



The Sacrifice

Nhys Glover

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Having grown up in a harem as the favourite, if not dutiful, daughter of the ruling Godling, Airsha knew what it was for a powerful man to have more than one wife. But for her to have more than one husband, when she would have preferred none at all, felt like just one more way her fate was being taken over by a vengeful goddess.

Rescued by four legendary airling trainers when she escapes the harem, Airsha finds herself drawn into an uprising that has rebels planning to replace the Godling with the Goddess' Chosen One: Airsha herself.

But having hidden her magic to avoid being castrated, sneaked out of the harem dressed as her twin brother to learn to fight, refused to become her father's human sacrifice, and broken society's rules by falling in love with not just one unsuitable man but four, Airsha was never going to willingly follow the destiny someone else laid out for her. Not even if that someone was the Goddess of all Creation.

Some steamy (but wholly romantic) scenes may offend. Recommended for mature readers.

The Sacrifice Details

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From Reader Review The Sacrifice for online ebook

Kara says

DNF at 70-something percent. And sorry I have to do this.

Very well-written, with fully-fleshed characters. But I can't support yet another RH series with a virgin h and experienced Hs. I'm just so sick of this trope, y'all. Especially when the authors have the ability to create a fantasy world where women don't have to be pure. I tried to stick this one out, but the fact that the h can literally see images of the Hs screwing other women made me peace out hard. I'm sorry, but where's the fantastical element in a world where men are allowed to be promiscuous while women are expected to be pure? That's just life. And I don't read fiction - particularly fantasy fiction - to reinforce the societal norms of men having "needs" and women suppressing their urges in order to stay pure.

Karis Hamilton says

So it is written

A jolly good reverse harem read. A well developed fantasy world with hierarchy and beasts, action packed and steamy too! Definitely a book to get into. ??

Anna says

Well, I can't say that the story was mind blowing, but It wasn't bad. Not bad at all.

So, one day Airsha's mother approaches her and tells her that, seeing as how Airsha is her father's (the king's) favorite daughter, she will be sacrificed for the greater good of the people. It's a great honor and she should be happy. Yeah, thanks, but no thanks.

There is something about being made a sacrifice by your own father that just makes you want to run. So she did.

I liked how Airsha questioned everything around herself. She did not do it in an annoying kind of way, denying things just because. She did it in a way that meant she will not blindly believe in anything as fact, needing to hear the counter arguments and see some proofs and I liked that about her.

About the guys. I know that they "felt the connection" between themselves from the start, but it did not compel anyone to proclaim their undying love for one another from the start, and for that I'm thankful. And I know we're kind of not supposed to have favorites here, but mine would totally be Calun. There's something about that silent man. And I love that connection he has with Airsha.

But, okay, let's address this issues, because someone has to.

"Girls are fragile, emotionally volatile creatures who would be damaged, and might damage others, if they were allowed to have magic. They are not as physically strong as males, who were better equipped to protect, so it was best to leave the fighting to them. Is it not nice to feel protected?"

Well. Someone would definitely be damaged if they told me this load of crap.

And, come one, if a girl is found to have magic, she is to be castrated.

The amount of "what the fuck"s going through my head during those first few chapter were like you wouldn't believe.

The story has captured my attention from the start, though it did not managed to hold on to it. The last fifty pages dragged on and I was bored out of my mind.

So, yeah, some parts of the story were good, some were completely ridiculous (like, let's get rid of your virginity, pulling straws as to who you'll do it with, and then send a letter to the king telling him about it. Why not just simply send a letter? It's not like anyone will know any better). But, overall, it wasn't bad and I want to see how the story plays out later on.

Mary Lee says

Very good start

This was a very good start to the trilogy. I took off one star solely because the MC in the last 3/4 of the story was acting like a spoiled child with fingers in her ears yelling nah, nah, nah in order to not hear the truth being spoken. She was in denial for an extreme despite so much evidence to the contrary. And she actually did this about several things. Accepting her guys, who she really is, denying her talents and walking away from her destiny. Which was a little disappointing, as in the beginning she showed so much depth and wisdom. Then suddenly, boom she's a child. At the end she finally came out of it and I really hope she doesn't revert. I absolutely loved every one of her guys. They were all so well fleshed out and individual. I love the story and plot. It's a unique world the author has created, although all the lunds struck me as strange. Anyway, overall this is shaping up to be a great z Tory and I look forward to the next book.

Talltree says

4.25 stars!

Melissa Hickman says

Good read!

I really enjoyed the world this author created! I loved the characters and I will definitely be reading the next book in the series ?

Searcy says

This one an interesting one to me. It incorporates both the traditional harem and the reverse harem, all in the same world (fantasy setting). The whole is intriguing, well-drawn, well-written, and plenty gritty and dark.

Speaking of - I was a huge fan of the fact that the author, Nhys Glover, didn't gloss over the gritty details (for example, the MC's thoughts about what to do with bodily functions as she traveled in the back of a wagon

for days on end...or the grit and dirt that would naturally be part of a farm setting). It really grounded (no pun intended) her world in a realism that far too many books lack. Especially the paranormal romances that are written for escapism. It is rare that they don't polish off all those real world edges.

