



# Nightbred

*Lynn Viehl*

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**Nightbred** Lynn Viehl

***New York Times* bestselling author Lynn Viehl's enthralling new series continues as a valiant warrior sets out on a dangerous quest for immortality...and endless love...**

Jamys Durand has survived being made an immortal Darkyn, horrific torture, and years of grueling warrior training. But he has no future to offer Chris, the mortal woman he loves, without his own territory. When he learns of a lost Templar treasure, Jamys vows to possess it and win his lady's heart.

No one knows Chris Lang wants to be a tresora so she can live with Jamys, her secret love. Her superiors offer to make her dream come true, but only if she finds the lost treasure before Jamys can. Working together, Chris and Jamys track the jewels through a shadowy maze of priceless artifacts, decadent secrets, and one ruthless opponent who can possess an immortal's mind...and will stop at nothing to have Chris.

## Nightbred Details

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Author : Lynn Viehl

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## **From Reader Review Nightbred for online ebook**

### **Cindy says**

I have been in love with Lynn Viehl's works from the beginning with Book 1 of the Darkyns and on into her parallel novels of the Kyn. We met Jamy's Durand years ago when he was insane from torture and could no longer speak. He befriended a young Goth girl named Christian and they have each grown into what they thought the other wanted since their separation 3 years prior. She gave up her Goth identity and studied to become a working entity in a Darkyn household. He trained to become a warrior to vie for a household of his own to house the girl he loves. When a memo from the High Lord of Darkyn is posted that the recovery of 3 magical Emeralds will garner the finder his own country to rule, Jamy's wants them Chris needs them also...she will become a member of the human elite and be able to enter Jamy's world as his own. But when an usurper enters wanting the gems, Chris, and the ruling seat in Florida the fight becomes more than just a search for the jewels. It becomes a fight of life or death...and love!

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### **Lucy Dosch says**

Had a hard time getting into this. I had high hopes for this story and thought I would enjoy this. I liked the fact that Jamys was turned very young about 17 or 18, just on cusp of adulthood, and although he was over 700 years old, he was treated like he was a kid by his father and the other warriors. Then there was supposed to be the adventure of finding the jewels so that he would win his own lands to rule so he could make an offer of marriage to Chris who had had fallen in love with three years ago.

It was just very slow going, with several chapters dedicated to Lucen and Samantha (from a prior story), it was interesting but took time away from Jamys and Chris's story and in the end the quest wasn't all the exciting.

Overall I was just disappointed.

See more at <http://ebookobsessed.com>

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### **Theresa says**

I love the 'Lords of the Darklyn' storyline. This one is a fascinating blend of the 'Lost Dutchman', 'Pirates of the Caribbean', Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, Twilight and of course there's some of our favorite Darklyn: Lucan & Sam and Jamys & Chris.

But it felt like this was just a vehicle to continue the 'Emeralds of Eternity' storyline, with Jamys & Chris' romance throw in on top. Lucan & Sam's problems were just as prominent as Jamys and Chris.

Though I love Jamys and am glad he had his own book and happy ending, sometimes I felt he was a little too bland and predictable. Halfway through we see that all that tension and desire was just smoldering under the surface and I'm glad the crisis allowed him to open up. He comes across as the perfect lover, but his love scenes were too gentle. I don't like abusive men, but this could have had more spice. Chris also was too

withdrawn and cautious. She used to be rebellious until Sam introduced to the Darklyn world and Burke got ahold of her. Instead of boldly doing her thing, we don't see much of the old Chris showing through. She just seemed to follow in Sam's footsteps.

The two of them seemed like whipped puppies. After all this was their book, they should shine. Instead, as shown by how Dutch was more interested in Lucan and Sam than Jamys and Chris, it was like the two were the sidekicks. Sam was the female hero and Lucan was the unwilling bad guy. Except for a few spots, Jamys and Chris were just along for the ride.

Werren was an interesting character. I was never sure just who she was and what she was up to even at the end. She did what she could to help the girls, but she was way too terrified and subservient. She could have taken over like Sam did at any time, but then they had nowhere to go. I would think that death would be preferable to their condition.

