



## **Blood Debt**

*Nancy Straight*

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Her whole life, it had just been the two of them. Before her mother's last breath, she gave Camille the information she had craved her entire life: the identity of her father. Daring to contact him, Camille was welcomed by an entire family she never knew existed. But nothing comes without a price, as she discovers when her family claims a legendary heritage tracing back to a centaur touched by Zeus.

As she learns the secrets of her Centaur bloodline, she is drawn into a forbidden love with Drake. Her life may be the blood debt required to pay for her mother's transgressions. The same person who once held her mother captive, and forced her into decades of hiding, now controls Camille. Her only chance is to seek a piece of her mother's past that will win her freedom and the life she desperately wants.

## **Blood Debt Details**

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# From Reader Review Blood Debt for online ebook

## Marsha says

"Blood Debt" is a refreshing, fascinating and unique read about the world of the centaurs. Why refreshing? Let's face it most of the books on the market are vampires, weres, angels, and demons. However, hardly anyone has explored the Greek myths of the centaurs.

22 year old Camille Chiron lives in San Diego, California and is grieving from the loss of her mother due to cancer. On her death bed, Cami's mother finally reveals the name of her father and where he lives. Most all girls love their Dads even if they have not met them. Cami is no exception. She has fantasized about who he is. She does a background check and informs her best friend, Daniel that she is going to contact him. After stalling for as long as she can, she finally breaks down and calls him.

Will Strayer lives in Charleston, South Carolina with his wife and five sons. When he receives a call from Cami and discovers he has a daughter, he is estactic. He flies her into S.C. to meet her. However, when she arrives she is greeted by her half brother, Beau. He takes her to a restaurant where she gets to meet her other brothers. They all embrace her dearly without question. Even Will's wife, Gretchen embraces Cami much to the surprise of Daniel.

Will confesses to Cami that he and her mother had an affair. When her mother found out he was married she broke off all contact with him. Additionally, Cami discovers that she is a centauride (female centaur) who should have powers including reading the thoughts of others. Before she has an opportunity to learn these skills, her oldest step-brother is getting married in the garden of their estate. Prior to the wedding, Will informs Cami that her mother ran out on her fiance, Kyle Richardson 24 years ago causing a blood debt to be owed to him. Kyle has discovered Cami's existence and plans to be at the wedding. He wants to meet with her. She is nonplussed but agrees to the meeting.

Before Cami can even get dressed for the wedding eligible men are anxious to meet her. It seems that with centaurs, there are few women to go around and they hold the power and decide who they will marry. If a centaurian man is not engaged by 29 he will then marry a human but his bloodline will be diluted. While descending the stairs with her father, Cami trips and almost falls flat on her face. However, a handsome stranger, Drake Nash comes swiftly to her rescue and she extends her hand in his to introduce herself. This is a serious no no in the world of the centaurs. Unmarried women and men are not to touch or meet without escorts. They are not allowed to date and often their marriages are arranges by their parents.

Life is about to become extremely complicated for Cami because unbeknownst to her, she has other relatives that will do just about anything to get their hands on her. No matter how much her new family vows to protect her, her entire future is at risk and maybe even her life.

I truly enjoyed this book. The writing was excellent and the plot was extremely engaging. I enjoyed the characters especially Bianca and Drake. I also found that I liked Gretchen, Cami's step-mother. If I had a criticism, it would be that at times, Cami did not always make logical choices. What I mean by this is she would postpone practicing the very skills she needed to contact her mother, read people's thoughts and empower herself. Because of this, at times I felt she was weak. However, do not allow these comments to keep you from enjoying a truly good read. As I stated earlier, this book is uniquely refreshing and I cannot wait to find out what will happen next in book two.

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## **Nicole Peterson says**

Camille opens a can of worms that would have been better left closed when she calls her dad after her mom passes away. Her father has her come and visit and she discovers she has 5 brothers and a step-mom. When she arrives she is embraced by them all with adoration. She feels like a princess and is happy to have family. However, she soon learns that she may have to pay a debt in her mother's place. The night before her mom was to be married she ran away and by the society she is a part of she may have to pay a blood debt to the man her mother ran out on.

