



Kin

Jennifer Quintenz

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Kin: A Dark YA Urban Fantasy (Daughters of Lilith Paranormal Thrillers: Book 5)

As she struggles to lead a fractured Guard, Braedyn Murphy makes a terrifying discovery: there is only one safeguard keeping Lilith from regaining her full strength, and it is frighteningly vulnerable.

Despite the growing danger, Braedyn forges ahead, bending traditions and breaking prejudices, in an effort to ready her forces for the final battle between the Sons of Adam and the Daughters of Lilith.

Old enemies resurface, making the fight personal and forcing Braedyn into an impossible choice. Will she protect her own family and the future she so desperately wants?

Or will she gather the last of her strength and fight, becoming the warrior humanity needs?

Kin Details

Date : Published August 29th 2017 by Secret Tree Press

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Author : Jennifer Quintenz

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Genre : Fantasy, Paranormal, Young Adult

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From Reader Review Kin for online ebook

Carole Forknall says

Absolutely blood marvelous kept me enthralled for 1st book to this the last wel worth the read in my opinion. Thanks, Jennifer.

Marla says

I thought this was a fantastic series. It was an interesting take on the whole Lilith mythological story. Demons and angels fighting and people trying to save humanity. I really enjoyed all the characters. Wonderful writing. I always can tell when a book/series is good if I am thinking about the characters when I'm not reading and I was thinking about these characters a lot. Well worth my time!

Damian Southam says

DETAILS:

Kin is the fifth book in Daughters of Lilith - written by Jennifer Quintenz - and it holds the time honoured role of being the final book to conclude the series. It is preceded by Thrall, Incubus, Sacrifice, and Guardian; and a further purchase option of a boxed set for books one to three. Thrall released on May 26th 2012 and Kin is set for release on August 29th 2017, bringing the five book series to an average release schedule of one book per year. Using Goodreads data for the total number of ratings and the combined averages from each of the four individual listings prior to Kin, it's possible to determine that the series has a total of 2,326 ratings with an average of 4.14 stars (not including data for the boxed set) as at August 21st 2017. As Young Adult Urban Fantasy the series openers held the accolade of being among the start of audience motivations to see UF break through to continue its desired status.

Using Amazon's (US) Jennifer Quintenz Page (link below) to determine the total number of purchased reviews for the series thus far is 465. My own review links from the AU site are listed in the order of each title from books one to four, with a fifth link being the one that covers the current boxed set. Jennifer has confirmed that Kin will be the final full-length main title. Whether any future boxed sets are in the pipeworks is unknown, I cannot however confirm that Stolen Child (Book #3.5) is available as an incentive companion story for newsletter subscribers via Jennifer's website (in .mobi or .epub). In detail the review links are for: Thrall; Incubus; Sacrifice; Guardian; and Boxed Set 1.

Author Page - [https://www.amazon.com/Jennifer-Quint...](https://www.amazon.com/Jennifer-Quintenz)

Review - <https://www.amazon.com.au/review/R371...>

Review - <https://www.amazon.com.au/review/R2N7...>

Review - <https://www.amazon.com.au/review/R1NU...>

Review - <https://www.amazon.com.au/review/R15M...>

Review - <https://www.amazon.com.au/review/R3M9...>

INTRODUCTION - THE STORY:

With Lilith disabled but present and in hiding, Braedyn's warning bells sound as she operates a fractured Guard with the startling finding that only one safeguard protects against Lilith regaining what was their costly reduction in her current power. Using her own outlook to breakdown outdated mechanisms she does what she can in readiness for the final confrontation between the Sons of Adam and the Daughters of Lilith; a new dimension that will become ever more meaningful as they draw closer to the end. Old enemies, personal vendettas, and impossible choices that all inevitably lead to the hardest future, where all her own wants and needs are sidelined in order for humankind's to prevail. Ultimately, however, if she doesn't become the warrior the world needs, then no future where humanity isn't enslaved will be possible at all, and thus her humanity becomes moot.

Just having Clay in the picture seems to be uncharacteristically holding back both her emotional and physical recovery from recent events, as much as it does the capacity of the Guard to move forward under different leadership. The actual and metaphorical getting stabbed in the back makes it harder still for her to find the confidence necessary. Just being in the same places brings shadow traces of back pain in both domains, and given she could usually heal a broken bone in a couple of days, it was difficult to avoid whatever hidden message was present in the fact that this healing was yet to be completed. His presence has and is affecting morale and operation at the top line administration, just another weakness their enemies are all too happy to exploit. Sometimes people need to lead before they become a leader in more ways than just name, a lesson she has yet to learn. Her path is difficult and fraught with pitfalls and walls without ladders, but it remains to be said that she in part has only herself to blame.

With further appearances of Sansenoy and another ancient only he has any history with, and the way he makes it crystal clear that the guardsman might as well be absent, leads to both awe and resentment aimed toward Braedyn. That his appearance and assistance solely relates to Braedyn's presence ruffles more than a few feathers. Some who believe the Guard's history and right of association to the angel feel jealousy she isn't empowered to have any influence over. That an angel can be present for only the demon in their midst fuels the flames of those who believe her position in the Guard will be their downfall. Fortunately, there are some that see the crucial meaning despite the others who only hate her worse for it.