The main storyline ending is exciting, though the epilogue was expected. I knew somehow the main issue between Jamys and Chris would be resolved, after all it was brought up quite a bit, but I like the romantic way it happened. Jamys got his girl and his jardin. Couldn't be better. Though having to keep Chris a secret is nothing new to the series. And the treasure hunt is still ongoing for 'Nightbound'

Quick Thoughts: 1) When Sam got back and caught Lucan 'just feeding' on a young girl, he should have picked one not so scantily dressed. It might have helped his case.

2) Paradise Isle sound almost exactly like Esme's island in Twilight's Breaking Dawn. Though Paradise was a lot more fantasy.

Fave scenes: Chris confronting the visiting warriors, the confrontation at the 'Turtle's Nest', Bug's 'Free Wheeling' shop and Stryker's party.

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## **Melliane says**

Mon avis en Français

My English review

I already had the opportunity to read a novel by this author and it is true that as I didn't start with the first volume, I feared to not understand all the subtleties like the one I tried. But that was not the case and I was swept away by the story more than I would have thought at first.

We discover Jamys a young man changed at his 17 so, now, everyone thinks he is only a boy. Appearances are deceiving but it does not change people's attitude towards him. He corresponds in secret with a young woman, mortal, Chris, he loves for almost three years. But their condition, so different, prevents them from being together. So when he learns that the discovery of a lost treasure has the power to make him win a land, he does not hesitate to be part of this quest. Chris, meanwhile, is trying to become Tresora in order to get closer to her lover. But in order to become what she wants, they ordered her to find the treasure, otherwise they will destroy her by any means. So when Jamys arrives and that Chris is assigned to him, she knows that

she will have to make a choice and fast! But in addition to this, it seems that they are not alone in the search of the famous stones, and some others Darkyn, have some more ruthless methods! Fact that we can discover in this novel.

It was really cute to see our two heroes together. They do not know how to express their feelings and do not know what the other feels. They therefore act both very cautiously, afraid to be rejected. It's funny to see them around each other like that, trying to uncover the secrets that are buried in themselves. During their quest, they will have the opportunity to rediscover what they have become after three years of absence, realizing that the person they were, are no longer, and each has evolved since. But that does not change their feelings and they will gradually be closer in the story. They are both scared but determined to please the other. We discover through their quest their tumultuous past, and their hopes for a new life. It was very interesting to see how they have evolved and how they became the person we discover. But of course, we have other really fascinating characters as Lucan and Sam and I must say that Sam is a woman with a fiery temperament. She made me smile several times by her attitude and her courage in all circumstances. I'm curious to learn more about her.

I was surprised that nobody realized who the villain really was or what was happening but when he was found I did not expect that he was so twisted. I was surprised by many of his actions and manipulations. It was interesting to see his designs at work.

The story was intriguing and I was looking forward to see how they would manage to survive. It's a really nice read, and I would love to read some more now.

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### **Melindeeloo says**

While Jamys' romance didn't get as much screen time as it could have and the conflict between him and his Chris was overcome by \*gasp\* them actually talking to each other to clear up any potential 'big misunderstandings', I still liked this latest Lord's of the Darkyn story. But then again I am a bit memory challenged so I didn't have extreme expectations for this pairing.

The non-romance part of the book was interesting - and frustrating since it messed with past pair Lucan and Samantha- and, as a warning, it did have some of Viehl's trademark darkness (enslaved women and 'bad guy coerced sex'). While Nightbred wasn't the best book in Viehl's Darkyn or Kindred series, for me it was still good enough to keep me reading this series.

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### **Michelle says**

Another amazing read from Lynn Viehl. Great story, great characters, and a great arc.

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### **Elizabeth GlamShazam says**

It was fine.

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## **Diane says**

The Lords of the Darkyn series is dark, indeed, and this book is no exception. I was intrigued by the character of Jamys Durand when he was first introduced, and was pleased to see him get his own book. I also like that the books generally bring in at least one couple featured in a previous book, this time Lucan and Sam. (Is anyone else hoping to hear from Valentin and Liling again sometime soon??) Jamys and Christian are in love with each other, but neither knows of the other's feelings. They have spent the last three years apart, training so they could be what they think the other most needs. Jamys travels to Lucan's stronghold to begin a quest that he hopes will ultimately land him his own territory to run, and his love. Nothing is every that easy, of course; in this case a crazy Darkyn wants to take all that Lucan holds dear. The story switches between the Jamys/Chris and Lucan/Sam until everything dovetails together, with plenty of male posturing and violence in the mix. Overall an enjoyable addition to the series.