I'm gonna be perfectly honest. I love Nancy! I read her first series in 3 days. I couldn't get enough of it! Reading Nancy's books is so easy, they just flow along. It's easy to get caught up and just read without even realizing time is passing by. I didn't think it could be replaced, but it is gonna have to go after Nancy's new Touched series. Seriously! This book is freaking fabulous! I cried at parts and was ecstatically happy at others. SO GOOD! I would seriously suggest you Run your sweet buns to your nearest book store or download this baby ASAP! Just like with Destiny my only gripe is that I now have to wait until December for Blood Ties! I think if all of these were out I would have ripped through them as well. Way to go Nancy, you just keep getting better and better!!

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## **Shannon Dermott says**

### **DOUBLE WOW!!!**

Nancy Straight has done it again. She has crafted a unique adventure from unlikely paranormal/Greek inspired creatures. This tale draws you in from the first page and I absolutely loved it. I read straight through forgetting everything else that needed to be done in my life, lol.

When Camille finds out she's not human, she could have acted a number of ways. What I find interesting is that Nancy didn't take the easy approach with this one. Her believable storyline could easily be the reader's own story assuming non-human beings existed. Along the way, when you think the story will go left, Nancy takes an abrupt turn keeping you on your toes. Thus, the story is never dull.

You will love the guys in Camille's life from her father to the guy that holds her heart. Drake is my fav and I'm rooting for him all the way.

I can not wait for the next book. It can't come soon enough.

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## **Suzanne says**

I'm often hesitant to pick up books by self published authors, having had some bad experience with great stories being ruined due to bad editing and research. But I know Nancy is good friends with one of my

favourite indie authors, Shannon Dermott, so when I seen it on R2R, I grabbed a copy.

This is my first time reading one of Nancy's books and, I'm impressed. The editing was exemplary, the characters were well defined, it was well paced and imaginative. I look forward to reading more books from Nancy.

Camille has never met her dad because her mom would never tell her who he was, until she was on her death bed. When Camille calls him, she is surprised to be welcomed into his family completely by his wife and five sons. She thinks she has landed in a dream world until she learns that her life is in danger.

She is a centaur, and has been kept hidden by magic for the last twenty two years, but the magic died with her mother, so she is now on the radar of her enemies. Her mother never told her about her heritage so she has to try to learn the centaur way of life and how to use the magic she has been gifted with. She owes a blood debt to the man her mother refused to marry by running away and she is wanted by the lost herd.

This was refreshingly different. Centaurs are something completely new to me, and I loved the world that Nancy built around them. Camille is a very likable character and there's a great bunch of secondary characters which really add to this story.

This has something for the romantics too, though I don't think Camille's choice would have been mine. There's no love triangle or insta love.

The next installment is this book is based in Dublin, Ireland, so I couldn't not pick it up. There are some loose ends in this book too that I'm really looking forward to tying up.

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## **Amber says**

Love this and swooning over Drake! I loved being whisked away into this original and fabulous story. There is something to be said about a book that can pull you in, you don't want to put it down, and you don't want it to ever end. Blood Debt did that to me. Nancy Straight has penned a marvelous story with many swoon worthy moments packed full of action, suspense, a forbidden love, and brings a new twist on mythological Centaurs. This was a total "me" book, and I say this because even though there were a few tiny flat spots, the story itself was just so enticing and fascinating.

From the very beginning I was tuned into the story. My attention never wavered due to lack of consistency or pace or cliché material. These characters were awesome ! I loved the protagonist, Camille. She was strong, snarky and a force to reckon with. Camille just lost her mother to cancer, and she never knew who her father was. Before her mother's death, she told Camille where her father was and his name. Camille caught a flight to meet her father and from that point forward, everything changed for her. She learning she had a family which included 5 very gorgeous brothers! Five!! The cast of characters were awesome. Camille wasn't the normal twenty-two year old she thought she was--Camille was in for the ride of her life and a quest to channel her unknown bloodline gifts from the gods.

"Right, I know you still have this idea that your're human and can go roll in the hay with any guy who catches your fancy, but that isn't your reality anymore."

