



Silent Warrior

Lindsey Piper

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An exciting, emotionally charged prequel to "The Dragon Kings" trilogy, featuring warriors fighting for their lives in violent Cage matches to guarantee their clans' survival.

A silent woman ashamed of her criminal background becomes a Cage warrior to seek redemption. An unrepentant fortune hunter chooses combat over death to appease a mafia family. Although rivals in battle, they find common ground when seeking their clan's stolen idol, but for vastly different reasons. Neither one suspects that love will begin when he becomes the first man in five years to hear her speak.

Silent Warrior Details

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Author : Lindsey Piper

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From Reader Review *Silent Warrior* for online ebook

Anna (Bobs Her Hair) says

3.5 Stars...Psst, look! Pictures!

Hong Kong

Silent Warrior is the prequel to Lindsey Piper's new paranormal series. The novella centers on two Dragon King characters - Silence and Hark. Having no idea what Dragon Kings were or what this series was about, I decided to try this out because of the good ratings. Upon completion, I'm still hazy about the details of this world.

The Cage (*similar to UFC cage but with a covered top and concrete floor cover with clay*)

Silence, a collared Cage warrior for the Aster Cartel, vows to return honor to Clan Sath, who are referred to as "the Thiefs" by the other four Dragon King clans - Indranan ("the Heartless") Pendray ("the Reapers"), Tigony ("the Tricksters"), and Garnis ("the Lost") -- due to their covetous nature. A forseer's words hover in her mind. Hark is trying to earn money to repay his outstanding debts. The Kawashima Cartel wants their money! He's in deep poop! The action-packed beginning commences in a gladiator-style Cage match in Hong Kong. They skillfully cut, slash, and beat each other leading to an excess of energy they know how to dispel after the fight. Throw in some steamy sexy times and the Kawashimas and the game is on.

I rubbed my hands with glee thinking I had found a new dark paranormal romance I could dig my teeth into. While the beginning started with a bang, the details of this world were a combination of too much and too little. The terminology use lost me a few times. I also didn't know how the pieces fit and what I was supposed to be looking for. (*What does it mean to belong to a cartel? What are Dragon Kings? What is the function of the cartel in this world? Why are the Dragon Kings nearly extinct? What are their powers? Are they immortal? What's their deal? Who, what, why, when, how, where, and so on.*) More questions arose as some were answered.

I'll attribute the lean story to this being a novella. If there had been a glossary explaining the Dragon King world and if the focus would have been on the protagonists building relationship - I think the novella would have been meatier. As it is, *Silent Warrior* encourages me to believe that Lindsey Piper's series will have loads of action, hot lovin', and a different type of romance that I am craving.

[A glossary is located on Lindsey Piper's author page. It will help readers!]

Katie_la_geek says

This has to be one of the best series introductory novellas I have ever read. I really loved it, I loved the plot and the setting, it was dark, gritty, violent and sexy.

The characters were amazing. Silence was so cool I almost wanted to be her. She is feisty, funny and fierce, she can hold her own in fights and is more than capable of looking after herself. Hark was just fan-girl worthy. I LOVED him. He was strong, smart, funny and extremely charming with a sex appeal that could bring anyone to their knees. He is, without doubt, one of the best male characters I have read in the last year or so.

The romance was brilliant; I swooned all over the place. I thought they were amazing together, the chemistry was explosive in and out of the bedroom. The marriage/mating/bonding process was really nicely done and I thought it was a great concept.

Silent Warrior brings a dark and dreary edge to the fantasy/urban fantasy genre. It was gritty, romantic and at times even funny. I simple cannot wait to read more from this series and more from this author.

The Window Seat says

I am not yet sure how I feel about these "prequel" novellas. Some are great, some are horrible. But most, like Silent Warrior, fall somewhere in the middle and I am not too sure about them. Their overall success or failure depends on the novel they are "prequeling"

Hark of Sath is a Dragon King down on his luck. He is being chased by the loan sharks that he owes and he finds himself in a bar in Hong Kong where he is fitting a brawl to earn some cash. His opponent is a sexy and mysterious woman. She refuses to speak, despite his constant prattle, and she intrigues him like no other. When the two try to leave the bar, they are attacked, but they work amazingly well together as a team. Their frantic escape through Hong Kong's back ends is enlightening about what the two are capable of doing together.

For the full review, please go to <http://www.thewindowseat13.com/2013/0...>

Rabidreading says

*Find this and other reviews @ The Demon Librarian***

A thrilling intro to a new series!

