



The Sailor's General Superior

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Calentine is having a bad day. His head's bashed in, his ship is sunk, and the most important man in the kingdom just fell in love with him in the worst way. Slash.

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The Sailor's General Superior Details

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From Reader Review The Sailor's General Superior for online ebook

Evalangui says

Pretty interesting, but that's about it.

Rachel says

Excellent book! LOVED it! if only it didn't go slightly mawkish/unnecessary-misunderstanding-y in the last couple of chapters, I'd probably have given it a 5.

Ian says

Oh, did I love this so. I feel positively spoiled by this book, it was just so fantastic.

This deserves so much more love than I alone can give, though not for want of trying.

I have so little complaints against this novel that I'm hard pressed to remember any of them in light of the bloody brilliance of the content.

The author gives all the characters strong and definable and complex personalities and gives them tender and loving room to grow and bend and complement the others -- not one of their reactions seem forced or rushed. I also greatly appreciate that the author respects, expects, that the reader can understand subtle and gentle hints towards the events the narrator himself doesn't realise or comprehend. There exists instances where the MC is naively ignorant of the happenings going around him -- where Calentine massages Asotegi with the oil of purposes clear to everyone but Calentine, for example -- and I appreciated the disparity between what Calentine thinks and what is implied. The world is nicely formed with delicious details and intricacies that are added and definitive to the story. I loved that Calentine kept his tendencies and quirks of a sailor, that the narration was gently tinged with nautical terms and outlook -- that it wasn't just so easily cast aside (like many disappointing authors have done), that Calentine was Calentine even with the newfound uproars that now comprise his life. It is a good mark of skill that Calentine can change noticeably to the reader and still be loved by and identified by the reader. If I had felt betrayed by an abrupt change or felt alienated by an altercation to his character and mien, I'd say that the author had failed, but no, the author has done oh so beautifully, wonderfully.

This is a gorgeous read top to bottom, and I'm definitely going for the next.

Tasha says

It would be hard to get this story (as it is currently written) published by publisher, mostly for the reasons why I love it (and many other unpublished stories): it's long, detailed, goes off on tangents that have little-to-nothing to do with the main plot, and a world with its own rules (though it would be helpful if the author explained some things more thoroughly).

Maygirl7 says

The fated/destined mates trope often doesn't work for me. But the author in this story builds a believability that I rarely find. The slow growth from the MCs meeting where Calentine's reluctance is only overcome by Paraz's social station to a gradual progression from finding good qualities in Paraz and the Dzalin, Calentine's growing friendships with other Dzalin and appreciation of Paraz, finding a place for himself in his new world and with Paraz to realizing his true affection for and interest in exploring a newly discovered attraction to Paraz. I appreciated that while there were prejudices and misunderstandings caused by cultural differences without any unreasoning and blind hatred due to otherness. Though I felt like the cultures and their world was not completely fleshed out. The story did not grab me immediately, but slowly, slowly the characters grew in my affections and tugged me into their world. I can't wait to find out what happens in the Corsairs Crown with Paraz and Calentine.

Ayanna says

It's quirky, and I like it. It's very different from normal M/M fare because the MC doesn't go about immediately developing romantic aspersions towards the LI. I think this was interesting/weird because the LI developed That Magical Romance Bond Thing and the insta-love thing, and the MC has no idea what's going on, really, but goes along with it, and whoops, along the way, discovers that he, too, seems to have fallen in...well, at least in like with the guy.

I felt a bit betrayed when I got to the end of my dl'ed doc and it said "story continues in this other thing!" I probably would have felt less betrayed if I had ready internet access, but alas, I didn't.

Eh. I like the story? The world was cool, I think. There were a few bits of the world-building that seemed a bit heavy-handed (like the author would say ____ is a thing! and I wouldn't really see it/feel it, but okay, sure, God Said So).

But I mean, yeah, I was reading on my phone, so I didn't make comments as I went, so I have no live-reactions for you. It's also been a few days, and I've read or started other stuff in the meantime, so *shrug* I don't remember any huge objections I had, though.