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## **Aurian Booklover says**

Three years ago, Jamys Durand and Christian (Chris) Lang fell in love, while Jamys was staying with Lucan and Sam. Thinking they are not worthy of the other, they still kept in contact through email over the years. Chris has given up her gothic looks and has done her best to become the most perfect tresora so she can give her oath to Jamys. Jamys in turn has gone back to his father's stronghold, and started training to become a warrior himself. He wants to be the suzerain of his own jardin, so he can take care of Chris and ask her to be his mortal wife.

Jamys knows it is time to claim Christ for his own. Richard Tremayne, The High Lord of all the Kyn, has announced a treasure hunt for some magical emeralds. The Kyn who finds them, and hands them over to the High Lord will get the reign over Ireland. And with all the Kyn fleeing Europe where the Brethren are persecuting them mercilessly, there are plenty of people in need of a new place to live. Before long, only the deserts and wastelands will be available in America. The influx of refugees from Europe is really causing trouble for Lucan and Samantha, and somehow, Lucan is not behaving as he usually does.

When Sam goes of on a new police investigation, Lucan is really unhappy about that, and tries to prevent her from doing her job. And when she seems to be having an admirer, he totally goes over the line when he decides to take the man out himself. Somehow, he has lost 5 hours of his live, and has no idea why Jamys and Chris are on the run from him, or why Sam is so very mad at him. But still it takes a long time before someone finds out what is wrong with Lucan and knows what to do about it ...

Both Jamys and Chris want to find the emeralds. Chris has been asked to by the Tresora Council, with the vague promise of getting what she wants most after handing them over. The council really does not want the High Lord to get his hands on them, as they fear for the world. With those emeralds he will supposedly be able to turn as many humans into Kyn as he wants, creating his own immortal army. But Chris can give up her dream of becoming a tresora, when she finds out that Jamys really is in love with her, and wants her to be with him for as long as possible. And so they start working together, following the last known traces about the emeralds. Revealing a lot of Chris' dark past in the process.

And in the end it all comes together, the secret enemy who wants to take over Lucan's jardin and wife, and Chris, and the man who lost the emeralds in the first place ... and an ancient pirate legend involving a Dutch legend ...

All the trouble for Lucan and Sam did get a lot more attention than the romance between Jamys and Chris, but it fitted the story and was very well written. I did have my suspicions about the bad guy early on, but did not connect everything. It also did not take very long to be swept up in the world of the Kyn again, their unique lore and culture.

Chris has worked so very hard, training with every possible weapon there is, in order to defend her lord when necessary, to deal with blood loss for a prolonged amount of time and still be able to do her duties, and whatever else can be asked of a tresora. No one suspects that it is not Lucan or Sam she wants to serve, but Jamys.

Jamys looks 17 forever, although he is several hundreds of years old already. Both his father and he have been tortured by the Brethren for decades, and when they were freed, no one thought they would ever be able to recover, and be sane again. But they did it, first Jamys' father, when he found his new sygkenis, and Jamys started healing inside when he found Chris and her unwavering trust in him. Still he is treated as a boy by his father, and he is tired of it. This is why he started training as a warrior, to be a real man in the other man's eyes as well. To earn his respect and that of the garrison that serves his father. I think that must be totally frustrating, to be a boy forever and treated as such.

They take great care of each other, and I liked reading about that. Jamys also has no hesitation whatsoever; he easily uses his Kyn powers to manipulate humans to give him whatever he wants. And Chris accepts it, and does not protest on behalf of the humans. This is kind of refreshing as well.

There was also another hidden enemy, speaking and capturing both Chris and Jamys in dreams. I do wonder who he is, and what will happen in the next book. I wish there was some more action on the Brethren side, but they don't seem to be very organised in America at the moment.

The world Lynn Viehl has created, you either love it or hate it, there seems to be no way in the middle. I am one of the loving fans, but this book/subseries is just not as good as the rest. And although I did enjoy the story in this book, not as much as I used to. I will read the next book a bit sooner, Nightbound is already on my shelves.