Regardless of semantics, his first appearance is crucial to releasing Braedyn from the throws of blinding agony when Lilith makes her first conscious connection to Braedyn's psyche, which was devastating for her momentary health. Only direct physical contact with the angel put a stop to it for the time being, and that such an ancient and omnipotent being would willingly cradle a demon speaks volumes for those with open minds, hearts and eyes. Even her dad stared on in awe as the aspect of Sansenoy's angelic self retreats in order for him to address her without causing any further pain. The ever present need for his role between the planes of existence limits his contact with them even in the direst of times, but like the lessons learned in the loss of his brothers, his presence also brings a unique risk to the battle that must be faced.

The ever present influence of the stolen night-that-could've-been between Braedyn and Lucas overshadows the release and relief that being in Lucas's company once brought her. They'd already migrated past the point where the need to consummate is being put off so long that it starts to become a wedge, and grow a life of its own. Elyia's strategic attack has left a presence or mark in what constitutes Lucas, a legacy of not only that it was a Lilitu who marked him, but also that being a Lilitu means she is able to detect that mark; the blank slate they'd shared and banked upon has shifted the dynamics further. Their single night of safety had made their restraint easier to bare. But now the whole having tasted Eden's apple with having no safety net if they continue to indulge, has the capacity to become just another wedge in her already restrained lifestyle.

Any further breaches of human will and the right of free choice will become final hit to her remaining humanity, and Sansenoy's ability to make her human once the battle of Lilith is ended. This has been and continues to be a tight rope at best, but her continued association with the Guard and the things she's "had to do" for their fight against the Daughters, has brought her firmly to the precipice between fundamentally still having a pure enough soul to cleanse despite having turned her rose garden completely black. Whether it was ever going to be possible for her to make the not unexpected mistakes of youth and inexperience, combined with what she is called upon to do in a future where humanity isn't enslaved, was always going to be tenuous to navigate without the influences her intimacy with Lucas brings.

Whether the war can be won without Braedyn reaching the full power and repertoire of what being a Daughter means, of being in the fight without the mighty strength her full potential offers, is slowly becoming answered whether she likes it or not. The future of humanity and her own humanity is the biggest dilemma after where Lilith is and what she plans. Winning may well require her to give away her own, to become the very thing they despise and fight against. Somehow, whether it was "necessary" isn't considered to be something the angel can work with or give credit for. That it will be what is, is all that matters, is the undeniable answer. Undermanned, under-gunned, underpowered, and so on and so forth stares the Guard in the mirror. And thus it'll take new insight and initiatives, things that none born to the life of the Guard are equipped to handle, potentially meaning that Thane's offhand suggestion on the clifftop amidst their last major battle might just be the card up the sleeve that no one saw coming: including the sleeve and cardholder.

OPINION:

From the outset, the new dynamics marking the beginning of the new story are swiftly and entirely brought to life with stunning clarity. Commendably to Jennifer, it's envisaged in a truly astonishing short order. In one corner stands her young leading lady who involuntarily is reliving episodic events that mark the encroachment of post traumatic stress on the slate of her already overflowing responsibilities; effectively damming her emotional recovery given the antecedents responsible for the bulk of those anxieties aren't removed. In another stands the fractured husks of what was a cohesive whole before its despotic leader, irrevocably twisted by his own loss and bitterness. The fallout from these two opposing forces meeting is brought to light in but a few pages; concisely taking you back to what has already passed in a wee few pages. The fallout of too many heightened emotions is brought to bare in rapid succession.

One of my own abilities that has come to light as I review more and more books, is what I think is a feel for the hesitation or confidence that intuitively backs an author as you read more and more of their work. In the first instances you pick up on peripheral things like semantics over editing, spelling, grammar, and their choice of words. As you keep reading more you start to see consistencies and the (technical?) mannerisms that are used to tell those stories. Each of the things that are noticed may or may not be organised in any hierarchical list of perceptions, and they likely say as much about the reviewer as they do the writer, but I believe that inevitably and regardless of when it is perceived, that you reach a point where you start to feel something about the author's writing as much as you do their story.

Just however many books, or perhaps words is the salient operator given book lengths vary so considerably, it takes to reach that point is irrespective to me and probably cannot be quantified in any transferable capacity; regardless of such incidentals about how or when feeling can be derived, I have the burgeoning comfort of feeling like Jennifer's work is that of an old hand. Don't be mislead into thinking I mean she's old in any sense of her age - which I neither know or believe it necessary to know, I mean more so that there's a

confidence in the telling of her story which I assume can only come from having told however many stories it was necessary for her to reach and portray the confidence I'm picking up on.

