



## **BORN IN SIN**

*Camelia Miron Skiba*

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Loathing the thought of his beloved Oriana in the arms of another man, fearless Zyraxes delivers death upon the Roman enemy. With only the rugged land as his bed and the sky as his blanket, trouble finds him often.

Summoned to aid Oriana's father in the war against two powerful enemies—one of them Oriana's savage husband—Zyraxes proves himself worthy of more than just noble titles and coin. But he wants none of it. What he wants is her.

When Zyraxes discovers a broken and nearly dead Oriana, though forbidden, he disregards her father's orders to leave her to her death, and instead chooses to protect and conceal her. Will saving her be enough to win her heart? Will his part royal lineage make him worthy of her love?

## **BORN IN SIN** Details

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Author : Camelia Miron Skiba

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## From Reader Review BORN IN SIN for online ebook

### a\_tiffyfit says

Review to come.

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I did not read the first book in this series, which deals with the story of Ilias, Zyraxes' brother. I do not think it was detrimental to my enjoyment of this book at all! While I did not know the history of Ilias and his love, Nerva, daughter of the Emperor Traianus, it isn't necessary to reading about Zyraxes.

The book begins at the end of a bloody battle. Zyraxes is looking for his sworn blood brothers and Decebalus' heir, Ilias, one of his brothers but also his king, albeit now landless thanks to Roman invasions. This book focuses a lot on gory battles; fitting since Zyraxes is not just a warrior but a trained medicus, trained in medicine and herbal knowledge.

Zyraxes comments (internal dialogue) often on his amazement at the love between Nerva and his brother, Ilias. How could he fall for the daughter of the sworn enemy? A woman who was plotting his demise so shortly ago? Zyraxes himself loves someone, Oriana, the daughter of an ally, Livonium. But she was married off to secure the borders of Livonium's land and Zyraxes believes his love to be unrequited anyway. He throws himself vigorously into every battle, for what does he have left to lose? Even if she weren't married off, he never would've been able to marry her due to social standing differences. He is basically a mere peasant, not a noble like she.

The book follows Zyraxes as he and his band of brothers fight to secure their future. I had to look up where Dacia used to be as I was unfamiliar with the land and names, but we all know the inevitable outcome of the Roman empire. You don't see it in this book, but we all know!

Born in Sin has a lot of fight scenes, to be expected as it is Zyraxes' point of view we are hearing and seeing. The tone of the book is very masculine because of this: fight scenes, stoic outlook, a bit dense in the matter of love, thoughts on medicine and how he can help, how he views others, etc. Skiba masterfully pulls this off. There are many books I've read before where a female author is trying to sound masculine for her hero and it just falls flat.

If you like books on early Roman times, focusing on the wars and skirmishes, seeing flashbacks to the time that was, and enjoy some really great bloody battle scenes, Dacian Legends is for you! While I have not read book one, I'll go out on a limb and say that it is more of the same from this world. I enjoyed the outcome of this book and see the potential for quite a few more stories in Dacia!

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### Brandee (un)Conventional Bookworms says

\*\*4.5 Stars\*\*

Review coming...

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### Sherry Gammon says

Loved this short story. It is part of an anthology the author is creating and this is book 2. It is a historical

romance and is the story of forbidden love. Zyraxes is a warrior and upon discovering the heroine, Oriana, bruised, broken, and on her death bed, feels connected to her. Despite orders to leave her to die, Zyraxes can not. He steals her away and makes sure she is cared for as he battles the war, all the while falling in love with her. It is a strong story of love, courage, and trust. If you are an history novel fan, this is your book!

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## L Peterson says

Born In Sin begins where Born In Vengeance, book 1 in the Dacian Legends ends. It's a great transition from one novel to the other but focuses on Zyraxes, one of Ilias brother's in arms.

We met Zyraxes throughout Born In Vengeance, not too much not too little, but enough to intrigue the reader into finding more about him.

He's courageous and skilled on the battlefield, madly and hopelessly in love with Oriana. Unfortunately Oriana is married to another man.

Events take Zyraxes to Livonium's castle where he must help prepare for an imminent war with two different enemies. While on the castle's grounds Zyraxes finds out that Oriana was cast away by her husband and left to die.