There's a blood debt to be paid and Camille is tossed in the middle of it.

"I owe a blood debt to Kyle Richardson. He isn't going to force me to marry his son, at least not right away, but if his son hasn't been chosen by a Centauride by his twenty-ninth birthday, I have to choose him."  
\*shivers\* If you are looking for that "next-hot-guy-to-swoon-over" or "next-hot-couple" this is it!! Let me just tell you about this amazing guy, Drake. Not only is he described beautifully, but he is as swoonworthy as they get. I don't want to give away all the goodies, so you'll just have to trust me on this. The chemistry between Camille and Drake was intoxicating. These characters were awesome. So awesome in fact, that I couldn't get them out of my mind. Bianca was such a great friend to Camille and I just adored her. This was full of many unexpected plot twist and turns. I think my jaw had dropped at least 5 times, I kid you not. I CANNOT WAIT to get my hands on the second installment, Centaur Legacy (Touched, #2).

This story was packed full of chemistry, mythological characters, and plenty of hot swoonworthy guys. Throw in a sinister, power mad grandmother and a crazy uncle, too.

This book was addicting! Trust me, you'll want to read this!

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### **Beth says**

Camille thought that she and her mother where the last of her family...but her mother's death bed confession reveals Camille's father's identity. Struggling to overcome the loneliness and loss of her mother, Camille contacts her father and is immediately embraced by a family she never knew. What she also never knew might be deadly for her. You see her mother left a blood debt behind and now the holder of that debt wants her to pay. Ultimately her mother ran for a reason and that reason just might destroy her.

Centaurs, WOW, what an awesome concept! What a spanking new idea! Camille faces a new culture, a new family with 5 brothers, an evil (did I mention very EVIL) grandmother and a blood debt. Great YA story, quick and easy read! I'm really looking forward to the continuation of this series. Definitely another series I will be following.

This copy of **Blood Debt** was given to me by Nancy Straight in exchange for an honest review.

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### **Sheri says**

I have been a fan of Nancy Straight ever since I read the first book of her Destiny series. After I finished it, I immediately went to Amazon and purchased the next two books. I would have done that with Blood Debt as well but, sadly, the rest of the series isn't out yet. However, I look forward to the rest of the series with great anticipation. Here's why I love it...

First is the story itself. I think the thing I love the most is the uniqueness of it. The mythology woven into the story is creative and original. I really enjoyed the author's new perspective on the centaurs and gods.

Second is the characters. Camille is a great lead. She is independent, funny and strong. We are introduced to her and given some background on her, and then her world is turned upsidedown. The story follows her as

she learns about who and what she really is and what that means for her.

The rest of the characters, from her new family to her new friends to her old friends, are written with dimension, enough that I am looking forward to reading more about them, especially her old friend Daniel.

Last is the author's writing style. She has a way with words that makes the story flow smoothly and fun to read. The story is sprinkled with bits of humor, and there is never a dull moment, holding your attention to the very last word. The story is full of action, mystery, romance and heartache. What more could you ask for?

Interview with Nancy Straight!

<http://makingconnectionsblog.blogspot.com>

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### **Charles says**

I absolutely loved this book! Nancy Straight has started a wonderful new series with Blood Debt, which is book one of the Touched series. Just as with Meeting Destiny, Nancy has created endearing characters, a brand new world of adventure, and once again introduces originality into the paranormal romance genre which is refreshing amidst so many overused plots today. I felt an immediate connection to Cami in the first chapter and grew to love her more as the story progressed. The book is full of interesting characters and adventure. The ending definitely left me wanting to read more! I can't wait for the next story in the series. Bravo Mrs. straight, Bravo!!!

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### **Aa'Ishah says**

#### **3.5/4 stars**

I was a bit hesitant the first time I saw this but eventually I decided to give it a shot – and I'm so glad I did. Nancy Straight has brought something wonderfully refreshing to the YA market. Angels, demons, vampires, werewolves? Faeries or mermaids? You can temporarily put them to the back of your mind while you read about centaurs instead.

