



Orion

Raeah Wilding

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When U.S. Marine Corp Sgt. Orion MacKinnon loses both his legs in the bloody sands of Afghanistan, he forsakes his soul along with them. After retiring to a remote location in the snowy mountains of Alaska with his Special Forces canine companion—a German Shepherd named Zeus—he becomes a recluse and vows never to wear the prosthetic legs he keeps buried out of sight... until a lone hiker becomes trapped beneath an avalanche on his mountain.

The woman Orion calls Hope can't recall a shred of her former life. As he tends to her wounds she slowly begins to unravel the tight seclusion he has wrapped around himself.

She can't remember her past. He only wants to forget his.

However, the two have more in common with the forces that brought them together than they realize, including the sinister presence that will threaten their very lives.

When their pasts collide, will they survive the future?

Orion Details

Date : Published November 6th 2017 by Raeah Wilding

ISBN :

Author : Raeah Wilding

Format : Kindle Edition 353 pages

Genre : Romance, Romantic Suspense, War, Military Fiction, Disability

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From Reader Review Orion for online ebook

CC says

Um ok that was unexpected. In a good way!

So first I cannot start my review without mentioning the cover. Holy shit that man is hawt!!!! Aside from being incredibly brave, he is just plain smokin'!

Now the book. It was really good. It took awhile to get started but I was totally invested. Admittedly a little scared since I went in blind. There are a ton of details about what is going on inside Orion's head trying to deal with PTSD and being a double amputee. Most of which is not pleasant. Zeus' PTSD was heartbreaking. Their story was so very horrifying.

This is not insta love. But it is also not quite slow burn. Although there is not tons of sex in the book. For many very legitimate reasons.

Without any personal experience with what amputees go through it felt pretty authentic and much more "real" than other stories. It was not light and fluffy. But that made the reward all the better!

I don't want to spoil the story because it certainly went in directions I did not expect. Although I guessed the connection pretty early. The story moves a little slow for the first 30%, then it picks up and then shoots off in a different direction. The resolution of the plot happens quite fast. We do get an Epilogue!

For my safety gang friends there are a couple of things that will bug a few of you but not most. But these are BIG spoilers so be warned (view spoiler)

Liz says

[a boyfriend back home (hide spoiler)]

Anna says

Amazing, amazing, amazing!

I love both MC

I love Zeus, Orion's German shepherd.

This book has it all: faithful H, steam sex scenes, suspense, very good written.

I didn't like that some heroine's decisions. But I understand her.

? Jeri's Book Attic ? the Romance Bibliophile ? says

When I read the plot of Orion: A Constellations Novel #1 (Constellations #1)

by Raeah Wilding I was absolutely sure that I was going to love the story. It was so up my alley so it felt like a love at first sight with the Blurb.

But this being the first book of this author what I did not expect was that I had a really hard time to get into the writing style of the author. At times it felt like so opulent as if it came from the feather of an author that could write the next "gone with the wind" novel, which was weird in my world of contemporary romances.

I read a lot of books on the subjects that are in the focus of this book and while many are used in a away I would have expected them some are even better then I thought and more to the point. But on the other hand several things feel off to me. From those subjects that feel wrong there is a certain percentage that rubs me the wrong way and I can not even say way with some of them.

Its hard to express my thoughts without spoiling half of the story which is a no go. But they are tiny things sometimes like Melting snow for drinking water OK but then having a water supply for showering ? where is that coming from and don't tell me it's a rainwater tank on the roof. And this is just one tiny innocent for the story thing.

You see this is ME it's the way that I am wired I can not turn of my mind and not think about the back information that is dropped on me while I am reading a story. When information is dropped my mind processes it, it gets evaluated and if I read a contemporary romance I expect, that everything around the characters is acting real or at least possible. Even in a paranormal novel I expect all subject that relate to a real world also to act and feel real.

And besides writing opulent this author is also generous on surrounding information. The reader gets tons of it. Where a short novel is missing on background the reader here almost drowns in it – do not get me wrong it is a good thing – basically. BUT ... the more of this information you get the more you analyze it in relation to the complete story and here I felt like would be getting a massive hangover drinking all that info. Especially when some of these details feel odd.