Eh. Yeah, I liked it. Idk if I'd go so far as to say it was a favorite, but I definitely like it and definitely want to read on. Hopefully the relationshipy stuff gets more relationshipy, though...

Dragonchild says

Beautiful story, I actually enjoyed it a lot that this was not the usual insta-love, at least not on Cale's part, but they had to work through both their issues, made it somehow more real.

I enjoyed reading it very much, couldn't put it down at times.

The ending, though, was not much of an ending and I hope the sequel helps with that.

Seregil says

The summary makes it sound less interesting than it really is. This is a fantasy romance with lots of magic and unexpectedly funny scenes (even in the middle of a war) but also tender moments between two men that slowly grow closer.

The premise of the story is a sudden magic connection between the protagonists (that become something like destined mates), but the tone of the story is much more complex and the characters are not mary sue's.

Bree Cheese says

This one puts the sloooooooow in slow burn and then as soon as things heat up, bam it's over! But wait there's more: it's part one of two.

Even though this was loooooong and sloooooow, I still found the main characters to be incredibly cute together and will be reading the second book.

Vivian ?(????)? says

Summary: slightly aimless story with little depth, the characters aren't realistic and don't really make sense, stilted and unnatural dialogue. Here is a better review.

And to end on a lovely, contradictory note: I adored it.

snort

Okay, I won't actually end this review like this, especially since it'll leave my GR friends floundering in confusion and possibly clicking the unfriend button whilst they inch away from me nervously. *That mad woman! What is she on about?!?*

In an attempt to explain myself:

Despite its numerous flaws and failings, *The Sailor's General Superior* is still a wonderfully entertaining and at times, heart-warming read. The relationship was a gentle burn (though with numerous unnecessary obstacles placed to prevent its consummation *glare*) and I never stopped rooting for them.

This will never be praised for its epic and uniquely fantastical plot line nor its godly romance, but it is a truly enjoyable read that I will undoubtedly revisit this. Mindless, fun, and full of good angst (aka, the angst you know really won't lead to real strife, but hurts so good).

Recommendation: This is the kind of story that will only float certain people's boats. Tread wisely.

Pickyreader says

Completely lost interest. Honor battles are like Pokémon or yu-gi-o no one gets hurt. The pose was

redulously pasive. Dnf

Kat says

I thought only men were supposed to have a *Nothing Box* (<http://youtu.be/gjnLLw5BTmc>). But I swear I discovered mine while reading this book. I somehow unconsciously slipped into it and, while my eyes kept scanning the pages, didn't crawl out of it again until I was finished.

Or maybe I confused it with my Boredom Box? Because, boy, was I bored! I had hoped on a story that wouldn't confuse sex with a plot for a change. And I suppose in a way I got what I asked for... In fact, I think I'll have to replace my *Slow-burning love* shelf with a *Non-existing nothingness* shelf.

The author's choices puzzled me. We have the General Superior, a legendary war hero, second in command under the Queen of the Dzali (apparently a nonhuman race, although none of this was explored satisfactorily, so he might as well have been a human male) and a smelly, simple sailor boy. To the astonishment of the Dzali race, their General Superior suddenly imprints on the sailor boy. Meaning that they form a magical bond that ties them together. A Dzali bonding with a human: that has never happened. The sailor therefore hardly understands the concept of magical bonding, but finds his life being thrown upside down when he has to leave his beloved sea to be with the General Superior 24/7.

That's kinda brutal, right? When life screws you over like that? So is it really that strange of me to expect intense emotions, shit hitting the fan, escape attempts, soul searching and an exploration of what this magical bond implies? Instead, the author completely ignored her shiny, major plotline and its implications. Except for several vague references to the bonding business (for example: the sailor kid muses about missing the sea and innocently wonders if something's expected of him at some point, and the General Superior feels sorry and embarrassed all the time) *The Sailor's General Superior* focuses on dull minor events, choppy pieces of uninteresting warfare and irrelevant, stilted small talk.