7 stars.

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Full review on my blog, [www.boeklogboek.blogspot.com](http://www.boeklogboek.blogspot.com)

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## Candy says

Jamys Durand, an immortal Darkyn, is in limbo. Fiercely protected by his father, Jamys has had no chance to prove himself as a warrior and gain his own territory. When an announcement from the High Lord arrives promising territory to anyone who can find a lost Knights Templars treasure, Jamys sees it as the perfect opportunity to finally be taken seriously and perhaps win the heart of the human girl he loves. Chris Lang has done a lot of growing up since her and Jamys met three years ago. Secretly in love with Jamys, Chris decides to take on the onerous task of becoming a tresora, in hopes that she may get to serve Jamys. When her last task puts her at odds with Jamys, Chris has a huge decision to make. Will Chris complete her training? Will the lost treasure be recovered?

I was really sad when the Darkyn series ended. Viehl has created a very unique take on vampire mythology by combining it with history, which made me completely enamored of the series. Fortunately, the Lords of the Darkyn continues in that same vein.

Readers first met Jamys in the Darkyn series where he was recovering from being tortured by the Brethren. In this book, he is definitely more confident but frustrated by the roll his father has forced him into. Once Jamys learns of the treasure hunt, Jamys risks everything by defying his father and leaving their territory without permission.

Like Jamys, Chris has done a lot of growing up since we last met her. She has shed her Goth persona and is determined to become a tresora, a human servant to the Darkyn. The only thing that distracts her from her end game is when Jamys shows up unexpectedly. Chris struggles for a bit trying to decide if she wants to be a tresora and lose Jamys or help him in his quest and not become a tresora.

In addition to getting to read about Jamys and Chris again, Lucan and Sam also make an appearance in this book with a secondary plot. Sam and Lucan are still as lovable as ever. When Lucan begins to act abnormal, Sam has to figure out what is causing the strange behavior before Lucan does something he may regret.

Nightbred is the second book in the Lords of the Darkyn series (not a standalone read! The Darkyn series should be read entirely before this series). Viehl continues to weave her magic with this dark PNR series. If you love vampires and history, Viehl is a writer that you need to read.

\* Review also on <https://www.facebook.com/SoManyReads/>

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## **E\_bookpushers says**

Review originally posted here: <http://thebookpushers.com/2012/12/04/...>

Publisher: Signet

Publish Date: Out now

How I got this book: ARC from the publisher via Netgalley

Jamys Durand has survived being made an immortal Darkyn, horrific torture, and years of grueling warrior training. But he has no future to offer Chris, the mortal woman he loves, without his own territory. When he learns of a lost Templar treasure, Jamys vows to possess it and win his lady's heart.

No one knows Chris Lang wants to be a tresora so she can live with Jamys, her secret love. Her superiors offer to make her dream come true, but only if she finds the lost treasure before Jamys can. Working together, Chris and Jamys track the jewels through a shadowy maze of priceless artifacts, decadent secrets, and one ruthless opponent who can possess an immortal's mind...and will stop at nothing to have Chris. This blurb came from Goodreads.

I have read and enjoyed this author under the name of S. L. Viehl with her Stardoc world. I knew that she had a vampiric series as Lynn Viehl so when we were offered the chance to review Nightbred I decided to give them a try. While I found a couple of superficial similarities between her two voices, I never got confused with who I was reading. As both S. L. Viehl and Lynn Viehl her trademark seems to be building really complex worlds and putting her main characters through some hard times. While Nightbred is the second book of her Lords of the Darkyn series this appears to build on events that have happened in other series and includes characters from those series as well. Given that, I highly recommend that you do not decide to start with this book because I found myself with a lot of questions while I read trying to understand the back history without any context.