There is a lot of good stuff in this story and much more than meets the eye on the first view. But for me it

was the writing style that was not compatible with my reading expectations so I can not with good conscience give more than 3 stars. But another reader might feel totally different about it as it is not a bad story or anything.

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RCK says

Virgin Hero.. Yes I am a hypocrite! Goodbye :)

MillsyLovesBooks says

Raeah Wilding is back and What! a first read we have gotten under her new pen name. I adore all the previous books she has written under Allie Juliette Mousseau. Finding her writing to beautiful, deep and meaningful. And after a two year break you most definitely have not lost your passion when it comes to writing.

Orion was an emotional filled, captivating read. I was drawn in with Orion and Zeus right from the start. I was invested in their story, i loved that there was a little mystery to his past. That it wasn't all set out in the beginning then the rest of the story about the romance.

This is a military read and the coverage within this book is so well written, Raeah obviously did her research. How she dealt with PTSD storyline with Orion and his working dog Zeus was heartbreakingly and intriguing.

I really don't want to give away the storyline, this needs to be read spoiler free. So i'm going to try and not give it away, only what's in the blurb!!

Hope has lost her memory and finds herself in the mountains with a strange man. Is she scared at first yes but there is also something comforting about this man and she feels oddly safe around him. Hope was a beautiful character not only on the outside but on the inside. After the initial meeting she brings so many thoughts and feelings to Orion as well as hope that maybe he can give more to life.

The connection these two characters had is so endearing even down to the little things they did with each other. They just fit like they always had been, they were perfect for each other.

This book had it all for me mystery, intrigue, suspense, and a beautiful romance. That left me not wanting to put this book down. I can't wait to read more by Raeah Wilding.
Because lady you are back and better than ever!!

BLOG: <http://millsylovesbooks.blogspot.com>

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Grace says

The concept and ideas of this book is a five star read but the execution was only a three star. I've been going back and forth for my rating but ultimately the faults took me out of the story.

Some things to consider and possible triggers: Virgin hero, PTSD, amnesia, grief, death, suicide, murder, torture, animal torture, rape, abuse, amputation, and some another man "drama". This also has a spiritual element, not religious but dreams and a spirit type of connection.

For me the pacing was just off in this and it took me out of the lovely idea of this book. It starts with our melancholy hero and we only get glimpses of what has happened to this poor man. He saves the heroine and her pov isn't brought in until chapter 9. I have to be honest, I didn't care for the heroine for most of this book. She loses all her memories and yeah that really sucks but it can off as whining to me unfortunately, at least compared to him. I did enjoy the love story but eventually she goes back to her life with her memories, and has a boyfriend. AND she doesn't immediately break up with said boyfriend. That part dragged on a bit too long for me, and you'll find it even more unfortunate once you read this. Although, she does not sleep with said boyfriend again after meeting the hero, so that is good! When we finally get the memories of why she ended up in Alaska the book picked up. I started to understand her and like her some more. Her drive for this quest everyone else told her was pointless endeared me to her.

When the characters look back to what happened to them the book just does a flashback that lasts a dozen or so pages. Mostly, it isn't like they are actually telling the other this, it is just them in the actual time in the past. When the hero does this it is almost hard to read, especially if you love dogs. The dog in this book really is the star, I love Zeus! In the end they have to wrap everything up, but yet they just started their sexual relationship and figured everything out. I just think the beginning had SOOOO much hemming and hawing about life and then the end and all the drama and mystery just wrapped up so quickly. It skipped over parts I wanted to read about and really I would have took 3 chapters from the beginning to make a better ending, or just made it end and not care how long it is.

In the end this was a 3.5 book because when I think of everything this book took on I loved the ideas and back stories. However, the pacing and slightly annoying character choices took off some stars.