What I liked about Zyraxes is his candor with which he takes care of Oriana, willing to sacrifice his own life to save hers. You can't but just fall in love with him the more you read and learn who he really is.

I didn't see the twist Ilias throws in coming. It does complicate things for Zyraxes, whose heart is too broken to withstand the blow. But it also gives him leverage, which in the end comes to link all the pieces together to a great conclusion.

Can't wait for Galtys' story!

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## Christy says

Born in Sin by Camelia Miron Skiba is the second book of The Dacian Legends. I did not read the first book, though the author offered it to me as well :) This book was given to me free in PDF format for an honest review which I am giving.

I do wish that I had read the first book because the first chapter of the book was really confusing to me. But once I got past that scene, this book was easy to read as a stand alone. I did read reviews of the first book, and that caught me up! I just did not have the time to read the first as my TBR pile is huge!

The characters in Born in Sin are wonderfully developed and described. Ms. Skiba makes her characters very easy to relate to. When Zyraxes is feeling anguish, we feel it as well. When Oriana is writhing in pain, we can relate to Thera's devotion to her. We feel anger at mistreatment as if we ourselves were in the scene witnessing it happen.

The descriptive scenes quickly immerse you in the story and the plot. With all of the detail, I could tell that this book was very well researched. There were some parts that I didn't quite follow, but that may be because more detail was available in the first book of the series.

I'm not big on dialog and thankfully this didn't have an overwhelming amount. I'd much rather read narrative. Thankfully, there is not any syrupy romance that this type of book sometimes contains. There was just enough to make it seem sweet rather than overdone.

The conclusion definitely leaves you wanting to read more about these characters and see how their lives continue to grow and change and intertwine.

All in all, I give the book 3.5 stars because I liked it despite the fact that I had not read the first. I recommend it to anyone who is a fan of this type of historical fiction.

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## **Carmen says**

### **MY REVIEW**

first published on my blog:<http://shadowspastmystery.blogspot.ro/>

I read first Born in Vengeance and was anxious to see what happened next. I liked the historical part quite a lot. As a native of Ilias's and Zyraxes's country I was able to see in my mind's eye the places the characters traveled around. Though you'll meet again Ilias, the main character in Born in Vengeance, Born in Sin focuses on Zyraxes's feelings.

The first pages begin with the aftermath of a huge battle that has just ended - blood and death.

The characters are interesting and unique, and I commend the masterful way Camelia Skiba describes how they get to be where they are and makes their connections throughout a very well written story and original design.

The author kept my interest by telling the story from Zyraxes's POV, at the same time introducing me to the ancient times of the action by means of meticulous details. Zyraxes tries to reconcile duty and love. How he manages it, if he succeeds or not, you'll have to find it for yourself. All I can tell you is that the love story in Born in Sin is an intricate one. I highly recommend this extremely engaging book to fans of historical fiction. They won't be disappointed.

I give it five stars!

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## **Tina says**

Born in Sin is the second book in the Dacian Legends series and it is amazing! A lot of romances are written from the heroine's POV, but this one is written totally from the hero's POV which makes it unique because a man's thought process is so different than a woman's. Their thoughts are concise, short and far from detailed. The heroine's POV is not necessary because she is clearly seen through the hero's eyes. He gives us glimpses into why he loves her despite the fact it's a forbidden love. I was surprised to see how well the author captured that exactly, making me feel as if I was inside a man's head.

Zyraxes has loved Oriana since he first met her years ago but she is forbidden to him. He has accepted that the only life he will have is the one to wander the lands fighting in the war for his land and people. His fearlessness has made him a fierce fighter that has saved his life many times. When he is summoned to help

fight the enemy who plan to overtake the lands that belong to Oriana's father, he has no choice but to accept his duty. He's just thankful that Oriana will not be in residence.

When Zyraxes finds Oriana bruised and near death he knows there is only one thing for him to do, even though he knows he will be going against her father's wishes. He knows he cannot let her see the feelings he still has for her, for there is no future for them together. As he helps her heal he is torn between hope that there might be a chance that she could one day love him, and knowing that he has nothing to offer her, except for the one thing he does not want to claim himself.