Have you ever wondered what it would feel like to ride a rocket? You know, like you see cartoon characters do? Yeah, me either, but after reading this action-packed novella, I think I have a pretty good idea!

SILENT WARRIOR is a novella that introduces readers to the Dragon Kings. Set in Hong Kong, in an underground world run by human cartels, it starts with a bang and doesn't let up until the very last page is turned.

The main characters are Hark and Silence, two Sath clan warriors who meet in a Cage match in Hong Kong. Hark is a free Dragon. No cartel ties, no dampening collar like others of his kind are forced to wear. He comes and goes as he pleases and answers to no one. Well, except for those he owes money to, and unfortunately for him, they aren't exactly the patient, understanding types. He enters the Cage match to earn quick cash and enjoy some good ol' fashioned violent fun. His opponent is the deadly and aptly named Silence, a fellow Dragon King who hasn't spoken a word in five years. Officially, Silence is in Hong Kong on behalf of her human masters, but Silence has plans of her own. She's looking for something, and she won't quit until she has it. Little does she know that charming chatterbox Hark might be the key to her finding what she seeks.

SILENT WARRIOR is a novella on steroids. There's intense fighting, danger and secrets galore, and a whole series of narrow-misses and quick escapes. And somewhere in the middle of all that craziness, author Lindsey Piper builds one helluva hot romance. I don't have a freaking clue how she did it but I am damned impressed. Hark and Silence are like yin and yang, utterly different and perfectly balanced. I loved them and wanted more, more, more!

When I finished reading this novella, I was exhausted and exhilarated and grinning like a madwoman. It was freaking awesome.

Must-read? Um, YEAH!

5 Stars ★★★★★

ARC provided by the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

Book one in the Dragon Kings series, CAGED WARRIOR, releases in June 2013

Jill says

I feel like I just watched an episode of gilmore girls on fast forward. Those girls could talk fast, but damn the conversations in this book were faster.

I feel at a loss as to what this book was supposed to be about. Was this book a prequel? Should I have read the next book first? Although I always applaud the work of authors who have "fast paced" books apparently there is such a thing as too fast. I believe this book would have been better if we got more introduction to the world and characters. I was intrigued, it sounded fascinating but to me, unfortunately it was poorly executed.

Beth says

Two cage fighters, one male and one female are battling for prize money. The male can't seem to shut his mouth while the female is complete mute (by choice). The fight gets out of hand and both combatants are told to leave, but quickly attacked. Pooling their resources gives them a chance to escape with minimal

damage. Realizing they are both Dragon Kings, they take out their battle ready emotions with sex. In a world gone mad with servitude collars and cage fighting are the norm, two lonely Dragon Kings must decide their future from a brief glimpse into each other's minds.

Silent Warrior was a thrill ride into a dark and violent world where Dragon Kings fight to survive and thrive. Once worshipped as gods, they are on the brink of change or obliteration from the world.

I really wanted to love this story. It had non-stop action and is highly sexual but I really had a difficult time following the actual plot. I thought I might be missing vital information covered in a previous book to comprehend what appears to be a fabulous world...but this is the first book in this series. You know when you accidentally skip a book in a series and you're completely lost and trying to play catch up, that's how I felt during this entire book. In the end, **Silent Warrior** has huge potential and could become a fabulous series that I'd like to follow if I could figure out what the heck is going on.

This ARC copy of **Silent Warrior** was given to me by Pocket Star in exchange for a honest review.
Publication April 22, 2013.

Melliane says

3.5/5

Mon avis en Français

My English review

I didn't know anything about this series, so when I found this prequel, I thought it might give me an idea of the story.

This is a short novella featuring two characters completely different. Hark is a noisy man, who loves to talk and does not think when he wants anything. Silence is the opposite, a young woman who speaks little or as we understand with her nickname, is calm and collected. Their meeting will immediately spark, especially while Hark is determined to put her in his bed and force her to talk to him. And I must say that given the mill word that is, it does not take him long to crack her.

It was pretty cute to see them both. They hide both many secrets but they complement each other perfectly. We discover throughout this story who our heroes are and we can learn a few elements about their past, allowing us to understand how they became what they are now.

This novel was a cute introduction and it is true that I have many questions about the world that the author has created. It can be quite interesting to read the first novel to have some answers.