Camille has never known her father, though not for lack of trying. Her entire life her mother refused to say much about him but on her deathbed, she finally gives Camille some information – a way to contact him. It's not long before she finds herself at her father's house, meeting an entire family she never knew existed, but being welcomed with open arms. But despite the seemingly pleasant, ordinary surface, Camille learns that not only is she a centaur with magic in her blood, she is expected to pay a blood debt for her mother's mistakes. And that's only the start of her problems.

I have to say, I haven't read much of centaurs. I think the only time I've come across them is in the Partholon series by P.C. Cast (I miss you, ClanFintan! \*sighs dreamily\*). I was a little bit worried that the book wouldn't manage to live up to the novelty of a different genre, but that concern did disappear after a while. I enjoyed learning about some of the customs the centaurs had and how they came to be. The author also included a couple of twists, taking a basic preconception of what a centaur is, claiming that it's wrong and then twisting it again. Something I would have liked to see is more about centaurs generally – the book

focuses primarily on their ideas regarding marriage and relationships, and I think it would have been really interesting to learn about other aspects of their lives.

Cami was a strong character, which really appealed to me. Let me tell you, if this girl thinks something is wrong, she absolutely *refuses* to go through with it. It takes a lot to break her. She knows how to stand up for herself, something I seriously appreciate in people and characters. She was also a little cautious when it came to her new family's reception of her, although I think she was quite quick to shake off that caution. That reception, too, was something I found quite unbelievable. Secrets or not, I find it very hard to accept that an entire family could be that happy with finding out there's another of them. A question was raised as to Cami's father's wife, and it was never really answered, so I hope to see that answer in the sequel.

I really liked Bianca and Drake; they were both full of integrity and Bianca especially surprised me in her total lack of ill-feeling towards Cami. When I first met her I was a little suspicious, but then they became best friends and reading from her perspective showed her to be a truly sweet character. The guy she was in love with also surprised me, although I think the delivery of that knowledge in the writing could have been much more effective. Drake was really sweet too. In fact, most of these characters – Bianca, Drake, Gage, Cami's new brothers – really had me warming to them.

Zandra, however. Zandra is another story. I won't say exactly who she is, in case it's a spoiler, but what I will say is that she. Was. *Evil*. I absolutely could not believe what. On earth. She was doing. She made me angry, she had me gasping in horror, she just...ugh. I just...I can't. And then after all that, when Cami made a dismissive remark about her, all I could think was, 'Are you crazy? Where have you just been?' She was a little stupid there.

Overall, this was a really enjoyable book. I had some issues with the writing itself, there were a few grammatical errors and the POVs sounded quite similar, but in terms of the ideas and characterisation this was a pleasure to read. The ending is perfectly ended for a sequel, and I can't wait to see where the author takes this further.

*A big thank you to the author for providing me with a copy in exchange for an honest review.*

*This review is also posted on my blog.*

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## **Terri ♥ (aka Mrs. Christian Grey) says**

Quick review:

**Cover:** Very Pretty

**Rating:** PG-13

**Thumbs Up:** 4.5

**Overall:** Very unique and sucked me right in.

**Characters:** Solid

**Plot:** I can't even explain without giving too much away.

**Page Turner:** Yes

**Series Cont.?** Yes

**Recommend:** Yes

**Book Boyfriend:** Drake (but Chris stole my heart)



## **SUMMARY** (50 words or less)

The cover and the fact that Nancy Straight wrote it made my decision. I had no idea what I was stepping into. And I never would have guessed. The story was wonderfully unique. The romance was stellar with a great guy that didn't have to be bad to be good.

To see my full review and yummy pic, check out my blog post below.

<http://mybookboyfriend.blogspot.com/2...>

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## **Jeann (Happy Indulgence) says**

This review also appears on Happy Indulgence. Check it out for more reviews!

Blood Debt is an amazingly unique book about Camille, a girl born from a Centaur bloodline, who discovers that shes a revered Centauride (or female Centaur) within a hidden society filled with strange customs. I've never read a book about Centaurs and found the mythology within this quite fascinating.

Centaurs live amongst humans and are not half horse half human, instead they are derived from the descendants of Chiron, the god of Centaurs. Female centaurs are incredibly rare amongst their kind, as they hold psychic powers like mind reading and ability to interact with ghosts.