For those of you interested in seeing a change in the main character's roles, here is your chance to read a romance from a man's perspective. See how "clumsy" he is in showing his feelings, not to mention declaring them. At times Zyraxes' simplicity makes him sweet and vulnerable.

Camelia Miron Skiba has such a wonderful way of telling this story of war and romance that the characters seemed so real that I could picture the scenes as I was reading. I could not put this down until I finished reading the entire story. I cannot wait to see what Camelia has planned for the rest of this series.

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### **Paula Ratcliffe says**

This book pretty much picks up where the previous book ended with the Roman's and Dacian's teaming up together to destroy the Saxon. This one is told from Zyraxes point of view which was different than Born in Vengeance which was told from Illias's point of view. The war is raging and people are dying and Zyraxes ends falling for Oriana which is definitely different reading about romances from the boy/man's point of view usually it's the girls we read about so it's refreshing to see it from a male prospective.

I love the way Ms. Skiba is able to weave these great stories involving history, wars, romance and to be able to serve up a book everyone is eager to swallow whole. I look forward to seeing where her next book takes us. Such a great story to be shared worldwide. I think people who love historical fiction, historical romance, war themed, etc will find these books a refreshing change!

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### **Solmarie says**

I was gifted a complimentary copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

This is book 2 in the Dacian Legends Series. It basically starts up right where book one left off. Where book one gave us a view of Ilias and his challenges as king of his people this one focuses more on his brother in arms Zyraxes.

Zyraxes is a soldier. His only goal is to make the Romans pay for the devastation of his people. By orders of his King he is sent to King Livonium of the Roxolanis about an attack coming their way from the Romans. What he finds his a King in mourning and a people struggling to survive. When Zyraxes realizes that Oriana, the only woman he has ever loved (and lost) is in danger he makes plans to rescue her. Even if King Livonium blames his own daughter for the death of his sons.

This was a much longer story than Born in Vengeance. Again the historical aspects of the book really come out throughout the story. Every detail that the author gives brings the story to life. I liked that all the warriors consider themselves brothers even though they don't share blood. The bond they have is solid. They would do anything for each other. I loved that the story was told from Zyraxes POV. Considering the subject matter, I think that a male perspective worked wonderfully here. Not to mention watching how he bumbled through his feelings for Oriana.

I'm looking forward to the third book in the series.

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### **Angela says**

Indonesian review here

I'm not a reader who likes war stories. So usually, if there is a war story, I'll skim it.

Camelia Miron Skiba is a new author for me. And Born in Sin (BIS) is her first book that I read. BIS is the second book that tells about Zyraxes. The first book tells the story of Ilias. Because I did not read the first book, I just guess what kind of story is the previous.

Actually I'm confused about the book's rate. It has a good plot, great character, supporting cast as well, so do the intrigues. But, as I said earlier, I'm not a fan of war stories.

I enjoy reading BIS. Camelia Miron Skiba has such a wonderful way of telling this story of war and romance. But, the romance is a little... hmmm.. how should I say this, it's not a "click" with the story. The romance is just embellish the story. It's my opinion though ^^

Overall, I really looking forward for the rest of the series. It's a compact and short story but reveal so many intrigues.

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### **Brandee (un)Conventional Bookworms says**

**\*\*4.5 Stars\*\***

Born in Sin continues the Dacian Legends. It's Zyraxes story and is a fascinating read.

Zyraxes lives his life fighting side by side with his brothers, moving toward that elusive revenge against the Romans. He also has a reputation for spending as much time entertaining the ladies as possible. Zyraxes, long ago, lost his true love to another and therefore tries to bury his memories of Oriana. Oriana, the daughter of King Livonium, was given to King Khan in order to establish peace between their tribes.

Zyraxes and Galtys are sent to warn the Roxolanis of an impending Roman invasion. What they find is King Livonium mourning over the loss of his sons. He's disowned his daughter over her perceived role in their deaths. Understanding what's at stake, Zyraxes, Galtys and the Dacian warriors take action to prepare the Roxolanis for the Romans. And it is during these preparations that Zyraxes stumbles upon a broken Oriana.