Chris struck me as a very determined woman. She had a goal in mind so she figured out the best way to achieve that goal and set to work. She spent several long hard years transforming herself into the epitome of someone who could be trusted as a Darkyn's right hand human, a job usually passed through a bloodline, all for a chance to be with Jamys. She has to accomplish one last thing and then she will be selected as a tresora. Of course things ended up going rather south at that point. Jamys shows up and instead of falling over himself to get to her, he keeps acting like he is looking for the Chris he remembered, not this calm controlled version. She has a run-in with the leader of a group of refugee Darkyn who thought she was there to serve anyone who asked. Then, Lucan, the Darkyn whose household she was serving in starts acting rather odd and throws her out when she tries to stop him from destroying his relationship with Samantha, his sygkenis (lover/partner/wife?). Despite all of the setbacks Chris continued to push towards her ultimate goal while struggling with nightmares from her past and someone who wants to ruin her future.

Jamys I really didn't get as much of a feel for because most of his backstory was covered in other books I think. He had been tortured and was working towards his goal of being able to have a life with Chris. When the story opens he is dependent on his father for everything and wants to be independent. So he seizes the chance to go after the lost treasure and prove that he is worthy of his own territory. He gets caught up in the same mess as Chris when Lucan loses his mind and starts destroying his support structure.

I enjoyed what I was able to see of Chris and Jamys getting to know each other again and build their relationship since they had only spent a short period of time together before being physically separated for the past several years. I liked how Jamys didn't judge Chris for her past and even supported her through a traumatic reminder of how desperate she had been once. I also liked how Chris decided that Jamys was more important to her than her superiors' plots regardless of the effects of that decision on her goal of becoming a tresora. They also worked well together getting information about the treasure and figuring out their next step.

I do have mixed feelings about Nightbred. Even though Chris and Jamys are the main couple I felt as if their story was upstaged by the events between Sam, Lucan, and the villain who was pulling a lot of strings. I was disappointed in that because it seemed as if their relationship was in place simply to reveal more about the Darkyn world instead of being the center-point of the book. I also thought that the villain was able to get his way far too easily in a variety of ways yet for someone with that amount of power he was vanquished too easily. I also thought what happened with Chris and Jamys at the end of the last confrontation with the villain solved too many of the lingering issues in one fell swoop. I think that the Darkyn world Viehl has built is fascinating, but I just did not pick a good introduction.

I give Nightbred a C-

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## **Paranormal Romance says**

The hero has truly been through hell and back and now, he's no longer content with being silent. With his youthful face stuck at 17 years and his problems with words thanks to years of torture it's easy to take one look at him and write him off as weak and something to be protected. But he's a man. He's spent a long time training and getting stronger all for one purpose. To game the right to have the title of Kyn lord and with it the ability to have a servant. But he only wants the heroine and it's certainly not for servitude. 3 long years have past since he last saw the woman he loves. 3 long years and he's still as passionately in love with her as the day he met her. With her beautiful face constantly on his mind, he longs for the day when he can take her away and make her his. The heroine has had a rough life. Thrust into foster care at a young age when her

dad walked out and her mother went crazy, she's dedicated her life to training to be a Kyn employee. She cut her hair and lost her piercings, even dawning a new calm and composed professionalism. All for the purpose of becoming worthy of the heroes company. When they meet again 3 years later, she's just as in love with him as they day they met. This strong and quiet warrior has always held her heart and his soft touches and tenderness reflect his own feelings. But things are happening around them that put a strain on their relationship. The search for the gems which will grant the hero control of Ireland. Plus, something or someone taking control her boss and turning him into a monster. But one thing that never changes in their love for one another because it's apparent he's remained away to better himself for her and she's stayed away to better herself for him. When all along, they were already deserving of each other.

At first I was in love with the story and more so with the main characters. And while that love for them never changed, I wasn't thrilled with the plot line and the multiple switches of POV with the sub characters.

Because of my adoration with the hero and heroine, I so desperately wanted more time with them. These two people who were outcast in a way from their culture, finding each other but doubting their self worth. They spent 3 years apart trying to better themselves when they were already perfect for each other. Strong silent types get me every time and though the hero did have the appearance of an Edward from Twilight this was no wishy washy teen heartthrob. He was strong, kind and horribly tortured man who loved a human woman. I could have done less of the diversion to other subplots.

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## Tania says

"Nightbred" by Lynn Viehl. Book 2 of the Lords of the Darkyn trilogy.

