home by some fragile but exotic beauty from a planet called Earth.

But there's a vicious political power play at hand, and both Vega and Alaina stand to lose everything. **Thrown together and forced to rely on each other, they soon realize that love may actually be worth dying for.**

Alien Conquest (The Warrior's Prize) Details

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Author : Scarlett Rhone

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From Reader Review Alien Conquest (The Warrior's Prize) for online ebook

Linda Levine says

I love strong female characters and she really is a survivor. You can't keep her down. He is strong and ready to end his trials. She is a complication but also his salvation. It is a great romance.

I received a copy in return for a honest review.

Janell Michaels says

This was recommended by a reader and oh my! Sizzling hot.

While this is a sci fi tale, much of the premise reminded me a lot of the Spartacus: Blood in the Sand (etc) TV shows with gladiator slaves fighting for the glory of their houses.

The heroine, Alaina, is snatched from Earth and sold at auction to a wealthy alien house intending to use her as a prize for the gladiator, er, cursu who wins at the games. She falls for a hot, muscled alien fighter who is trying to win his freedom--but the champion becomes a target for his own fighting brothers as well as the other competitors in the Arena games.

Because I always have to have my tiny niggles, I'll mention a couple here. First, the characters' emotional relationship jumped ahead rather suddenly, and I found it a bit surprising. Also, a note of caution for those who expect strict monogamy in a romance. Eh, not exactly. And it's a gladiator/slave story, so people get hurt. These things weren't enough for me to knock a star off my rating, though.

I devoured the book in a day and was looking around for more. (Sadly, it appears there aren't more of these by her...at least not yet.)

Shari Kay says

[detailed sex scene with OW and though technically he's a slave and had to do it, he didn't try to get out of it(he was injured so he probably could have), enjoyed it and thought of heroine the whole time (hide spoiler)]

namericanwordcat says

This title. Cringe. I look at these titles through my fingers when I click to buy this book or books like them. I remind my self that they aren't any worse that Harlequin Presents or some contemporary titles (My Bearded Billionaire Stepbrother) and that they are just trying to pick up on search hits. But still, so so awful. I feel like a trash picker looking for treasure.

This book is a find. It is really really good. Thank you Kindle Unlimited. Thank you Science Fiction Alien Romance Craving and Binge.

Here is the things that could have been better: We get a nice Epilogue HEA but given the grimness of most of the story (slavery is ugly), I really think everyone had earned some chapters living on a free planet and adapting to this other cultural and space as a married couple.

The timeline of the plot is a bit scrunched for the falling in love. If it had been over months rather than weeks, the book would have been stronger. Yes, more horrors would have been likely to befall our leads (the heroine gets off relativity light which I am fine with but it isn't believable and could have been done off stage and the hero's and heroine's trauma could have been a great plot to deal with in later chapters set on the hero's home world)

Those things would have made this very good science fiction romance a read over and over book rather than a Wow, I really enjoyed that book.

What was so good?

The world building is well done. The heroine is taken from earth and sold into slavery into a three alien cultured space where proxy wars are fought in an Arena over all conflicts. The slavery is both indentured and chattel. The writer does a wonderful job of showing how power corrupts and the different ways slaves adapt. The gladiator culture and setting is detailed but the riveting aspect of the book is the psychological landscape of high and low slaves, owners, and freed people.

More time could have been spent on the distinct culture of each alien race of the other aspects of the world were well drawn.

The hero's struggles with his enslavement are particular well down. He has been indentured a good long time trying to free his planet and he does not escape all the webs of being an owned person internally or externally. He is a wonderfully cynical, pragmatic, and centered person.

I adore how there are secondary characters that seem evil but are really shown as products of the system. The owners being less complicated in this way than some other slaves that become allies.

As I said, because of the timeline the heroine suffers less from the system but she is stripped of personhood. Her fight against is impractical at times but true to her personality. She gets to remain a medic as well as being an exotic species and this grounds her.

The love story is believable if needing more time than a longer timeline would provide.

I am looking forward to reading more books by this writer who has such a fine hand for the heart of what it means to be human (or alien).

Kitty_ranma says

Ending with a twist." Audio version.

This has a good beginning, unfortunately I then lost interest. It took me several tries to finish it, I finally

finished it in 4 days. Then all the sudden it got my attention again. I won't spoil it for you but it does end with a twist.

