



Cleanse Fire

Anastasia V. Pergakis

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Complete the mission, no matter what...

Captain Derac Vidor protects everything he cherishes with a vow and his sword. After twenty years of service, Derac and his team are betrayed with deadly consequences. Evidence points to someone on the inside.

Treason is only the beginning...

No place is safe when a trifocal conspiracy is uncovered. The team must hold out long enough to discover the truth in a web of deceit, fear, and hatred. Time is running out and their allies can only help so much.

The past holds the key...

Clouded memories and forgotten truths hold the answer to saving the team. Can Derac face the gruesome nightmare in time?

A grudge can only wait for so long...

Cleanse Fire Details

Date : Published October 11th 2013 by Drachen Geist Publishing (first published October 8th 2011)

ISBN :

Author : Anastasia V. Pergakis

Format : ebook

Genre : Fantasy

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From Reader Review Cleanse Fire for online ebook

Howard Zang says

I'm about 3/4 of the way through this, but I've already asked when the next one is coming out. Since this is book 1, I'm eagerly anticipating the next book in the series. I think this has the potential to become a long running series!!

3/1/2013 - Finished the book and loved the ending!!! Now to wait for the next one!!!! Hurry up Anastasia, PLEASE!!! LOL!!

Renee Rearden says

Cleanse Fire: The Kinir Elite Chronicles, #1

By Anastasia Pergakis

Ecopy provided by author

Captain Derac Vidor takes pride in leading his team of Elite Kinir warrior elves. Serving his country by protecting the weak and rescuing those in need fill his life—until an act of betrayal threatens not only himself but every member of his team. He will stop at nothing to discover who is trying to kill them and why.

Let me start by saying I enjoyed Cleanse Fire. As a debut author, Ms Pergakis is off to a great start. The main male protagonist, Derac Vidor, is an interesting character with internal conflict that is driven by his sense of integrity and honor. The right balance was struck between moral fiber and not overly stiff and prudish.

Several other members on the team are worth noting as well. Kie is a strong female with issues of her own. They are revealed through the course of the book and not all at once, and I liked learning about her in active scenes as the plot unfolded.

Tyn as Derac's best friend is a very likeable character. He had his friend's back no matter the situation and always looked for the positive from each team member. Rakan, Jardel and Aeli are all secondary characters with distinct personalities that added to the story as well.

With all the positive story aspects noted up front, it's time to talk about what didn't work for me. The book needed a final edit before going to print. Word misuse and grammatical issues pulled me out of the story. That's a common issue for new authors, but I think the easiest to correct in the future.

One issue I had with the story was the somewhat two-dimensional writing. By this I mean senses. In many of the scenes, I had no real idea what the characters looked like or how things smelled or felt.

My biggest problem with Cleanse Fire is there was no real description of the world. I had no idea why there were elves, faeries and dwarves and why they were allies or enemies. Humans existed in this world, but the mention was so tenuous, for the most part I forgot they existed in Kinir.

Some world description would have been helpful as well. I know Kinir is a fantasy world, but modern phrases occasionally crept into the writing. When comparing that with the dragons' verbiage and some of the other vernacular, the world did not seem modern in the contemporary sense.

Did all of these issues detract from the book? They did a bit for me. Will they keep me from reading the next book in the Kinir Elite Chronicles? Not a chance. I have a feeling Ms Pergakis' stories will get better with each telling, and I intend to enjoy the resulting novels!

Danielle Ravencraft says

Cleanse Fire tells the story of Captain Derac Vidor, an elite elf warrior haunted by the past death of his wife and team mate. Derac soon learns that not even revenge can mend his broken heart. He trudges through life, playing the part of his country's hero and captain of the Kinir Elite, but on the inside Derac is lonely.

It's not until a traitor in the Kinir Elite endangers the whole team that Derac is able to push through his past and save the people who are still in his life.

I don't normally read fantasy or action/adventure, but I really enjoyed Cleanse Fire. The underlying message of love and survival is hard to miss. The characters are a delight, each one with their own personality. The author does a great job of capturing the emotions of war, sacrifice, and love. I look forward to reading more by Ms. Pergakis.

Heidi says

This book follows Captain Derac Vidor and his team of the kinir elite. We follow them on there missions and find out there is a traitor tryin to kill them.I wasn't sure at first if I was going to like this book but I actually really liked it. Looking forward to reading the next book.