SPOILERS:

His father died in the war and he never met him. His mother married an abusive man. She left him for her dead husbands brother. They were in love when her ex husband murdered her. The uncle then murdered him and the hero was in foster care. He joined the military and got Zeus, his new family. During a mission they were captured with others and tortured. While escaping he saved the journalist from an IED and lost his legs. He couldn't handle being half a man or the prosthetic for his legs. The journalist ended up having a sister, the heroine. They were tortured because he stole a flash drive that had traitors on it. He finally got it open 3 years later and everyone is being murdered, including him. BUT none of them look like murders. Everyone except his sister believes he committed suicide. She finds clues leading her to the hero but ends up being in an avalanche. He saves her from dying but she has no memory. Once she does she leaves but he isn't ready yet. It takes him months but he finally gets the help and the push he needed. He has new legs and better mental health, and so does Zeus. He decides they can also help people with search and rescue again. When he goes to her she is still with her boyfriend. She is afraid he doesn't love her so she is scared. Eventually after a remark that she is all he wants she breaks up with her boyfriend but uses it to make him make a move. Eventually they get together and figure out what her brother was murdered for. She ends up being kidnapped from that SAME boyfriend, who is surprise, BAD. He comes face to face with the man who tortured him and Zeus. He kills the ex boyfriend and some others and Zeus kills the other, but gets shot. He loses a leg, but gets a new leg like his alpha dad. She was pretty badly tortured and beaten. Right after that it jumps to when they are almost all healed and supplying the right people with the information so many died for. The epilogue ended up with them living in Alaska. They go back to where she almost died on the mountain. They find her brothers urn and bury it there. They finally admit that they had those dreams about each other during her coma, and her also having one about her brothers death. It was a sweet ending.

Brandy Roberts says

I really loved Orion it had my emotions all over the place there's happiness , sadness , anger , and heartbreak because damn these two characters have been through so much pain to were my heart broke for them to the point were tears are involved . First the blurb called to me then I saw the cover not only is it hotness overload but it draws you in to were you need to hear the heroes story . Orion and hope bring something into each others lives something that they have been missing , I adored both of them they just clicked the attraction built up as the story progressed this is a bit of a slow steam but once it gets to the sexy times you will be in need of a cold shower because wow the hero has some amazing oral skills (wink) . Orion is very intriguing from the first page mostly the cover I wanted to know his story and when we find out what it was my emotions were in over drive , he's kind , funny , resourceful , and he has a beautiful dog loved everything about Zeus just wanted to hug the little guy along with his owner those two have been through so much . Hope is beautiful not only on the outside but on the inside she brings well hope to the hero don't want to give to much away about her but she's the perfect heroine . The little things these two do with each other is astonishing they read to one another two of my favorite books are mentioned , dance , cook , and talk while also being in comfortable silence . I can't wait to read more by Raeah Wilding this was a beautifully done story with romance with hints of heat , mystery and suspense .

copy provided for honest review

hero=10 heroine=10 Chemistry=10 steam=7

romance=8 humor=4 darkness level=5 action=4 mystery=4

enjoyment=10 angst=2 story line=10 Story ending=10

character development=10 pacing=10

cover=10 stars=5 author=9

would I recommend this book=yes

would I re read this book=yes
would I read future books by this author=yes

Sweet Spot Sisterhood Book Lover's Blog says

Outstanding novel!

While Orion and “Hope” meet under dire circumstances, it is clear early on that they share a unique connection. Two people couldn’t be more different. Orion is a recluse military veteran living alone on a mountain and suffering from severe PTSD and rehabilitative issues. Hope is, well, we don’t know who she is. She was rescued by Orion from a horrible avalanche. He nurses her back to health, only for her to wake with amnesia. Her dependence on him pushes him through his fears and forces him to deal with some of his issues. The mystery you have to read and discover, is that they are so important for each other having saved each other’s lives, yet you don’t know the half of this importance until nearly the end! This book went from intriguing and touching, to hopeful and transformative, to emotional and sweet, and then - BAM! - suspenseful and full of action!!! I was hooked all the way through! Quite a page-turner! I’ll be looking forward to the next book in the series!

reviewed by Sweet Spot Sisterhood

Christine~justlovemybooks.com blog~ says

Incredible story! 5 Stars to Orion by author Raeah Wilding.