This audiobook was given to me for free at my request from the publisher or author or narrator and I provided this unbiased voluntary review.

Hollie says

This was an ok alien romance. It had a "gladiator" feel to it.

This one just didn't feel like a "safe" read to me. The hero have sex with his master, even after meeting the heroine. Granted, he didn't really have any choice (and he thought of the heroine while being intimidate with his master), but he did pretend to like her and acted as if he enjoyed her attention. I could have easily done with this part.

I'm glad it was offered as a kindleunlimited, but I cant say this is one I would easily recommend.

Monica says

I received a free copy in exchange for an honest review.

I'll start by saying this was a fast paced book. It was very good. I really enjoyed reading it. It was certainly different it was a Gladiator meets Sci-fi.

Alaina was taken by aliens...well technically a human Captain Rua. He was not a horrible person just a survivor and making his way and that happens to be picking up potential slaves and selling them. She is bought by a Royal House and the most prominent one. Heads of that house is Domina Lennai and her brother, Dominus Atticon. Lennai isn't too bad but not great either. Her brother is a bit more brutal and sorta gets off on violence. He's quite crude. Alaina's to be a Donara which is a prize slave for the winner of the fights. She's to do whatever they ask of her when they win even sex. However, things change when she dresses a wound for a fighter. That fighter is Vega who's intent on winning his freedom. Things get interesting and they start to feel something for each other rather quickly. It was a sweet love story. Only thing I disliked about the story was that these slaves are used for sex. We see that when Domina Lennai has relations with Vega. They've had an arrangement if you can call it that way before Alaina even came. Not like he could say no to the Domina. I'm surprised it never really came up and Alaina didn't ask either. Only thing I disliked about the story but since it revolves around slavery and even sex slavery its not too much of an issue with me but might to some. Things get extremely complicated for everyone when they are trying to win their freedom and get married in secret. That is if Vega doesn't die from his numerous injuries. I have to say I loved the idea that he wasn't the hero. She was. Question is do they get their freedom? Or are they doomed to be slaves til they die? Great secondary characters. I really liked reading about Yfia and Bathari. Recommend.

Djg says

Spoiler Triggers: H has sex with ow after meeting h. The main characters are essentially slaves so he has to be with his owner and pretend to be subservient, but he does get aroused. The h almost has sex with someone as a way to save the H, it doesn't happen but she responds physically before it stops. For me those are big turn offs in what is supposed to be a romance.

It was ok. The storytelling was interesting about an alien culture where there are gladiators and even the setting is like ancient Rome. The Alien's think and talk like humans, even expressions and slang.

A couple of love scenes but not enough and the epilogue was narrated and tied up in a bow.

Kristy Mills says

This was ok. I liked the story, it was well written and it was unique. But there was a major aspect I didn't care for.

Once it is established who the H and h is, and especially once they have met each other and felt the attraction for one another, I don't like to read about them being with someone else. That happens near the beginning of this book, and I get why it was done, but it really soured the book for me.

Pamela(AllHoney) says

Alaina Stafford is captured from Earth and sold into slavery to the highest bidder. Her owner has decided to use her as a prize for the arena fighters. Vega is one of the fighters and doesn't want to want her. His greatest desire and goal is to fight until he wins his freedom and return to his homeland.

A quick read. Entertaining but no real "wow" factor. I did like it enough that I will very likely read more by this author.

Heather says

I wasn't expecting much but was surprised by the content. Though I'm not a huge fan of "insta-love" but this plot wasn't bad.

Rhonda Hasty says

This was an ok read for me.

???? ???? says

It was really amazing read.

I loved it and I want more. What these two people did to protect and save each other was extraordinary. I know that some situations were a little annoying but what any one will do if he is just a slave?

Unfortunately, most of S.R's books are menage and I wish she'll write other genres like this one. I hope so.

Lori says

Alien Gladiators in space with a Spartacus feel.

Enjoyable story with an entertaining plot, good characters, some steamy romance, a HEA and a great epilogue. It's was a bit different than most of the Alien/Human stories I have read. The setup for the story was different and a nice surprise, with a few unexpected twists, but the story itself was predictable for the most part. The story was really good, but with a little more action and suspense it would have been great.