Charlene Wilson says

Burying himself in duty, Captain Derac Vidor tries to forget the death of his beloved wife. Every time his elite team of warrior elves rescues someone and burns the captures' building, however, he relives the gruesome memory. The only thing that can drive it away is diving into his next mission and the love for his country.

He soon finds he doesn't know who to trust as evidence points to a conspiracy aimed at the Kinir Elite with his commander at the head. But, it only starts there. Revenge is involved?

As they fight to uncover the truth, Derac also finds his heart opening to the very skilled archer on his team, Kie. Love within the team is taboo--at least for Derac, sighting his wife had been a member and he couldn't save her. But, will Kie change all that?

Surprise is around the corner in this book that offers elves, fairies, dragons, wizards, and a troll guarded underground prison. Cleanse Fire is an action packed adventure with a touch of romance--something I really enjoy. You're sure to fall in love with this team's story just as I have.

Jesi says

I have to admit, I wasn't sure I wanted to read this book. I don't read a lot of high fantasy. Not because I have any particular problem with it, I'm just not drawn to it the way some people are. But I have been hearing a lot about this book, so I thought I'd give it a shot. Turns out, that was a good call!

For me, a good book is one that I can connect to emotionally. The book opens with a highly emotional scene where Derac, the Captain of an Elvin military unit called the Kinir Elite, loses his wife in a fire. The visual of this scene was so disturbing I immediately became emotionally connected with Derac.

The story picks up ten years later--Derac is still the successful Captain of the Elite, but he has never really been able to move on from his guilt over the loss of his wife. When he first begins to feel attraction to Kie, an archer in his unit, he is hesitant to act on his feelings. I found the love story that grew up around these two characters refreshing in its slowness. There was no insta-love. These were two adults who acted like adults. Their mission came first at all times. They might have wanted to rip each other's uniforms off, but they help off, prolonging the sexual and romantic tension.

While I am always sucked in the love story, the main plot of this novel was a military story, full of strategy, battles and intrigue. I loved the way the author described the battle communication among the members of the group, made up of a mixture of hand signals and whistles. Something about it felt so...elfish, maybe? Almost like how animals might communicate when coordinating an attack. Not that these characters are animalistic in any way, but it was a subtle reminder that they were not humans, dependent on speech and electronic devices to communicate. Very well done.

The characterization was also great. Each member of the Kinir Elite had a distinct personality and skill that added to the group. Derac, as Captain, is a natural leader. He is smart, strategic and brave. Rakan is the experienced veteran soldier in the group, rough around the edges, but trustworthy and tough. Tyn is Derac's best friend. Without him, I think Derac might have become so overcome in his grief after the loss of his wife, that it might have rendered him useless. Tyn prevents Derac from taking himself too seriously, constantly teasing him and drawing him out. I would love to see a future book which revolves around Tyn. Jardel is the young soldier, full of youth and spirit. While he is very good in a fight, he also is a bit like a naughty puppy. Too cute to really get angry at when he is bad. Aeli and Kie are the two women in the group and are opposite in every way. Aeli is vain and feminine, but also smart and loyal. She is easily underestimated. Kie is a tom-boy with a troubled past. I appreciated that the author did not make her too angry or snarky. She doesn't have a chip on her shoulder. Instead, she bravely faces the things that frighten her most.

My only semi-criticism of the book is that a few times I felt like things worked out a little too easy. For example, when Aeli's loyalty is questioned, Derac decides to trust her right away, not really exercising the caution that I think he should have. Of course, it turned out that she was loyal to the group, but Derac didn't know that.

Cleanse Fire is the first book in the Kinir Elite series. It was very well written, and I will definitely be

reading the next book when it releases.

Overall, I give Cleanse Fire...

Plot - 4 1/2 bookmarks

Character development - 5 bookmarks

Love Story - 4 1/2 bookmarks

Dream cast (otherwise known as who I pictured while reading) - Henry Cavil (Derac), Keira Knightly (Kie), Sean Patrick Flanery (Tyn), Rosamund Pike (Aeli), Sean Bean (Rakan), Armie Hammer (Jardel)

S.M. Blooding says

Fantasy like this is hard to write and hard to find. The characters come off the page really well. You can tell that the author spends a lot of time with her characters, understanding who they are, what drives them, how they came to be, because she's able to grasp all these little nuances that just make it easy to sync with them.

The characters themselves are pretty tough! I wasn't too excited over the "they're elves" aspect. LOL! Before vampires, I thought that elves were a little over done. I blame a certain friend of mine from my military days. He LOVED elves to point I was ready to throw up toe nails at the mention of them, but boy, Anastasia sure had a way of saying, "Frankie, you're dork! This isn't Dungeons and Dragons. This is my book!! Get over it and read it!" She just wrapped me up and sent me packing on a journey with the Elite.

If you need something different, pick this up. You will not be disappointed! Heck, even if you don't need something different, pick this up. This is the type of fantasy that is great if you're a huge fantasy fan and even if you're not. I think everyone will get a sense of satisfaction by reading this book.

Scott says

Cleanse Fire is the debut novel of Anastasia V. Pergakis. As can be expected from a first time author there are a few things that I thought could have been done better, but there is an almost unlimited amount of potential for this series and author.

The issues that I found with the book mostly revolve around the characters. There wasn't anything wrong with them, but each member of the Kinir Elite is important and shares the spotlight which leads to a little bit of a lack with all of them. The tragic past theme is a shared theme for several of the members and it seems a little improbable.

At the same time the characters are a true strength for this book. Anastasia has built a personality for each of the characters and has a webpage where you can ask each of them questions. That level of commitment really says something about where this series can go.

The story is well done and moves at a pretty good clip throughout the book. I was interested enough to read the book in two or three sittings. The idea of an elven elite fighting unit really worked for me. This is a series that I will be keeping an eye on to see what Anastasia does with all of her potential.

I won a copy of this book during a blog tour by the author.

Majanka says

Originally published here: <http://www.iheartreading.net/reviews/...>

Cleanse Fire is written from the POV of captain Derac Vidor, a man tormented by a haunting past who is now in charge of one team of the Kinir Elite soldiers and charged with the task to rescue faeries from a dwarven mine. Derac himself is an elf, which I thought was pretty cool. A lot of times we read about elves in fantasy, but hardly ever does an elf play the main role. Derac has a troubled past, and it shows, as the events that transpired years ago still inflict upon his current day decisions. He's wary of risking his team, of loving anyone in case they may get hurt or even killed.

One of his team members, Kierianna, is a beautiful, strong elfa (female elf) and Derac feels attracted to her, but refuses to act on his impulses. When Derac and Kie get trapped in the dwarven mine, and Kie is forced to relive parts of her past she hoped never to relive again, they form a bond. Derac is forced to face his emotions, let go of the past, and learn to live in the present.

I thought the story was pretty strong, and I enjoyed the plot as well. The world building felt a little incomplete: the main characters travel from place to place, and even though each place is well-described, it feels like something is missing. Maybe we'll get to see more of this world in the second book, and that'll solve the problem. It could also be that, while we go from place to place, we don't really live through the journey. We get a faint idea of how many days our main characters travel, but we don't really live through those days. Or something. It's hard to explain. I liked the plot though, because it was something different. The main characters are all well-trained, elite soldiers who face danger not because of some ancient prophecy or magic curse, but something a lot more mundane (and a lot more intriguing): their commander is trying to screw them over.

I liked the team's interactions, and want to see more of them. Derac and Kie stood in the spotlight here, but I wouldn't mind reading a book focusing more on some of the other secondary characters, since they all have great potentials as protagonists. I liked Derac, but I only liked Kie so-so. At times she was a valuable, strong, clear-minded member of the team, but whenever she was in danger, she always needed someone to rescue her, which annoyed me. The other elite soldiers seemed a lot more self-reliant.

Either way, I enjoyed this book. It's well-written, the plot is fast-paced and it's fantasy with a unique twist since it doesn't feature the end of the world or a "chosen one". Derac is just an ordinary elf with a troubled past, forced to deal with his commander's betrayal.

I would love to read the second book in this series when it comes out. A recommended read for fantasy fans.

David Brown says

You can't beat the presence of elves in a fantasy world, can you? The pointy eared race has been prevalent throughout fantasy and myths and with Cleanse Fire: The Kinir Elite Chronicles we have the privilege of their company once more. The first instalment in a series of books, Cleanse Fire is full of action, romance,

intrigue, honour and betrayal.

The novel opens with Captain Derac Vidor watching his wife, Maleena, die amidst the flames that engulf the headquarters of the Kinir Elite – a prestigious band of elves that conduct daring rescue missions of oppressed races. Ten years later Derac is absorbed in his duty and eagerly awaits the start of a new mission, memories of his wife's death continue to haunt his dreams and only work can keep him together.

Working with an elite team of elves, Derac's life is turned upside down when an internal conspiracy emerges to try and destroy members of the Kinir Elite. The threat is a very close one. Commander Palto Junta arranges a dangerous mission for Derac and his team at the Gorgot Mines and it soon becomes clear to them that they are not intended to return alive. Derac is forced to lead his team back to Kinir City to stop the Commander but the conspiracy within the Elite goes far deeper than Derac could possibly have imagined.

After an intriguing opening we quickly settle into a couple of quick missions for the Kinir Elite and the revelation that Commander Palto has some clandestine plans of his own. Not only does Derac have to contend with internal dissension within the Kinir Elite, he has the small matter of growing feelings for one of his team – Kie. Both Derac and Kie have troubled pasts and as the story unravels they are drawn closer together but with little time for romance amidst all the action will anything come of this love story?

I found Cleanse Fire to be a good and solid opening to The Kinir Elite Chronicles series. The characters were well conveyed with Derac and Kie having the most depth to them. The story is fun and eventful but I do wish it had lasted a little longer. If there were any issues with the book it was that the narrative remained on the surface of Pergakis' fantasy world. The locations in Cleanse Fire are well crafted but I always like to know a bit about their background, that may just be the love of history in me, I guess. Elves, dwarves, fairies and humans lived in close proximity to each other but I was left thirsty to learn more about the societies, dive deeper into this fantasy world and learn more about the magic that is used.

There is great potential for The Kinir Elite Chronicles series and given the outcomes of Cleanse Fire I am very intrigued to see how Pergakis will develop the story and the characters in the next instalment.

Linda Andrews says

After the death of his wife, Captain Derac Vidor has devoted himself to the Kinir Elite. He's managed to lead the military strike team while holding himself apart, but that has changed with the arrival of Kie. The attraction puts them at risk as betrayal ripples through Kinir.

Cleanse Fire is full of action. Derac, Kie and the other Elite members rush off from mission to mission until it becomes clear that someone is trying to kill them and they must go on the offensive. The story has what every good fantasy must have--elves, fairies, dragons and dwarves. The romance between Derac and Kie grows organically and you can't help but cheer for them to overcome the tragedy in their pasts. I love the world Ms Pergakis creates and can't wait to read more of it.

Diana Jacobsen says

Cleanse Fire by Anastasia V. Pergakis is a well written high fantasy story with a Tolkienesque feel. The main character, Captain Derac Vidor has lost his wife but duty calls and he must continue in his quest. The battle scenes were reminiscent of a well -planned war. The characters are likeable and exceed an almost human personality, with a three dimensional element. They are not your run of the mill characters, they have been well thought out. A must read for any person who likes dragons, fairies, and elves. There is also a side story of love and survival that will have any reader tugging at their heartstrings. From page one I was entrenched into the story and waited with baited breath for what would come next. I look for the next in this series.

DISCLAIMER I was given this book as a free ACR copy in exchange for an honest review.

SciYourFi Team says

Read the full review at <http://sciyourfi.blogspot.com.au/2012...>

Haidee says

I loved the story line, not to mention elves and warriors. Warrior elves just made my day. I loved the weird spunky Kie and the cute ending. Cool book, cool characters, cool author :)

Jood Hooligan says

I absolutely loved this story. I wouldn't call this a simple story, but it was a quick read - for me at least. I couldn't put it down!

From the beginning I found myself drawn to Derac, and wanting to know more about him. Then, as each additional character was added, I found myself wishing to read more about them as well. There's a depth to her characters, including the minor ones, that I don't see very often. She could easily write a spin off on each member of the Kinir Elite and I'd read them all!

There were certain parts in the story that I really loved, and without spoilers I'll say this - Kie is most definitely my favorite character.

I cannot wait to read more from this series! Highly recommend this book to fantasy lovers.
