



Captive

Sarah Fine

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In this thrilling short story set in the world of Sarah Fine's novel Sanctum, Malachi rescues a mysterious girl from one of his own Guards, who's convinced she's a Mazikin. Malachi can tell she isn't, but she's not an ordinary citizen of the dark city, either. He only knows one thing for sure—she's dangerous, and to more than just his mission. The captive's fate is in his hands—will he end her afterlife or save her?

Captive Details

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Author : Sarah Fine

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From Reader Review Captive for online ebook

Stacia (the 2010 club) says

More Malachi goodness? Do Want.

Now off to find out where to get a copy of this. It's been out for half a month and no one's been adding it on GR, not even the fans? What kind of shenanigans is this?

Amanda (.-----.----) says

Okay, this was only a few pages and I knew that going in. Normally I'd feel weird even rating something so short but I just really liked to hear from Malachi. I can't wait for Fractured...and Malachi.

If you haven't read Sanctum, I'd highly recommend you jump it up your TBR list before Fractured is released. IMHO.

Tamara says

Damn, no new information. I wish the book revealed much more about the world or the story. When it's done right, short stories can add something unique to the series or make you see a different side of the character (One of the best examples; Brooke)

Dont get me wrong, I D?D enjoy Malachi's perspective A LOT but since it was way too short I've felt cheated a little bit. The moment when I got excited, when I was looking forward to seeing him interacting with Lela, seeing the first meeting from his POV it cut of. Ended just like that. So disappointing. *sniff sniff*

Marie says

Captive is a novella that fits in between Sanctum and Fractured in the Guards of the Shadowlands series by Sarah Fine.

Novellas that fit between books in a series can so easily go one of two ways: they can help fill in blanks and advance the story, or they can simply be recaps of events from a different character's perspective. Captive fits in the latter category. That is NOT to say that it's not worth reading! Captive is from Malachi's perspective, and anyone who's read Sanctum was probably left (like me) wanting *MORE MORE MORE* Malachi. This novella is like an appetizer for that desire; it gives the reader a little more Malachi... just enough to leave me wanting even more! I haven't yet read Fractured, but I'm even more anxious to after reading Captive.

The novella explores Malachi's thoughts and feelings when Lela is brought into his Guardhouse. I loved the descriptive language Sarah Fine uses; how Malachi notices even the smallest things about her, like her smell and her strength. It definitely serves to humanize him, as the smell of the sea on Lela takes him back to vacations that his family would take to the Adriatic, and how protective he is of her, right from the start. I appreciate how Fine respects her readers' intelligence, and doesn't shove facts in our faces, but through Malachi's thoughts and emotions we also learn a little more about how he came to be where he is, and even more about his fellow Guard, Ana.

I definitely recommend Captive to fans of Sanctum (and I recommend Sanctum if you haven't read it yet)!

Alicia Batista (Addicted Readers) says

4 Stars

Ooh, CAPTIVE, how you made me love Malachi so, soooo, much more!! You brought out all the amazing characterize traits and all his alluring sex appeal, and made me fall so much more in love with him! Real or not, Malachi's my dream guy!!!

In CAPTIVE, we get Malachi's POV from a few chapters in SANCTUM. It's only about 23 pages, but was still more then enough to have me loving Malachi so much more! He's strong and tough when needed. He's a protector and leader to his guards. He's feared and hunted by the Mazikin. He's liked and respected by the ones that know him best. And he's loyal and deadly when the time comes. To say Malachi is the perfect male love interest, well that would be an understatement!

THE PLOT

Malachi's dealing with the highly increased number of the evil Mazikin stealing and claiming the bodies of the souls in his city. As captain of the guard, it is his duty above all else to ensure that the wandering souls are protected from the Mazikin's evil clutches. But with the increase in murders, and the Mazikin becoming more bold and cunning, he is feeling more pressured then ever to learn the Mazikin's plans and find their secret nest hiding within the dark Suicide City. Then, he finally gets a break when one of his fellow guards catches a girl acting strange within the city. Or so he thought, something is different about this girl. She doesn't have the Mazikin's scent, but she's not like the other wandering souls either. She's different then anything he's ever come across in his years in the City. But it could very well be one of the Mazikin's tricks to get his guard down and gain his trust. And now Malachi is unsure of who or what she is, and what he should do with her.

I'm so much more excited after reading CAPTIVE to jump back into this series and continue this epic journey through hell and back (Literally), and experience the same wonderful feelings from book one, but this time through a new journey with the same characters I've come to love!!

Overall, if you've read the first book SANCTUM, then you definitely need to read this short story in Malachi's POV. It will not disappoint and only have you craving book two even more!!

And for the record, Malachi is SOOOO HOTTT, and gets sexier with each book!!!!

EmeraldMeadow says

Well, that could have been about 150 pages longer..... What tiny, little bit was there was GREAT, but seriously, I wanted so much more!

Kat Snark says

No matter what happened now, no matter who she turned out to be, something had shifted inside of him. He could feel it in the uncertain rhythm of his heart, the unfamiliar heat in his blood, the snap of tension in his muscles, the strange clutter in his normally ordered thoughts.