Not only are humans kidnapped but other Alien races serve this ruling house. They have to fight for their freedom. Alaina is kidnapped from Earth by another human and delivered to an Alien race for slavery. Even finding herself in this unimaginable situation Alaina doesn't "accept" her fate. She is determined to find a way out the situation. When she meets Vega a warrior captive the attraction is instant. Vega is determined to win his freedom in the arena. When Alaina acts without thinking in order to help Vega things change for both of them. Together and with a little help from an unexpected source they may just survive and win their freedom from their masters.

Addison Spear did a really good job with the narration. Pleasant voice. Easy to listen to for long periods of time. Clearly spoken with a nice even pace. Good character voices. She was able to make the story and characters come to life. Very enjoyable.

I was voluntarily provided this free review copy audiobook by the author, narrator or publisher.

Rosebud says

Who knew how dangerous being an EMT really was until, at one accident scene, Alaina Stafford finds herself with no memory to explain how she suddenly lands up on an alien spaceship.

Slavers abduct Alaina to fill their quota of merchandise to sell at auction. Their destination turns out to be at a space port that hosts Intergalactic gladiator matches. Her future now rests with the one who pays to acquire a rare Earther female. Lennai, head of the most powerful family on the space port, purchases Alaina as her house's newest donara.

What exactly is a donara? Alaina's about to find out

* * *

This new to me author brings modern SciFi elements into an ancient Roman gladiator Era in the style of Anna Hackett's Galactic Gladiator series, & K.D. Jones's Galactic Cage Fighters series.

Overall I appreciated and enjoyed this story. The different scene cut action scenes came in waves that broke up the highs and low intensity going on. By that I mean a scene would build up angst, suspense, and romance in compartmentalized scenes that concluded before repeating the process. I enjoy this sort of format as it gives the reader a chance to decompress between high octane action scenes. Only thing is that it's a repeating roller coaster of sorts that won't appeal to all readers.

The author did a good job confusing me with 'good/evil' secondary characters. I'm pretty mainstream in the feeling that I want my evil characters evil and my good characters good. Period. Good is good and bad is bad. Introducing variables that have me questioning if I was too hasty in labeling characters is frustrating as I hate to be wrong, even in my fictional fantasy book worlds. Yet, the author effectively brought in the 'nature vs nurture' slant by doing just that. Lennai, was a prime example. Throughout the whole story I flip flopped over whether she was a "good witch" sort of girl or a "bad witch" (Wizard of Oz reference of course). Which it ultimately turned out to be will be known to only those who read the book. But. I hated that I went back and forth which means: good job Ms. Author.

The actual romance between the main characters is pretty obvious. What's not is that this story takes place in a Dystopian hierarchy world. The two, slaves, are pawns owned by those who can pretty much get away with anything if displeased. Throw in a few twists and turns and it makes it interesting for the reader.

As for the adult content/erotica. For those readers who like to know how graphic and/or what all to expect. Definitely there is erotica content. Fair warning. One scene I'd tag a non/dub-con as the adult content occurs between a slave/owner. IMHO, consent in that sort of situation, is questionable at best. Otherwise, the scenes do have some heat and meaningful content that readers will enjoy but won't get overly bothered over... if you know what I mean.

Issues I had were more a case that the story was too "nice" based on the subject matter premise. The back story is that Alaina is abducted by slavers with the intent to sell her. Further, the auction is held on a space port that deals in gladiator match fights that may end in death, violence, and flesh trade in a Dystopian world. To me that doesn't give off warm tingly rainbow and sunshine vibes. Yet, that's pretty much my take away. To have succeeded for me (reader), this book needed darkness... ps. there's a pun there as the story takes place in deep space which is dark but

The other issue is that the emotional and interpersonal connection between characters was lacking. Not sure if it makes sense but it was too clinical and sterile. As a reader I want to be moved, connected, and feel a part of a story. The characters therefore need to have life and enough characteristics to have me believe they are more than words in a book. Emotion.

Lastly, as someone who is in the medical field I want to say that authors need to do their research as details are important. EMT is not interchangeable with Paramedic. They are different.

I would have liked to have read more if this book had been the beginning of a series but upon reaching the end I do feel the author has tied up most loose ends. Nice to have been able to see that so I don't have to wonder. :D