I really liked this second addition to the trilogy. Jamys is a character that was introduced in the second book of the **Darkyn** series and I've always wanted him to get a happily ever after. Chris is a character that was introduced in the third book of the **Darkyn** series and I've always wanted to know what happened to her.

Jamys may look like a mature seventeen year old but he's really 700 years old. He's been training to be a warrior for the last 3 years, gaining muscle and skills to use a sword and knives. He wants to be master of his own territory so he can have a *tresora*, one in particular. He has never stopped thinking about Chris since he met her 3 years ago. He's loved her ever since then but he's not sure if she has the same feelings for him. If making her his *tresora* is the only way he can be near her, then that's what he's going to do.

Chris has dedicated the last 3 years of her life to becoming the prefect *tresora* but not for her current Lord Lucan. She never swore loyalty to him even though she's very loyal. She wants to be Jamys's *tresora*. She's loved him since she met him 3 years ago but she's not sure if he feels the same way. If being his *tresora* is the only way she can be with him, then that's what she's going to do.

So that's the basis of the love story between Chris and Jamys. I loved it. Beyond the romantic love story, the overall plot of the book continues from the first book. Jamys and Chris are both searching for the Emeralds of Eternity; Chris needs them to become a *tresora* and Jamys needs them to become a *seigneur* (master) of his own territory. But there's another force out there that's interfering and can take over the minds of the Kyn. Even though I figured out the plot and some of the twists in this book, I really enjoyed the story. It's also enjoying to see some of the original Darkyn. In this book, Lucan and Sam play a big roll. The overall series story line is not concluded in this book (obviously) because there is one more book to go.

The only thing I wish I knew was Chris and Jamys's back story. They kept referring to meeting 3 years ago like I (as the reader) should already now what happened. I know there is a novella in the **Darkyn** series

called "Master of Shadows" and unfortunately I couldn't read it because it is not available on the eReader that I have. I'm thinking their past may be included in this novella? (**NOTE:** If I ever end up reading the novella, I'll edit this review to let you know.) Regardless, you can totally read this book without reading the novella. Enough of the backstory is given that you know they formed some kind of relationship together.

I am really look forward to starting the last book. I'm enjoying this trilogy.

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## **Francesca the Fierce (Under the Covers Book Blog) says**

**This review was posted at Under the Covers**

### **3.5 Stars**

First of all, I blame my really bad memory sometimes that when I start a book I'm completely lost. I read the previous book in this series, but seems like ages ago. It took me a little while to get used to the world and to get to know the characters. But that was just me.

Once the story got going and clicked in my head, I actually think it's a bit faster paced than the previous book. Plus, I liked the young souls the hero and heroine of this book are. A little bit less doom and gloom, a bit more "I'm-going-after-the-love-of-my-life idealism".

Jamys Durand might look young (he was made Kyn at 17, and continues to look young), and might still be under his father's rule, but he has big wants. He specifically wants a human woman, Chris, and to get her he has to have his own territory. This is where I think it would've probably helped with my enjoyment of this book if I had actually read the original Darkyn series and had seen how these two actually met.

See, now Chris is working for Kyn Lord Lucan and wanting to become a Tresora so she can serve Jamys, the Kyn she fell in love with. She's changed a lot about herself in the hopes to be qualified for that position. Meanwhile, Jamys was back home trying to figure out a way that he could come and make Chris his.

A lot of Jamys story was briefly mentioned but not really talked about, so I found myself a bit cheated because I couldn't come to care for the hero as much as I wanted. The heroine, I thought was strong, with a lot of spunk and personality. The story is a bit dark and for readers of the Darkyn series, it does go back into Kyn Lord Lucan and Samantha's relationship.

There is quite a bit of action in this one...even pirates! But although I like the authors' writing a lot and I do enjoy being in this world, I keep finding that in order to fully enjoy this series, you really should read the one it's originating from.

Even so, I enjoyed this story. Like I said, there's something dark and intriguing about this world that keeps me coming back for more.