Jill says

3.5 stars

Two fighters clash head-to-head in a fight club in Hong Kong. One male, one female. Both of the Clan Sath and both Dragon Kings. Hark, an over-talker and Silence, a mute by choice. When backed into a corner, they join forces and together fight their way out of the club.

This prequel novella to the *Dragon Kings* series is fast-paced, action-packed, violent and entertaining. As this is a short story *everything* happens fast. There is quick sex, a quick, short *romance* and happily-ever-after for this couple. But since this is paranormal/fantasy I can buy it.

It is a really interesting and intriguing world that Lindsey Piper has created. My only real complaint is that there are a lot of names, terms, etc dropped that aren't fully explained. And it makes understanding the plot and the world difficult to grasp. This will all be explained more in depth I suppose in the full-length first novel, *Caged Warrior*.

With an intriguing world and a promising premise, I look forward to more of this series.

Steam: 3-3.5

ARC courtesy of Pocket Star via Edelweiss

AJ says

Even though this is a prequel novella, I actually read it after reading *Caged Warrior*, as suggested by people reviewing both books on Goodreads. Honestly, I'm not sure what order would be best to read them in. I wasn't happy with the lack of world building in *Caged Warrior*, and was hoping for more background information on the Dragon Kings in this one, but I still don't feel any better informed in that respect.

What we get is the story of Hark and Silence – two Dragon King characters that appear in *Caged Warrior*, and instantly intrigued me. This is their beginning – how they met and came together.

Silence is called so because she's... well... silent. She is a fierce warrior who fights in the cages, yet she does not speak - until she meets Hark. There is a lot of depth to her character, and I was surprised at her wit and ferocity - and also a little impressed! It was a side of her I wasn't expecting, and I like seeing the real her behind the façade she keeps up to protect herself.

And Hark is freaking hilarious! A “*scruffy, wavy-haired blond man with a grin like a clown on ecstasy*”, he constantly banters to himself, or anybody else who happens to be around.

“I'm Hark ... You can call me Hark, if you decide to speak. Or you can just say my name in your mind, with wonder and fear and maybe a hint of sexual curiosity.”

Seriously, the man does not shut up! Even while fighting he is running his mouth, and he spices up the mad banter with some dirty talk with Silence during some VERY hot scenes!

I enjoyed watching these two unexpectedly come together, and open up to each other - in between mad fights, underworld drama and creepy supernatural violence. With intense, pretty much non-stop action, and a hot (and fast-moving) romance, this novella fits in nicely with the *Dragon Kings* series.

3 stars :)

Melanie says

This looks like a verrrry promising series! Can't wait for 'Caged Warrior'....

Thenia says

An exciting introduction to the world of the Dragon Kings, beings of great power that were once worshiped as gods.

The couple of this novella meet in an underground fighting ring where they are fighting each other, both for their own reasons. The attraction between them is intense and when they unexpectedly find themselves allied, they complement each other perfectly, despite, or perhaps because of their differences.

They decide to spend the night together, and it's definitely a night to remember, full of adventure, excitement and unexpected emotional connection.

Light and enjoyable story that is strictly adult. I'm looking forward to reading more of the Dragon Kings' world in the first book in the series, Caged Warrior.

Duchess Nicole says

4 Stars with a tiny caveat...

I read the first novel, Caged Warrior, before I read this one. I was already invested in these two, and I'm really glad that I read them like I did because I believe it very much enhanced my reading experience with this prequel novella. Like other reviewers have stated, this book gives almost no clues as to who the Dragon Kings are or what their place is in the world. Though even Caged Warrior reveals things very slowly, I think it was possibly planned this way...instead of a prequel, this came across as more of a teaser.

Hark and Silence meet in battle with each other...Silence on a mission from her captors, Hark running from some bad people. Completely opposite, these two complement each other in battle as well as in spirit, and it doesn't take long for their strange compatibility to turn to attraction and sexual tension.

For Silence, Hark's nonstop chatter, obvious innuendo, and outright sexual propositions make her FEEL for the first time in a long time. Sometimes the feeling is irritation, sure...but more often it's a tug of sexual awareness and curiosity. As for Hark, Silence's silence is a challenge to overcome. At first, he wants to make her cry out in pain when he wins their fight, but soon he wants to hear her cry out his name in bed.

Only in PNR can insta-love work as well as it does here and still have the ability to tug on my heart like these two did. The bond that forms so quickly between these two lonely souls is palpable. And once again, Lindsey Piper manages to take a brutal situation and two fairly selfish, self centered individuals and turn it

into a love story. The sex is hard, fast, a little dark, with violence lingering in the background...because after all, these are warriors of the Dragon King race...