Just wow! This book had everything! Definitely all the feels. My emotions ranged from compassion to sadness, to fear and worry to relief. I smiled and cried. There were moments (many) that I felt my stomach drop to my feet. Was this book strictly romance? No! While it was about finding and trusting in love, it was also about healing and resolution. There was violence and suspense. God, I could just go on and on but I don't want to give away any details so you can enjoy this book on your own.

Orion and Hope (Lillian)

I'll be brief, as I mentioned I don't want to spoil any of this heartwarming book for you. Orion is former military as is his faithful and loving canine companion Zeus. Both Zeus and Orion served several tours together in Afghanistan. Things happened there that shape this story. There was violence and cruelty resulting in the continuing emotional suffering that Orion and Zeus are suffering with. I'll say it right now...my heart broke over and over for them. Both of them!

Orion is not ready for society so he is living off the grid in a remote area of Alaska. While out one day, he and Zeus end up having to save a woman from an avalanche. Orion takes her home and has to care for her himself because they are so far from any town. As the author mentions in the blurb, the woman, Hope, has lost her memory. What follows is an amazing story of how these two people found trust and friendship with each other. And ultimately love and healing. Their journey is not easy. There is trouble brewing and danger lurking. Both Orion and Hope will soon see how meant to be they were. Sorry I can't say more. This story was a roller coaster of emotion. And I truly loved every minute of it. I was so happy with how things turned

out.

This author was a first-time read for me. I definitely will be reading more of her work. This is my honest and unbiased review. Thank you for taking the time to read it.

Riann Miller says

Orion is an unforgettable journey that left me reeling!

Orion is a soldier left without his legs who's perfectly happy hiding from the world.

“I... hide because I’ve learned to survive like this. It’s kept me alive when everything else guaranteed death.”

His life was simple verging on boring until one day a woman literally crashes into his life. The two of them slowly form a friendship with the promise of more until reality comes crashing down on them leaving Orion with the decision to continue living safely behinds the walls he's built around himself or fight for the only person who's managed to capture his soul.

While I devoured the love story between the two main characters, I found myself absorbed in the mystery that slowly unravels.

Alex ? says

I couldn't click less than 4 stars, just couldn't.

Zeus - best dog ever. My true hero! ?

The book was slightly confusing for me, so much happened. It started like a 'Mountain man' trope, than turned out to a suspense packed with action.

I didn't like everything and some things were slightly implausible, but overall an interesting story with heart.

Safe for me.

Hero was 100% virgin, the heroine wasn't ?. They had feelings for each other when she lost her memory, but her reality included a bf, whom she dated (without sex) after she returned to her life.

Zeus - the best side character ever. Absolutely loved this brave dog. He made this book for me!!!

I dare my bestie Leonor to read this story.
Come on, love! ?

"Your legs aren't what make you a man. Your character, your goodness, and heroism, your

friendship, your values—that is what makes you a man. And you, Orion MacKinnon, are one hell of a man."

Kathy Reader says

I enjoyed this book. Love when the H is a virgin and how could you not love Zeus!

The epilogue was a bit weak and too short and it took until mid way thru the book for the H and h to get intimate so that's why it gets 3 stars.

Susann Husfloen says

I knew from the first page that this book would be like nothing I've ever read. To be inside the head of a man who's lost both his heart and soul among his legs is devastating.

When he saves Hope from an avalanche she suffers from amnesia. They are slowly starting to heal each other, and my heart is so filled with all the feelings.

And when the book turns to a thriller, I was racing through the pages with my heart in my throat!

I was thinking through the whole read that this book should really have been made into a movie!

This book have it all! Shattered lives, sweet romance, hot sex, action and the most amazing military canine! The story is the strongest I've ever read in this genre, and I recommend it with all my heart and soul!
reviewed by Sweet Spot Sisterhood

Eleanore June says

The first 75% of the book was an amazing 5 stars for me, but then the tone/genera of the book shifted and I didn't love it as much. Still good, but it didn't have the same spark.
