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Kiss Of Steel (London Steampunk Book 1)



Synopsis

"darkly atmospheric and delectably sexy." –Booklist, starred review Honoria Todd has more secrets than most people and she's hiding them in Whitechapel. Blade is the master of the rookeries and agrees to protect her, but at what price? Most people avoid the dreaded Whitechapel district. For Honoria Todd, it's the last safe haven as she hides from the Blue Blood aristocracy that rules London through power and fear. Blade rules the rookeries-no one dares cross him. It's been said he faced down the Echelon's army single–handedly, that ever since being infected by the blood–craving he's been quicker, stronger, and almost immortal. When Honoria shows up at his door, his tenuous control comes close to snapping. She's so...innocent. He doesn't see her backbone of steel-or that she could be the very salvation he's been seeking. A unique, sexy paranormal romance, Bec McMaster's London Steampunk novels will appeal to fans of Gail Carriger, Kristen Callihan's Darkest London series, and the Blud series by Delilah Dawson. RITA finalist Bec McMaster's London Steampunk series: Kiss of Steel, Book 1 – Honoria's last hope is the most dangerous man in London's underworld, and she may be his last hope as well. Heart of Iron, Book 2 – Will would do anything to protect Lina, including fighting his love for her, but but seducing her may be the only way to save her. My Lady Quicksilver, Book 3 – Rosalind risks her life, and her heart, to get close to the one man who could find and free her brother. But will he? Forged by Desire, Book 4 – RITA finalist, When Perry fled her thrall contract and joined the Nighthawks, she thought she would be safe, but danger is stalking her again. Of Silk and Steam, Book 5 – