



## De carne y hueso

*Livia Dare , Sylvia Day , Lara Agnelli (Translator)*

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Durante cinco años, Sapphire ha sido la concubina más preciada del rey de Sari. Cuando al fin recupera su independencia, se niega a volver a perder el control a manos de nadie. Pero una interferencia inesperada la arroja en brazos del arrogante y orgulloso Wulfric, príncipe heredero del reino rival de D'Ashier, un hombre peligroso en todos los sentidos. Sapphire es la hija del principal enemigo de Wulfric. También es una guerrera muy valorada y una experta conocedora de las artes sensuales. En resumen, es perfecta para Wulfric. Pero una relación duradera entre ellos es impensable, por lo que llegan a un acuerdo: pasarán una noche juntos y luego cada uno seguirá su camino. Sin embargo, ninguno de los dos cuenta con tener que enfrentarse a un deseo capaz de llevar a dos naciones a la guerra y a dos corazones a la rendición. Una belleza legendaria, un atrevido guerrero y una seducción que podría destruirlos a ambos.

## De carne y hueso Details

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# From Reader Review *De carne y hueso* for online ebook

**Tasmin says**

Auf S. 166 abgebrochen. Bitte entschuldigt mich, während ich kotzen gehe.

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**Nicola says**

**\* ARC provided in exchange for an honest review\***

This book was previously released back in June 2009 under a Pseudonym of Sylvia Day's - Livia Dare. It's since been re-released in the US on the 24th September 2013 and in the UK on 24th October 2013.

If you are a regular reader of Sylvia Day you will know what to expect in terms of the sexual content of this book. Like all Sylvia Day books, *In The Flesh* is HOT! Incredibly sensual, explicit, evocative and utterly addictive.

It is set in a futuristic world in which sex for nothing more than pleasure seems to be a core belief of society.

Concubines are highly thought of and valued and undergo years of training before taking up their positions.

Both sexes can serve and throughout the course of their careers they can achieve great wealth and position in society.

What I struggled with in this world was the fact that rich, powerful men had a harem of women and their wives were basically expected to just deal with it.

The King of Sari is in love with his prized concubine Sapphire and refuses anyone else's bed but hers - including his poor wives!

Sapphire doesn't reciprocate the King's feelings, feels sorry for the Queen and basically craves more from her life. She is more than happy when the Queen of Sari - to cut a long story short - has her retired.

Retirement in the life of a concubine - at least a successful one like Sapphire - means wealth, independence - freedom.

Sapphire is a very strong woman. She is loyal to those she cares about and feels an instant affinity for Wulf which she doesn't want to feel on account of him being an enemy prince, thus making anything between them impossible without one - or both - of them losing everything.

Wulfric is commanding, ruthless, slightly arrogant, highly intelligent and sexy as hell!

He knows what he wants and he wants Sapphire.

He is conscious of the possible consequences of pursuing Sapphire but he sets about finding work-arounds so that he can have her.

He lets nothing stand in his way and is the driving force in everything that happens between them.

There is plenty of action to go along with the sex 'n' romance.

Lot's of nice twists and turns. Plenty of intrigue.

Overall it is a really enjoyable read.

My only complaint is that the ending leaves loose ends hanging and I'd expect another book to round them off but considering it was originally published years ago it doesn't look likely to happen... Or maybe the fact it has been republished under Sylvia Day means another book will be forthcoming? I guess we'll have to wait and see, but I'll be disappointed if there is not.

I guess to sum it up I'd say that it doesn't steal your soul the way the Crossfire books do but it is definitely on par with Day's regency works, so I definitely recommend!

4 out of 5 stars

[www.where-did-the-sun-go.blogspot.co.uk](http://www.where-did-the-sun-go.blogspot.co.uk)

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## **MaggieReadsRom says**

An ambush-attack on Wulfric when he accompanies a patrol to the borderlands between D'Ashier and Sari and a devious plan of a jealous Queen bring Wulfric and Sapphire together. Wulfric is offered to Sapphire as a servant when the Queen forces her husband to relieve Sapphire from her duties as his concubine. When they find out their respective identities, things get complicated. Wulf returns to his homeland but finds out he can't live without Sapphire and takes her with him against her will. The time they spend together in D'Ashier brings them closer together and their initial passion grows into love. But there are many obstacles in the form of mercenaries out for blood, the war between their kingdoms and a jealous monarch and jilted lover.

Katie "Sapphire" Erikson has been the preferred concubine of the King of Sari for five years and he fell in love with her from the first moment he saw her. Sapphire doesn't reciprocate these feelings and feels awkward towards the Queen who truly loves her husband but must endure his feelings for Sapphire. Sapphire yearns for her freedom and recognition as an individual. Her time as the King's concubine feels like confinement because she is not able to speak her mind or follow her desires and wishes. She is confident, outspoken and smart. She is not only skilled in the amorous ways. When it comes to combat and battle strategies she also has knowledge and skill. She is tough and strong but deep inside she is vulnerable. Her feelings for Wulf take her by surprise and make her feel uncomfortable at first.

Wulfric "Wulf" Andersson is the Crown Prince of D'Ashier. He is ruthless, intelligent, cautious and meticulous. There is truly nothing anti-hero about him. He is the epitome of an honorable warrior hero who is alpha to the core. The moment he sees Sapphire he is under her spell and his feelings confuse him. Before Sapphire women were meant to enjoy temporarily and he didn't commit to one woman alone. Sapphire evokes deep feelings in him. Feelings he has trouble dealing with because of the situation between their kingdoms. One thing I definitely liked about him was how he refused to address Katie as Sapphire after he found out her true name and kept calling her by it. He refused to acknowledge the name another man had given her and this scored big points with me. Wulf's declaration of his love for Katie to his father literally

made me cry, it was so beautiful.

The physical chemistry between Wulf and Sapphire is fierce. Their mutual desire sets this book on fire. Their passion leaps off the pages and in the midst of all the extremely hot love scenes, Dare delivers a plot that is unpredictable and fitting the characters and the romance.

Though Sapphire and Wulf and their courtship take center stage in this book, there is enough room for some intriguing and complementing secondary characters such as Gunther and Brenna, King and Queen of Sari. The despair in Brenna of loving someone who loves someone else is palpable in the scenes where Brenna, Sapphire and Gunther appear, especially in the beginning of the book. Other important secondary characters are Sapphire's parents: Grave and Sasha Erikson. The warm relationship between Sapphire and her parents is a delight to read. Contrary to many novels portraying difficult, strained parent-child relationships this one oozes love and warmth. Wulf's relatives, his father Anders and his brother Duncan, are a bit less warm and loving, both of them possessing this cruel, mean streak but in the end the bond between them turns out to be just as strong as Katie's with her parents.

Sometimes it's really great to go into a book unknown, unprepared and totally without expectations. This was one of those times and what I received was a book able to put erotic fantasy romance on my reading map. Combined with the Sci-Fi touch and feel I got a taste of a genre that I don't read regularly. Although I'm not really a Sci-Fi kind of girl (at least not with my reading) I really liked it. It's a nice mix of fantasy, futuristic and historical elements and the book totally caught me off guard. To be honest I am not an avid reader of fantasy, not even fantasy romance but I must admit I have to readjust that statement after reading *IN THE FLESH*. Maybe that is because it had all the elements I appreciate in other subgenres of romance. The writing was masterful, it was fast-paced, it had suspense, it had humor and it had a love story that was excellently told. And on top of all that it had elements I really wasn't expecting.

Livia Dare's approach of concubines is one that is rare in the romance world. They are prized, revered and respected. The way she combined this outlook with some scenes that made me think of the romances I read when I just discovered this genre made it a refreshing and original book. There were scenes where Wulf would portray a true conquering warrior with Sapphire as his captive. These scenes brought back memories of the romance novels from back when I was a young girl and read those books with a pounding heart and all flustered. Since then I've become an experienced enough romance reader to recognize and appreciate a great romance novel when I read one and this was definitely that. Furthermore *IN THE FLESH* was very erotic. Because I went into the book knowing only that it was a fantasy romance I wasn't prepared for the rather explicit love scenes. They were a nice and unexpected treat and an addition to the intriguing and fast-paced plot. A lot happens in the book, keeping me entertained from the first to the last page. I was surprised in a good way with every chapter. I loved the characters, I loved the plot and I melted at the "kidnapping scene" where Wulf takes Sapphire to D'Ashier.

Livia Dare had a surprise for me at every turn. There were moments I thought I knew where she was going with the story but then she'd throw in something totally unpredictable. *IN THE FLESH* is a perfect mix of great characterization, action and old school romance. It is lush, emotionally gripping and definitely red hot. She has created an elaborate world that has a lot of potential for future books of this trilogy. I am glad I had the pleasure to review this book as an ARC for ROOB because with *IN THE FLESH* she has given me a very promising and intriguing first installment of a trilogy that is in a genre I would never have discovered on my own: erotic fantasy romance. I'm extremely curious as to where she is taking this trilogy. The end left me with a touching HEA but also with many unanswered questions about how things will proceed.

Quotes:

He sensed she was a kindred spirit, a primitive creature like himself in a world that had long ago evolved and been tamed.

Only when her hands fell to her sides and her legs hung limp over his shoulders did he desist and rest his cheek against her thigh with a breathless chuckle of masculine triumph. As her senses drifted back into awareness, Sapphire resigned herself to the truth. She was in deep trouble.

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## **Bookaholics says**

In the Flesh by Livia Dare

Futuristic Romance- June 2nd, 2009

4 stars

Theirs is a dangerous, forbidden love.

Sapphire is a trained concubine renowned because she holds the love of the King of Sari. For her, the King is a job and she can never love him because he only sees her as a possession. She does not regret becoming a concubine but has discovered that she does miss her independence. When the jealous Queen of Sari retires her and gives Sapphire her own palace, she is at first joyous. Freedom to live and be her own person is a pleasure she will never take for granted again. However, Sapphire does not realize that the Queen actually intends to punish her by bestowing upon Sapphire a male concubine that will endanger her life and that of her family.

Wulfric is the Crown Prince and mortal enemy of the King of Sari. When he is captured, tortured and finally given to serve the renowned concubine Sapphire he is outraged. All he can think of is his hatred and a way to escape. Wulfric's plan is to seduce Sapphire, use her, and ruthlessly gain his freedom. But Sapphire is more than he expects and he finds himself respecting her and wanting things he knows he should not. He has never before met a woman with the strength of character to match his own. He finds Sapphire an aphrodisiac he can't live without. Wulfric finds himself making excuses to stay despite the peril.

For Sapphire, Wulfric is completely different from the King of Sari. He values her opinion and treats her as an individual plus it doesn't hurt that his sensual skills rival her own! A heady combination indeed.

As Sapphire and Wulf find themselves unwillingly attracted to each other, both know their love is forbidden. But they cannot bear to be parted. Both are caught in an impossible situation especially since Sapphire's father is the highest commanding officer under the King of Sari. Their love is a betrayal of family and kingdom.

Livia Dare has written an amazing story in a futuristic landscape that is a compelling and fascinating. The love between the 2 star crossed lovers is a delight for the senses. I was particularly interested in Sapphire. It would have been nice to learn more about Sapphire complex history such as her decision/training to become a concubine and her combat training. My favorite part of the story is how Livia Dare portrays Wulfric. He is clearly an alpha male yet he accepts Sapphire as she is and allows her freedom to be herself. He is confident enough in himself that he does not feel the need to dominate her. The only thing I found slightly strange was the abrupt, somewhat rushed ending. I wish more time had been spent on the conclusion. However, the

author will release 2 more books which will hopefully reveal more of the world and characters she has created. I highly recommend this story for those who love paranormal and futuristic romances with some very racy scenes! I thoroughly enjoyed this sensual story.

Reviewed by Steph from the Bookaholics Romance Book Club

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### **Ssil says**

¡Qué historia tan pobre! Sexo, sexo y más sexo. Un contexto del que no sabemos nada, conflictos previsibles, con potencial, pero nada desarrollados y solucionados en un par de páginas. Y sexo, sexo y sexo.

reseña: <http://loquequierahoy.blogspot.com.es...>

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### **Desere says**

Another super scorching hot read from the ultimate author in erotic fiction! For five long years Sapphire has been the King of Sari's most treasure concubine.

But once that wonderful feeling of freedom hits she is dead set on never ever again being controlled again.

But when she comes face to face with Wulfric and his sensual games she becomes a warrior trapped in a war and the only way out is to surrender.

I simply loved, loved, loved this books and it's characters! The author tied it all in together so stunningly that it truly felt as if I was inside the book living the dreams!

Captivating, heartstopping and so romantic it brought me to my ever loving reading knees with joy.

The author also did a truly wonderful ending , she gave me the happy ending but also left me hanging, which let me know that the next book will be coming and it will be a for sure winner.

I highly recommend this read for anyone and everyone who loves a good hot steamy romance with lots of twists and turns. I was captivated from the very first line.

This author has once again proven why 50 shades is as thing of the past for 100 shades of Sylvia Day is far better and delivers time and time again!

5/5 star review

" Freedom comes at a cost"

\*Copy provided by Penguin Books South Africa

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## Nicole says

Wait... there's a sequel right?..... RIGHT?!!

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## Natalia says

Review on In the Flesh by Sylvia Day:

- started with a 20 pg prologue (!!!)
- writing was great
- the first few chapters were great
- it went downhill when the love interest Wulf turns out to be an anti-feminist asshole, manipulating Sapphire (protag) into having sex
- Sapphire's agency and independence is robbed. There are only a few glimpses of her being a badass warrior.
- internalised misogyny
- sex scenes started off great but became repetitive, boring and blocking the progress of the plot
- stupid & disposable characters, convenient for the main leads to get their way
- the amount of romance/sex undermines the high stakes

Verdict: like any Sylvia Day book, I liked the writing but the plot and characters turned out to be disappointing.

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## Eva Rose says

The plot of this book is thin and it stumbles all over the place trying to make sense. The characterization of the characters was also all over the place and sometimes didn't even make sense. There was so much sex, like way too much sex, and so repetitive. It was also the only interaction that main couple had, every single interaction devolved into sex and it got ridiculous when they profess their supposed undying love for each other when everything revolved around sex. I guess I was expecting a bit much when I hoped that this book would at least make some sort of sense.

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## Katie(babs) says

Sapphire is the royal concubine of the King of Sari. Sapphire was trained in the art of seduction at the Sensual Arts School. Because of the drawn out war between Sari and the D'Ashier colony, Sapphire never thought she would become a concubine because to own one was a luxury most could not afford. Sari and D'Ashier have been enemies for two centuries ever since D'Ashier started a revolution where they could be free of Sari. Even after the war ended between the two, there is still a deep animosity that will not go away. Sapphire was very lucky, for she became the possession of King Gunther.

Sapphire warms the King's bed every night because he loves her so and will have no other. He even turns



away from his Queen Brenna who is expected to give Sari an heir. Brenna loves the king deeply and would love nothing more than to get rid of Sapphire permanently, but she can't because many adore Sapphire.

Brenna finds out that Wulfric the Crown Prince of D'Ashier has been captured. Perhaps then her husband will see her worth and turn to her instead of Sapphire when the time is right for her to present the prince to her husband. Brenna comes up with a plan. She allows Sapphire to go into retirement and will be moved to the outskirts of the capital. She will have her every wish granted due to her service to the king. Sapphire accepts, overjoyed to be free. What Sapphire doesn't know is that Brenna has sent the wounded Wulfric to Sapphire's new home as her servant.

Wulfric's people think he is dead and has no choice to serve Sapphire until he can find a way to escape. Soon Wulfric would love to serve Sapphire in a specific way. Sapphire finds herself addicted to Wulfric's touch but knows she cannot keep him. She enjoys her freedom and refuses to be another man's plaything. Wulfric won't take no for an answer and will have Sapphire, body and soul. Sapphire longs for Wulfric's touch but when he escapes and takes her to his home to be his forever, she must figure out a way to escape him, because their love is not meant to be and could start another war where innocent lives will be lost.

In the mood for a great story with excellent world building and smoldering love scenes that will have you drooling? *IN THE FLESH* is the perfect read for all these needs. Livia Dare has written a wonderful erotic fantasy tale with two characters who steam up the pages. The passion and sex Sapphire and Wulfric share is some of the steamiest encounters I have read this year. These two have become an addiction for one another.

Wulfric is very much an alpha male who won't be denied the woman he feels completes him. Sapphire won't allow Wulfric to walk all over her and their interactions lead to some interesting discussions and fighting between the two. These fights lead to some fulfilling outcomes that always end with both being sweaty and satisfied.

*IN THE FLESH* is a sexy fantastic fantasy story.

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## **Mojca says**

\*\*\*\*\*Update 07/04: On second re-read I found myself appreciating this book a little bit more...So 4 stars it is.\*\*\*\*\*

King of Sari's favorite concubine (and by the same king's proclamation his *karisette* - one true love), Sapphire is released after five years of service with a great retiring plan. A house of her own, no need to search for a new protector, and fourteen men at her very beck and call.

Unfortunately one of those men is none other than the crown prince of D'Ashier, Wulfric, who's been tortured almost to death and suddenly finds himself captive of the beguiling beauty. A beguiling beauty who also happens to be the ex mistress of his greatest enemy and the daughter of Sari's national hero.

The thing is, fate seldom chooses wisely, and these two people, supposed to be enemies, soon finds themselves battling an attraction and passion so strong impossible to be denied, knowing full well, their union is doomed from the very start...

I have rather mixed feelings about this book. I absolutely adored Sapphire. This concubine/warrior woman literally stole my heart. She was strong, determined, stubborn to just the right degree, and fiercely protective of the people she regarded as hers. Even of a man who was a complete stranger, and her enemy to boot. Even when she didn't know Wulfric, she went with her instincts (which were never wrong) and put her very life, and the life of her family, on the line...It was a great portent of things to come.

So here you have this fierce warrior and seasoned courtesan, trained in the arts of the senses, trained to keep her body and mind detached, yet she could melt at the merest "right" touch.

This duality was beautifully portrayed, both in dialog and description.

I was a bit disappointed in Wulfric, to be honest. I felt there was quite a few things left out, but I guess that's to be expected - this is the first book in the trilogy.

I just wasn't convinced about his change of mind and his "true" feelings. The description he gave his father was heartwarming indeed (he needed her to *feel*), and he was thankfully rather quick in voicing the three important words that are supposed to soothe all woes in Romancelandia, but there was still something off. Unfortunately, the sex (this story had plenty of it - whopping 11 scenes crammed into 300 pages) didn't reflect the change in the guy. He still seemed more like a beat in rut than a man in love.

Also, the whole obsession thing went a bit too far for my tastes. Not only it started to get a bit silly with two members of royalty obsessed with one tiny woman - did she sweat drugs or something? - but also it dragged on for too long.

The story, crammed in between the sex scenes (which in my opinion contributed too little to the plot and were getting a bit repetitive toward the end) was wonderful. I loved the futuristic spin on the *Romeo and Juliette* theme. The action-y climax was wonderfully executed and it was great to finally see Sapphire kick some ass (you go girl!).

This book doesn't have your standard HEA, but more of a HEA tied in with a nice cliffy leading into the next book. There is so many loose ends left after this book, that it's almost imperative to read the second...And of course to make certain the HEA stays a HEA.

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## Ninoska Goris says

Los libros de Sylvia Day son eroticos, pero en este libro eso es prácticamente lo único que hay, llegando a ser repetitivo. Está ambientado en un mundo futurista del cual se conoce muy poco.

Aquí lo importante en el libro: Sapphire fue la concubina favorita del rey de Sari, una guerrera altamente entrenada, conocedora de las artes sensuales y, por demás, preciosa. Wulfric es el príncipe heredero de D'Ashier, reino rival de Sari, es el encargado de las fuerzas armadas, peligroso, enigmático y, como no, el hombre más hermoso que ha visto Sapphire.

Estar juntos es imposible debido a la rivalidad entre sus reinos, pero desde que se ven no pueden luchar contra la inmensa atracción.

En otras palabras blah, blah, blah... perdida de tiempo

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## **Kathleen says**

Story Rating 4 Stars

Romance Rating 4 Stars

Character Rating 4 Stars

Heat Rating 5 sizzling Stars

Action Rating 4 Stars

Overall Rating 4 Stars

Once again Sylvia Day wrote one HOT SCORCHER of a book. There's just something about her Sex/Loves scenes that I'll never get enough of. They are very raw and extremely sexual. OK so I really liked the story but LOVED the heat, hahahahaha. No really the story was very good too and both the H&h very good characters. You could really feel the need these two had for each other throughout the story. I also liked the world that Sylvia made up for this futuristic romance, she added some really good and imaginative elements. This story was fast pace and had some good action scenes that kept me interested all the way through. I look forwards to continuing this series but I have a feeling I'll be waiting for a while.

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## **Ninoska Goris says**

“Te necesito en mi vida para ser feliz. Es tan sencillo y tan complicado como eso.”

Los libros de Sylvia Day son eroticos, pero en este libro eso es prácticamente lo único que hay, llegando a ser repetitivo. Está ambientado en un mundo futurista del cual se conoce muy poco.

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En otras palabras blah, blah, blah... Perdida de tiempo

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## **Maria says**

Seriously, where is the sequel??

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