Born in Sin is a fantastic continuation of the story begun in Born in Vengeance. It intertwines much more

action and suspense with the battles waged between the Dacians, Roxolanis, and Sarmatians as well as the battles of hearts.

I appreciate the historical aspect of this series. Learning about the feelings of the tribes as the Romans invaded is intriguing. Ms. Skiba's description of the training, battles and life inside the fortress walls is impressive and seems realistic. Again, I can't vouch for the historical accuracy of this tale, but it feels realistic.

I liked the closer look at the characters as well. Zyraxes is a fierce warrior to be sure, but he's also a skilled healer and a compassionate man. I delighted in getting to see more of Galtys as well. We get to see a softer side of this courageous young man. We are also introduced to a few new characters whom are very brave and cunning. Thera and Priam, who are servants to Oriana, were wonderful additions to the cast of characters.

I found Born in Sin to be an exciting read, with its gritty battle scenes, gripping as we await the impending battles as well as the future of Zyraxes and Oriana, and also touching with the compassion shown by Zyraxes, Galtys, Thera and Priam. The first two stories in the Dacian Legends combine well and I think the entire series woven together will be quite an epic read. I will anxiously await the next installments in the Dacian Legends.

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## Caro says

Just so everyone knows, the wonderful author of this book provided me with a free review copy of this book. THank you very much, Cami :)

Born In Sin is the sequel to the short story I Was Here—Before You Came that was published sometime last year in the anthology It's a Love Thing.

I Was Here - Before You Came tells the story of the Dacian (for all of those like me, who weren't aware: Dacia is what came before Romania existed) Land-less King Ilias, who wants revenge for the death of his father and the loss of his land, all of which was caused by the Romans.

Born In Sin, being the sequel, has the same setting but a different main character: Zyraxes. One of Ilias' brothers in arms, who is a healer.

Zyraxes has been in love with the princess Oriana for years. Unfortunately, Oriana is married to someone else - a sadistic and creepy king.

When Oriana's brothers are killed and her husband threatens to invade her country, Zyraxes rushes to her help.

Born in Sin has everything I wanted: a great plot that doesn't hide behind a mammoth amount of sappy romance, great characters, and great dialogues.

Frankly, I was going to give this book 4 or 5 stars before I even started reading it. But then I met Zyraxes. Zyraxes narrates the story and I have rarely read monologues like his. His way of speaking was so dull that nothing ever seemed to be even remotely exciting. That was partly due to the fact that he spoke in a very stilted way that created a huge gap between the modern reader and him, and partly due to the fact that he always just mentioned stuff instead of giving the reader details.

He was always like: "And than we kissed." Yey. That's good for you, Zyraxes, bt it's also incredibly lame. Plus, the lack of details also led to me questioning what Zyraxes actually saw in Oriana. He said that he loved her, and that he's been loving her for years, but that's pretty much it. And I don't see why Oriana would like Zyraxes either.

(view spoiler)

The saving grace of this book was that apart from Zyraxes being lame and Oriana being an emotionless puppet who doesn't have a single character trait I could name, the book was actually great. The plot was great, the side characters were great, even the intrigue was great.

Which makes it even more frustrating for me to tell you that I didn't enjoy reading this book. Zyraxes story-telling was so dull I wanted to shake him all the time and ask for details ("So he got shot? How? Where? What was the expression on his face? What did *you* feel?!").

All in all 3 stars for a book that could have been a lot better.

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### **Christina M Condy says**

Born in Sin is the second book in the Dacian Legends Series and it is a vast improvement from the first book. The only thing I didn't really like is that it is definitely written from a male POV, not that its a bad thing mind you, but men seem to leave out so many details that a female doesn't so quite a few bits are missing for me.

I can also say I had to personally giggle at some of the aspects of relationships. Men can be such oafs when it comes to expressing emotions and Camelia Skiba seemed to nail it right on the head.

Once again we have violence in the story. In fact within the first pages you have a huge battle that has just ended and the remains from the battle are quite vivid in details. Blood and Death are everywhere in those first few pages so if you are faint of heart you may not want to read this series. But it is necessary for the setting and for the plot so you won't be wrong to keep reading!