I doubt this necessarily coincides with oodles of books that can be bought or read, just as I'm sure shall we say one golfer takes x-number of rounds to reach a zero handicap whilst others require x minus, or x plus number of rounds. Regardless of incidentals or if what I'm perceiving is accurately labelled, I feel a connection to Jennifer's work. As I'm sure other readers will attest, sometimes you reach a place in your experience with an author where as long as a prospective book by them is in the necessary genre, that you know regardless of the blurb you'll be intent on having it. There's occasions where you have a plethora of reasons to be determined in buying/reading a book, and then there's the penultimate where just those two characteristics - name and genre - is all that's needed. Jennifer fits into this place for my library.

The story's beckoning pace is complemented by a mixture of life's problems you can relate to and the supernatural nature of the story. Jennifer has told her story with the sort of intimate revelry you'd expect to find in the case of a storyteller reciting their own journal back to a rapt audience. In this regard and among her many highlights, Braedyn shines with the glow only afforded in occasions where there's the sort of efficiency that can be found in those innately qualified for the task. As the inescapable signs of the actual final battle approaches its inferred beginning, one only needs to examine the counter to reveal exactly how epic the fight will be, and thus how long it will last. Nervous energy fills the space in both the fictional and actual atmospheres, before any characters even leave to be present in the deciding conflict. The sheer length given the percentage counter, or the remaining pages, the indication in numeral terms denotes an excitation and anticipation that decidedly begins: symbiotic ethereal butterflies filling everyone's tummies alike.

Jennifer has definitively reconstructed the visage of succubi (and incubi), the sex demons for which they're sometimes restricted to be been known as by readers not introduced to them in the sort of ways that the Daughters of Lilith has. This shifts from the waning pages of fantasy-based erotica where they spend a good deal of their majority capacity into a scintillating epic showing how malleable and deep their potential is for urban and paranormal fantasy. I purposely left PNR from this statement as whilst it may not be strictly considered erotica, it does however gain much of its power to interest readers through the primary aspects of romance and sexual intimacy. Whilst there's other examples of capitalisation of their characteristics out there, seeing that fantasy is an enormous genre incapable of being exhausted by any one reader, her expose for me is by far the greatest venture into the worth that their mythology and lore offers to creative minds.

I doubt significantly that any reader of this saga or even just one or two of the original books could walk away unchanged by their experiences, herein. Of course, however, it isn't merely the choice of race where all the skill resides, it is in large the combination with the people designed to play the roles herein and Jennifer's sculpture that also hold key elements of this success. Indeed, if any of Jennifer's own peers, the creative minds writing stories within the scopes of the boundaries she's created can't also walk away without putting on paper the places they could now use them, I'd be equally if not more surprised. As these last two qualities are undoubtedly among the personal hallmarks by which authors judge their own successes, and are judged in the same way by others, then her creation in this mind-changing saga is a great success.

In short there's any number of reasons highlighted in both the content based and opinionated sections of not only this review, but also the others I've linked herein that ought to make your decision easy and assured. I hope it's also exemplary that I look forward to Jennifer's future creations, and I'm excited to learn in the footnotes that her next venture will be framed in this same universe. Kin is guaranteed to earn its place in your bookshelf or eLibrary, just as Thrall, Incubus, Sacrifice, and Guardian have. That's a definite 5 by 5 ????? for me!

Carol Simmons says

Great series!

This series just keeps building from one to the other! Each book is a great story on it's own building to a wonderful conclusion. Loved the books and can't wait for the next series!

Laurie Hopkins says

Gonna miss this bunch

Well this last book lived up to the others. These characters came to life for Mr and I will miss them. Glad to know we have so many kick-butt heroines to save the world.....

Cindy Fong says

This is one of those stories that takes you away from what is going on in your life and transports you into the sleepy little town of Puerto Escondito. Who would have thought that this little place would be the focal point of evil and world domination. This story takes you on a journey of love and sacrifice for the greater good.

This fifth installment in the series begins where Book 4 ends. Lilith is that close to getting control of the world and the Guard is trying all strategies to stop her. We learn more about Braedyn and cheer her on when she comes up with an innovative plan to defeat Lilith. With the help of the usual cast of characters, can they defeat the evil that Lilith brings? Will Braedyn prove her humility and save the ones she loves?

I am a little sad that this series is ended, it is like leaving good friends, but the story was wrapped up sufficiently for my tastes. Maybe we will see some of the characters again in the future.

Sandra Singleton says

<https://www.amazon.com/review/R2RC0NO...>

Carmen Morales says

Great end

Loved the entire series and this book was the best one. A lot of exciting and sad moments. Totally worth reading. I recommend the series highly

Susan says

Great story

So sorry for it to end. Enjoyed the characters and was sad to lose a few, but did make the story better.

Cassandra says

I received an ARC copy of Kin with the understanding that I would write an honest review. I have read the entire Daughters of Lilith series and enjoyed each one. Kin is no exception. This finale is what we've been waiting for...the final showdown with Lilith. All the characters we've come to care about throughout the series are at Braedyn's side as she and The Guard get ready for the final battle. With surprising revelations along the way, the pace of this book will keep you turning pages until the very end.