So if you guys would like to ignore that big, fat elephant in the middle of the room, please?!

There's no chemistry, no subtle teasing between the MC's at all. The sailor boy is almost infantile in his innocence and disinterest with his situation. The General Superior is supposedly a legendary fighter, his people bow to his will. He's also constantly described as having *sagging shoulders, a quiet sadness in his gaze, a twitching eye, and a tired, wary expression*. On top of that, he's *blushing brightly* all the time for no particular reason.. How does the latter match with his position, I ask? Were his character traits even thought out? As a reader, how am I supposed to perceive him? I tell you how I perceived him: as a sad, world-weary, nervous, elderly man.

I admit that my waning interest in the *consummation* of their magical bond in the last 5% of the book was killed effectively and long before it happened.

And then there's the writing itself. However not necessarily poor, I had issues that became more pressing as I read on. Just a tiny example: almost every conversation between the MC's or other characters includes these lines: "Begging your pardon, but...blabla" "I apologize for..blabla" "No, my apologies. For that, too, I apologize." Needless to say, the dialog felt stiff, formal and got annoying fast. I counted 36 'begging your pardon's' alone.

In a nut-shell: despite the story flowing on gently, I was disappointed by its pointlessness and overall blandness. When I look at the other reviews it appears as if I've read a different book though. So please make sure to take a look at Xing's great review as well, before you decide that it's not for you. After all, it's a free read.

Carminex3 says

Absurdly long, anticlimactic, no action

Xing says

The book blurb really doesn't do this book justice. TSGS is a very thorough foray into a world of fantasy, magic, and bonds.

You have Cale (short for Calentine), who has worked 8 seasons on the Bluefish (a ship), and has the heart of a sailor. Nothing special. At all.

Then you have Paraz Asotegi, *The General Superior*, a man known in many of tales of heroes, second in command under the Queen, and a dzali - a race of nonhumans with magical talents (whom fear the water).

When these two meet, a magical bond is formed (similar to mates in werewolf stories). What's worst is that there has NEVER been a bond formed between a dzali and human before. And just like that, Sailor Cale and The General Superior are locked together in the midst of war.

Despite the formation of their bond, there's no insta-love. Or at least, on Cale's part. If anything, this book is a very, *very*, slow-burn. It took about 85-90% of the book before the attraction was mutual. The book is in first person from Cale's POV, which works well. Cale is a very reasonable and strong character with a sense of humor. The secondary characters are very enjoyable as well, and the discussion of magical talents (including those formed from magical bonds) added an interesting mix to the usual fantasy.

The world building was absolutely stunning. Description of the dzali, the customs and their differences between the humans and dzali, and the war politics were nicely presented. The biggest issue with the book is pacing, as there were some moments I felt were dragged out too long or unnecessary.

So overall, if you are a fan of fantasy, I would definitely give TSGS a shot! It is a free online fiction. However, if you want an epub version, there are online tools that can compile the chapters into a ebook format (and works pretty well). There is also a sequel in the works as well!

SueM says

When Calentine accidentally meets the dzalen General Superior Paraz while both are waiting for wounds to be treated, he doesn't expect his whole world to be turned upside down. It seems he is Paraz's focus - and has bonded to the General. Admittedly, it is not only Calentine's world that has been so affected - Paraz's world has too, as no human has ever been the focus for a dzalen.

Both men have difficulties with the results as neither has ever experienced the other's culture. Misunderstandings are frequent, for although they share the same language, it seems the intent behind those words can mean very different things. But as Calentine's slowly settles into sharing Paraz's life - though not his bed yet - he grows to like the man under the General's facade, and through their friendship, ends up contributing rather more to the war effort rather more than he expected. It is of course, not without a heavy price.

This is a story of two men forced together, but by having open minds, if not hearts, grow stronger than they were when apart. Calentine's character is generous and giving, always trying to the good side of people, while Paraz, made cold and distant by earlier betrayals, slowly warms under his bonded's caring nature. Together, they change both the people and the world around them... Well, until Calentine goes home....