When Camille stumbles upon a family she never knew she had, she faces danger as she discovers that she needs to fill her mothers 'blood debt' to another family. Her hand is marriage is controlled by a sinister Centaur, and we soon discover there are other forces at risk here.

I quite enjoyed Blood Debt and was impressed with its imaginative setting and mythology. The story evolves quite quickly from Camille discovering her new family, to her bloodline, to meeting a handsome Centaur and to sinister circumstances out of her control. There's quite a lot happening here, and it certainly keeps things interesting.

I can't say too much more without spoiling things, but the circumstances seemed perfect with her newfound love interest, Drake and her new best friend, Bianca. The author however delivers shocking twists and constantly changing circumstances to keep you guessing.

Downsides to the book, was Camille herself. I found the way she questioned everything and her stubbornness to comply with some of the newfound rules quite annoying. Surely she could be more open minded when it came to some things. Without an editor, the author has done a fantastic job at this indie title, but I could see where the dialogues between characters could be tightened up a bit.

Overall, this is a read that you absolutely have to pick up if you love the thought of reading about Centaurs. I received this book from the author in exchange for an honest review, thank you so much Nancy!

I also recommend checking out her Meeting Destiny series, if you prefer a more realistic fiction/romance.

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## **Rhomy says**

**OH GAWD!** This book is utterly mind blowing!

It deserves 10 friggin' stars!

The story is absolutely original. I've never read a book about Centaurs before and I officially adore them now! lol.

The way the author pictures them, not only their looks but their habits is amazing.

**UNIQUE!**

That's the word for this book.

A great twist in mythology themes. I just **LOVED IT!**

The characters are perfectly developed.

Camille is great, wow! She may look innocent and fragile but she has some outbursts that made me laugh a lot.

She knows what she wants in her life.

Drake is a hottie but not only that. He is a gentleman at times and so true to himself, leaving his instincts drive him to get what he really wants.

Bianca is so feisty and happy, I like her a lot!

She is a true friend and also very witty to come up with a plan like that.

Gage, wow! a great actor lol, loved the way he deceived the others.

All of them complex characters, from Will, to Gretchen, to Daniel, to Kyle Richardson to all Camille siblings.

Together they make the perfect combo for a story full of new ideas and love story lol, an entangled net. So smartly played.

**The chemistry between Drake and Cami is A-MA-ZING!**

They are fighting for the title of best couple ever! XD

What can I say? I LOVED IT, I LOVED IT, I LOVED IT!!!!!!!

Speechless!

Can't wait to read Centaur Legacy!

TOTALLY RECOMMEND IT!

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## **Jodie says**

This book was like no other I have read before. Centaurs? You're like 'Whaaaa?' I know, you think I'd misspelled or you mis-read, but it truly was about Centaurs! Really really good looking ones :D

Camille is 17, her mother just passed away & she is all alone in the world. Only she's not. The parting name her mother leaves directs her to meet her Father, and through him she discovers she has 5 half brothers (B names anyone :)) and a step mom. Things aren't as they seem when she is told that she is not human, but a Centauride. Her new family just seems too good and rich to be true. I just loved them all. Especially the brothers. Camille was wonderful to read.

'I was embarrassed to hear myself squeal like a little girl. This couldn't be happening. I had a father and a stepmother who were two of the most amazing people I'd ever met, five brothers who were about as cool as Batman, and a brand new car. I wasn't sure about the whole Centaur thing, but this was better than winning the lottery.'

Camille is looking for many answers throughout this book. Her new world does not treat her well, and the excitement of meeting all of her new family wears off after being kidnapped and held against her will. Unable to tap into her Centauride gifts, Camille manages to survive the days of her captivity, but only just. Without conversation, being guarded 24/7, and having a torture device literally around her neck, I wasn't sure she would make it. Unfortunately for Camille it just didn't get easier.

If Camille isn't learning about her heritage and magical powers, she's fighting her attraction to the very unavailable Drake, trying to be a best friend to Bianca, learning how she fits into her new life and being zapped red raw, she was sneaking around trying to beat her grandmother at her own game, wondering why her mother kept so many secrets and making out with said unavailable hottie.