By the way, this is not a dragon shifter series. The Dragon Kings are a race of people from five clans with different powers that they can call upon...at this point, I think that they revere the dragon as the source of their power.

This series...(which I am LOVING) is not a nicely wrapped up hearts and flowers mating ceremony followed by world peace. So far, it's an ongoing conflict, with each additional character bringing new, intriguing meat to the table. These men and women are crazy, barbaric, and for the most part not extremely loveable until you get to know them a bit. Though I've got to say, Hark is pretty freaking funny!!

I'll add some quotes and goodies closer to the release date. Suffice it to say, I haven't been this excited about PNR for quite awhile. And this author's carefully hidden identity is driving me CRAZY!!!! I want more!!!

Lucia says

"Recklessness is our intoxicant of choice."

One cage warrior fighting to buy redemption, another one fighting to repay debts. While she intimidates people with her silence, he tries to set other off balance with his cocky stream of words. After fight, they realize that they may have quite a lot in common and become fascinated by each other in all possible ways...

This short novella written in dual POV is a mixture of action, fantasy and adult topics. I LOVED IT! Writing was extremely engaging and book was hard to put down. Moreover, this story was unbelievably hot. I haven't read anything THAT sexy in a very long time. Attraction between Silence and Hark was intense and off the charts. Another plus was the fact that I immediately felt connected to main characters and got to love them very quickly.

Seriously, I cannot wait to read more stories set in the world author created in this book! It was perfect and if you don't mind insta-love, read this!

** I received ARC as an exchange for honest review **

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Barbara Ann says

Let me preface this review by stating that I read Caged Warrior first, initially unaware that there was a prequel to the trilogy. Once I finished book one, I decided to go back and read the prequel hoping the story would provide more exposition and clarification about the mystical origins and existence of Dragon Kings. Furthermore, I wanted to learn more about humans' involvement with this secret race of people.

The story opens in the middle of a fight between two Dragon King warriors from the Sath clan, dressed in armor with their choice of weapons. They use whatever skills they have to fight for a win. Silence is a Caged Warrior from the Aster Cartel who finds herself struggling to outmatch Hark, whose debt forces him to fight for money.

Silence and Hark's alternating point-of-views throughout the story are effective in providing greater insight into their motivations and vulnerabilities. Since volunteering to fight for the Aster Cartel, the woman known as Silence has never spoken a word to anyone. Her persona is a direct contrast to the easy going, talkative Hark, who finds her silence unnerving. His goal besides winning is to make her say something. While Silence intimidates Hark by remaining wordless, he tries to throw her off balance with his excessive talking and atypical behavior.

Although Silence and Hark have contrasting personalities, they manage to fall in love while running from enemies in Hong Kong. Their contentious bantering along with their secret revelations make this story an engaging read. Overall, this short work is packed with action and suspense and leaves you with an uncertainty about Silence and Hark's future. Because of the story's brevity, I accepted the "insta-love" between Silence and Hark, even though it is unrealistic, given the time frame.

I already knew the outcome of this story because Silence and Hark continue to play a role in Caged Warrior. Still, I was glad to learn their backstory and the tenderness behind their union. The sacrifice that Hark is willing to make for Silence is touching.

On the other hand, I was disappointed to find that this prequel did not help me to better understand this fascinating world Piper has created. In fact, I think I would have been more confused about the sequence of events if I had not already read book one. The lack of explanation about the history and current existence of the Dragon Kings kept me from being fully immersed in this fantasy.

Melindeeloo says

This was a fast paced, prequel to Piper's to the upcoming Caged Warrior in Piper's new Dragon Kings series. I don't know that Silent Warrior gave me a good feel for what the world is or what the series itself will be like, but I liked this story a great deal. Two brawling warriors, Hark and Silence, use words as weapons to unsettle their opponents - Hark's constant stream of joking sarcastic patter makes others underestimate him and Silence's silence throws them just as far off balance.

After facing off in a match that ends in a draw, Hark and Silence run into each other again, get into a scrap and then decide to work off a little post fight adrenaline between the sheets. But events ensue that turn their oh so steamy 'one night' into much more. Commitments come quickly - this is a short story after all - but a brief stint in each others minds make this work - and I loved the lines that Hark Speaks to Silence: "I spent only two minutes in your mind. Now I want to spend the rest of my life learning what I missed." *sigh*