\*ARC provided by publisher

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## Helyce says

Posted: <http://smexybooks.com/2012/12/review-...>

Jamys Durand wants nothing more than to be respected as a warrior, have his own home and land with the woman he loves at his side. Unfortunately, though he's been around for over 700 years, being made Kyn at the age of 17 has him continuing to look like a very young man. Add to that, being kidnapped and tortured at the hands of the Brethren three years ago—his father Lord Thierry Durand is somewhat over protective when it comes to his only son. But when Jamys learns that Richard Tremayne has offered territory in Ireland along with the title of Suzerain to the one who finds the precious three emeralds missing from the Scroll of Falkonera, he is determined to find them and in turn win the woman of his heart.

Christian Lang wants nothing more than to be a tresora. In her mind, she feels that this is the only way to be with Jamys as she is not Kyn. She's trained night and day for three years and when the council hands down their final test – find the three missing emeralds she find herself at a crossroads. She knows that Jamys wants to find the emeralds too and become a suzerain with lands of his own. She's caught in the middle and torn between her love for Jamys and completing the task for herself. No matter her decision, she could lose Jamys.

But Jamys and Christian are not the only ones looking for the emeralds. There is another; a Kyn who wants the emeralds just as much though he plans to use them to ruin everyone and take over Lord Alenfar's jardin. His Kyn talent allows him to overtake the minds and bodies of anyone including some of the strongest Kyn Lords. For hundreds of years he's roamed the seas, but he's closer than he's ever been from what he wants and he'll stop at nothing to get it.

Nightbred started off a bit slow for me. There is an inferred previous relationship between Jamys and Christian and as I didn't remember them from the previous series I felt a little lost. Individually, I really liked our hero and heroine. Jamys' opening scene where he challenges the warriors of his father's jardin and prevails in all challenges sets up his story as he proves once and for all that he is and deserves to be a warrior. His father, Thierry, has been quite over protective since being kidnapped and tortured by their enemy, the Brethren, and he does not want to lose his only son. And while Jamys will never look older than the 17 years he was at the time of his change, he's lived many lifetimes and he's ready to move forward. He is willing to do whatever necessary to get what he wants.

Christian Lang had a tough childhood until she was taken in by Lucan and Samantha. Pulled into the word of the Darkyn, she embraced them as the family she'd never had. She's trained for three years to be a tresora, a human personal assistant of sorts; a necessity where the Darkyn are concerned, and a very important position in a Darkyn household. Christian's done all of this with the hope that one day she can be Jamys' tresora.

This is where the romance between Christian and Jamys fell flat for me in this book. While we are "told" that they are in love and there are romantic elements and moments within the story, they both hide their feelings and walk on eggshells around each other. Christian is trying to be the person she thinks Jamys will need or want, which confuses Jamys a bit, but neither of them just speaks up and admits their feelings. This does not provide any sort of sexual tension or build up to some huge reveal, however, and when they do touch or kiss, it didn't have that "oh my God, finally" feeling.

The main conflict of this book revolves around the search for the cursed emeralds from the Scroll of Falkonera which was introduced in the previous book, Nightborn. This part of the story was what pulled me

through and kept me reading. It provides much mystery and intrigue and covers action and adventure well. It introduces another Kyn with the spectacular power of being able to control the mind and body of another Darkyn through the use of any gold that person might be wearing. He's also a Kyn who has managed to exist by adopting the lifestyle of a pirate, roaming the seas for hundreds of years, therefore staying off the radar of other Kyn. While I enjoyed this part of the story, for me it slightly overshadowed Jamys and Christian's story even though all their actions crossed over throughout the story.

I am also very unclear as to what happened during Christian's transition at the end of the story. It felt like there was some sort of hint that Christian was something more than human and that facilitated her change but we are left hanging. She becomes Kyn, but it's unexplained and I can only hope the author plans to clear it up in a future book.

Finally, what of the emeralds? We are left hanging here as well. Were they found? Who has them? And if the person I think has them, does—why not admit it? Not a cliffhanger; more a dissatisfaction for the reader.

I like this author's writing style and her world building is convincing and well done. I love the world of the Darkyn and really enjoyed the book prior to this one. Nightbred, however, felt a bit short for me. I had moments of confusion and for me there wasn't enough focus on the main couple, Jamys and Christian. I should point out that I have not read all of the books in her prior Darkyn series, of which this is a spinoff, and that could account for some of my confusion. I will continue on as I hope to get the answers to some of these questions. If anyone has read it and has some answers-please email me!

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