Since one of the warriors is badly wounded the men must split up, one to take Bastisza to be helped by a healer and the others to go help with the battles in Livonium. I won't go into any further details because I really do hate spoilers and since this all happens in literally the first pages I felt it wouldn't spoil anything to let you know.

This again is a romance story but in this one strangely enough even though it is told from Zyraxes point of view and details are sometimes left out, I FELT the love he had for Oriana. I found it strange that Oriana didn't know oops wait never mind I won't tell you that, you'll just have to find out for yourself.

I enjoyed seeing Nerva and King Ilias and I can say that in this book I felt that they belonged together. So character growth has occurred to a very large degree.

I do recommend these books for anyone who likes historical romances. And I must say that this author DOES stay in the time period and that makes it a very fun book to read.

Details/Disclaimer: Review copy was provided to me in exchange for a fair and honest review. The free book held no determination on my personal review.

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### **Pam says**

An epic tale of a timeless and forbidden love, a story I thoroughly enjoyed reading.

The battle is over and while it raged Dacian, Roman and Saxon legions clashed. Blood and death are everywhere surrounding the fields of battle. As the surviving men gather around King Ilias, they discover

that there are still dangers around. And since one of the warriors is badly wounded they must split up, one to take Bastisza to a healer for help and others to go to Livonium to help while he battles two forces, the Romans and the Sarmatians. Livonium is the father of Oriana and her husband is, Kahn, the King of Sarmatians and he is on his way with an army for battle.

Zyraxes is a warrior that has always been in love with Oriana, they grew up together, yet her father made her marry Kahn to gain peace between two kingdoms, however a horrible turn of events has everyone believing that Oriana betrayed her husband and father by giving birth to a monster therefore her brothers were killed and her father and husband have turn against her.

When Zyraxes and Galtys reach Livonium, they are appalled to see the fortress in disarray as the King Livonium is inconsolable about his sons and does not have the will to fight the two armies that are coming his way. Zyraxes has to talk him into fighting for his people. As they wait for the mourning period to be end and are readying for the fight, Zyraxes finds a woman stealing from the medicine room. He recognizes her at once as Oriana's slave Thera. He finds out that Oriana is very sick, they escaped Kahn's palace and are hiding in the forest. Zyraxes is a healer and grabs his medicines as he heads off to help.

Complete review at: [Ramblings from a Chaotic Mind](#)

Received copy from author for an honest review

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### **JoLee (Wickedly Delicious Book Blog) says**

Rating: 4 stars - Loved It

Camelia Miron Skiba took my breath away with BORN IN VENGEANCE (Dacian Legends, #1) and she has done it again with Zayraxes story in Born In Sin. Zayraxes had me at the moment he rescued his one and only love from dying by the hands of her evil husband.

*“All these years I’ve been away from her I haven’t lived. I only survived. All these years I’ve buried my love for her, hopeless, endless, a raw wound to never heal.”*

I loved how there was a little surprise about Zayraxes identity. He broke my heart when he had to choose from treating a sick character and Oriana. Many times I could not swipe my e-reader fast enough to see if Zayraxes was going to get caught for having Oriana in her dads castle. Her dad blames her for her brothers deaths and is not allowed back home.

New characters are introduce. I hope they will get their own story and OMG was afraid to swipe my e-reader to see if one of those characters was going to die. Interested about Cavarus Maximus and his kick butt red dipped arrows. Hope to see more of him in future novels.

Adore the love the brothers have. They are not blood related but brothers in arms. You feel the family love when they joke, laugh and even fight. One of those brothers I am crushing on at the moment is Galtys with his Vino and womanizing way. Seeing Galty loose himself a little to Thera was amazing. Seeing him loose his control towards Zayraxes about a misunderstanding with Thera was even better. They have to have their own story and I hope it is next.

Born In Sin is an edge of your seat novel with love and war and surprises I did not see coming. The love is real, beautiful and not pushed. The battle scenes are kick butt, real that you feel like you are right there fighting along Zayraxes and his brothers. I look forward to more books in Dacian Legends series and can not

wait to see who is up next, the beautiful cover and where the story will be going.

Favorite Quote:

*“My life does not belong to me nor do I care if I lose it. Without Oriana my life is not worth living.”*

Originally posted by Wickedly Delicious Book Blog

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