There was also some pretty dark content here as I recall, and a set of harem members that are not only diverse but are definitely outside the usual RH mold - huge age variety and damaged and scarred individuals. But it all worked in the context of the complex world that Glover built. (Though I can't say I was particularly into any of them, unfortunately)

That said, I haven't managed to continue the series past this first book, perhaps in part *because* of that gritty realistic detail. It is lacking that complete escapism I have been seeking recently.

There is no denying, however, that this is an engrossing, immersive, visceral read (and world), and is well worth the time and effort. I look forward to returning to this one day, when I am looking for a solid, gritty fantasy (that happens to have my favorite RH thrown in).

Note: I read this one a while ago, so some of the details escape me.

Ruthie Ryan says

Great read!

Fun RH! I really like the fantasy setting and world building. I feel like I got a fully fleshed out fantasy world with backstory and mythology, which is rare these days. It was a little fast-paced, but I loved all of the characters and wanted more of them. Airsha was a strong, intelligent woman who went for what she wanted and each of the guys in the harem has his own personality and story. Great read!

Jame says

Great new RH

I couldn't put it down. I neglected everything until I could finish. So glad I found this book. It was a very refreshing read. Can't wait to read what happens next.

GimmeAllTheWerdssss says

I give up...at 77% I just can't force myself to continue.

It started good but failed quickly. I initially liked the heroine but she became too wishy for me. Plus....on more than one occasion she referred to herself as a whore.

I wasn't thrilled with the Heros. While it's considered "safe" because they weren't with anyone after her there were two scenes I had to read about of two of them with "whores" ...they used "whores" in the past and had no problems stating that fact OR calling that women "whores"

Ultimately it just wasn't for me.

Rena says

Overall, it was a great read and I enjoyed getting to know the characters. It is a unique reverse harem series which is well written.

However, I won't give it five stars because the story seems to focus on sex a little too much and everything happened just too early (they knew each other barely a day and they already got physical). But that is my personal preference -I enjoy slow-burn romances (well mostly) ;)

Also, the heroine was suddenly this "all-knowing" goddess who isn't allowed to fight even though that was initially everything she loved to do. Although reasons for that were mentioned, I think it's a pity.

Christina says

Very good!

The Sacrifice has everything you could ask for in a Paranormal Reverse Harem; adventure, magic, humour, strong female lead and most important 4 great guys to fall in love with! The story was engaging, and I was able to connect with the characters. Thankfully this was a full book and not short like allot of the reverse harem serials that have been released recently. I am looking forward to the next installment.

Jennifer G says

Airsha has grown up as the favorite daughter of the Godling living in his palatial harem. She's little more than a pampered prisoner, but her nature doesn't allow for her to live a passive life like the other women. She has regularly snuck out disguised as a boy to watch her twin and the other males train as elite soldiers. She also has hidden magic; hidden because only males are allowed to have magic. Women found to have magic suffer castration/death to remove it. She lives a life of secrets. When word comes that she is to be sacrificed to the gods to bring favor back to her father and the kingdom, she plans a risky escape instead. This sets her on the road to her true loves, four brothers, Darkin, Rama, Calun, and Joran, who are airling trainers and riders. She is also following her destiny.

I liked Aisha despite her stubbornness. She is an intelligent woman with spirit, yet she continued to believe the sexist teachings of her upbringing. Once she threw away her former life, it seemed like she would be more open to new ideas. I liked the men. The brotherly bond and rebellious nature was endearing. The connections seemed rushed at times, but overall the relationship worked for me. I like the political turn that the book took and look forward to watching Airsha and the men balance family with the fight against the Godling in the next book.

Jen (The Starry-Eyed Revue) says

There was nothing inherently *bad* about this book, but I just didn't connect with the story. Not with the characters and not with their supposed bond. It was just so much sex and so little getting to know the actual characters and it fell flat. I need a character-driven story, especially with a story like this where there are so many major characters, so that I understand their motivations and desires. I did appreciate that this was a fantasy story and the world-building was decent and that the language wasn't so modern as some of the recent "fantasy" stories I've read. But I don't think I'll be picking up the next book...unless I can't find anything else that strikes my fancy in the next little bit.

Frances Law says

Wow! I've been waiting and wondering what would be next for Nhys Glover and this has blown my socks off!

Airsha, twin to Airshin and favourite daughter of the Godling.

Holder of Air Magic where her brother has none! All daughters of the Godling who show magic are castrated which binds off their magic! Only Airshin's half sister, Mina holder of Fire Magic, died from the castration (at least that was the story). So Airsha has locked down her magic to stay safe.

But now her time is up for the priests have declared that the only way to bring back magic to the sons is for the favourite virginal daughter to be sacrificed.

Airsha refuses to accept her fate and, dressed as a young boy, she makes her escape. Unfortunately, or fortunately as things turn out, she misjudged the length of the journey and ends up more dead than alive in the Badlunds rather than on the coast.

She is taken in by four brothers, Darkin and Rama; and Calun and Joran, who are airling trainers and riders. With them she finds peace and love.

But her father does not stop looking for her and the inevitable happens. Things then go from the frying pan into the fire and Airsha's stubbornness in all things comes to the forefront.

She questions why a man can have a harem but not a woman?

Especially since she loves each of her men for different facets of them. They also love her and would be jealous if she picked one of them over the others.

I have never been comfortable with menage situations but Nhys handles this so beautifully that it seems natural.

The action adds to the story and I, for one, can't wait for book two!