This is from Malachi's POV, but has more "musings" than reenacting's of the scenes which I was kind of disappointed about but not really because then we got to see a bit inside his head.

Rating

4 stars

[...]she smelled like blood. But she also smelled like that sea. Malachi remembered that bright, wild scent[...]

Characters

Lela

I was super excited to see Lela through his eyes!!

Those eyes...flecks of deep brown surrounded by amber. Like fire... She was strongly built for a girl; he'd felt the supple yet firm curves of her body when she'd been in his arms. And there was something in those fiery eyes of hers, a kind of threat. He wasn't even sure that she'd seen him, as out of it as she'd been, but still, the promise was there: I will fight you until every bone in my body is broken & even after that. She was dangerous. Even here, helpless like this, she had power. He could almost feel it bleeding from her, swirling across his skin, raising goose bumps, and making his heart speed.

We got to see her fighter spirit through different eyes of which didn't immediately label it 'surviving'.

She was so afraid, and so badly hurt, but she was still fighting.

We could also see her fear through him

She was out cold, but she was still trying to fight, to escape the unwanted touch.

Malachi

The feelings that he had for her before she even uttered a word to him were simply *fascinating*.

he could smell the sea breeze off the girls skin. She smelled alive. But not in a tame, gentle kind of way. This girl made him think of an ocean that might rise up and crush him beneath its waves, one that could drag him under and drown him if he wasn't careful.

He should be careful.

He should be very, very, careful.

...and

There was something about her that made him want to stare for hours. Something mysterious and challenging. Something unbreakable and defiant. Even deeply asleep, seemingly helpless, she ... wasn't. There was still promise there-the promise of war. She would defend herself. She would not be easily intimidated.

He even had to give himself a pep talk!!

"She is your enemy until she proves herself otherwise. She is nothing to you but a prisoner. One who might have information."

We also got into his former life, the beginning of guard life.

He hadn't been consumed by his anger for a long time. It had mostly been replaced by resignation, acceptance in his role. Acceptance of his sentence. Acceptance of the staggering loneliness that came with it.

...and into his past

He's assumed that he'd find a girl someday who looked at him like his mother had looked at his father, who said his name like a prayer

Ana

We even got into a bit of Ana. From his POV, and from what he knew.

He admired her edge; he'd become an incredibly fierce warrier over the years, but she was so hard, so sharp...except when she looked at Takeshi

I hadn't even thought of what Malachi was feeling that he was 1 of 3 people and the other 2 were a couple (lonely, jealousy).

Raphael

I hadn't quite figured out Raphael yet, either, and I didn't think

Malachi knew that he was *the judges eyes and ears*. It was kind of nice to put a label on the man who I was having trouble figuring out.

Recommended

Nothing would ever be the same again.

Liz says

A brief interlude at the beginning of Sanctum from Malachi's POV when Lela was brought into the guards outpost. We get to see how quickly he realizes there is something different, something 'alive' about her and unlike any other denizen of the Shadowlands.

Kitty (I solemnly swear that I am up to no good) says

This book lacked the bite the other books had, maybe it is because Malachi is a bit boring? Yup that is it, Malachi, your life is tragic but you could lighten up a bit...also I am still very mad about the last book.

Anyway I would not bother reading this, even if you love the series as much as I do.

Sorryish to Sarah Fine, I still love your writing.

Charisma says

I agree with a few other comments that the book was way too short and didn't give any interesting, previously unknown/unexpected details. So glad, I didn't buy it. Would have been disappointed. Think that this story is best presented for free on author's site. That would be more fair to everyone, IMHO.

Sarah says

This short story gave us a great insight into Malachi, and made him seem a lot more human. I found that it was really easy to empathise with Malachi in this story, and I enjoyed it more than I enjoyed the first book in the series!

8 out of 10.

Alexa says

You can also read this mini-review on my blog Collections.

I've been on a Malachi high lately. First it was all of his journal entries (if you've read Sanctum, book one of the Guards of the Shadowlands series, you'll know that he has tons of journals that he's written in over the years since he's been in the Shadowlands) that can be found regularly updated on the Guards of the Shadowlands Tumblr page. And now there's this short story Captive!

Captive takes place during Sanctum where Malachi as Captain of the Guard first meets Lela. It's all from Malachi's perspective too. It may be short but gives enough insight to what was going on with him during

that time. I loved reading what he was thinking when he saw Lela. I honestly can't get enough of them and the world found in this series, and I can't wait to read more about them in *Fractured*, the sequel to *Sanctum*!

Beatrice says

Boooooooooornig

Christine Bishop says

Interesting short story

Captive is a short story from Malachi's perspective of the first time he met Lela. It was an interesting read. I wish it was a little longer but still worth the read.

Tandie says

I feel the same way about this as I felt about *Free Four*. We got a tiny glimpse of *Divergent* from Four's perspective. Here we get a teensy weensy peek of a single interaction in *Shadowlands* from Malachi's POV. Not a short story. No new information. Wait, I take that back. I now know that Malachi saw somebody's boobies :-D

I think authors should put these itty bitty things on their blogs for FREEEEE. SF has Malachi's journal entries on her blog & they're pretty cool.