This novel pulled me in and had me unable to guess what was around the corner. I had difficulty putting it down and didn't want it to end.

I am very much looking forward to the next installment after her mother's last piece of advice and the mystery of Daniel plus getting some more questions answered. One thing I'm sure of? It's not going to be all smooth sailing for Camille. Well done Ms Straight...

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## **Sara says**

First I would like to thank Nancy Straight for giving me this book to review!

And Second! You need to know I absolutely loved this book!

You need to know that because What The Heck! The beginning of this book made me totally fall in love with all the characters. Camille is a very strong, determined female character. Her mom has just passed away, but not before finally telling her the name of her father she has never met. In finding her father, she

discovers a whole new life and family she never knew existed. She has 5 brothers whose names all start with B(and I am not going to try and list), and has learned she is a Centaur and is supposed to have special powers. Also, every available guy is now trying to make her choose him as a mate. This was actually very funny. There is the wonderful, adorable, swoon worthy Drake that you will love instantly. And Gage and Bianca will also have you joining in their fight.

But some family is not so nice, and is out to get her, and make her choose the path they want her on. This includes her evil Grandma Zandra. She will give you the chills. This is where I am what the heck-ing! Nsncy takes your emotions and puts them through the wringer. My heart seriously went on a roller coaster of emotions. At one point it was so shocking and heartbreaking, I did not want to finish the book! It was unbelievable! But I did finish the book, and my heart was repaired. And it was amazing! The end told of a little of what was to come in the sequel, which doesn't sound like it will be a picnic, but I am super excited for.

This is definitely 5 stars for me and I recommend to everyone!!! The characters are all adults, but it stayed clean for teenagers.

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## **Claire says**

I gave it two stars for the originality of the concept, but otherwise this book was pretty awful. The characters were lackluster, and there was about 0 action or character development until the very end of the book. It goes: Girl gets introduced to her long-lost dream family, meets a guy, falls in love with said guy after about 20 seconds, schemes away about how to be with him. Really, the romance here was the main plot driver of the book, and it wasn't even very good. The book isn't very long, and the author wastes most of her pages acclimating her main character to this perfect new world she's joined. Everything focuses on how rich her long-lost family is, how stunningly attractive her half-brothers are (\*ahem\*, creepy) and that's about it. It was eerie, the way they instantly drew Camille in. I thought that would be a great opportunity for some sort of plot twist, with how wary Camille was of these people. There was definitely a something-is-off-here vibe with the new family. Instead, the author left it with "surprise! These people are really perfect! Nothing interesting here!" Hmmm, boring.

Another thing that drove me crazy was the ridiculous dynamic of Centaur society, where no one is allowed to date and everyone is forced into an arranged marriage by their 29th birthday. Women are treated like resources rather than people. Oh, sure, you could argue that they're a "precious" resource, but that's not an excuse for treating someone like a thing instead of a person. It's like the women are tokens to be traded back and forth between families, the way diplomatic marriages were arranged between major powers back in the day. The difference is this story is supposed to take place in the 21st century, and that shit is not okay. And what makes even more not-okay is how the author, a woman, is happily perpetuating this stereotype that women are perfectly happy to be treated as commodities as long as you give them lots of money and nice clothes. GAH. I don't know, maybe some female readers will be drawn to this story as a nice escape, where they can daydream about being spoiled rotten with a hot new guy who simply adores them 2 days after having met. Personally, I don't like these kinds of stories because there's nothing in them to keep me entertained.

I spent the whole novel frustrated at the stupid attitudes of the Centaur community, rolling my eyes at the cheesy romance, and shaking my head at Camille. She had her moments of defiance, but nothing about the way her character was written made her feel like a real person. The author did a good job of making the

villain someone to despise, and so I was eager to see Camille escape. But that's because I was angry with the whole classically evil, moustache-twirling fiasco that was the bad guy, not because I felt connected with Camille.

All in all, I started out with high hopes for this book. The ratings are good, the mythology is certainly interesting, but the execution failed dramatically.

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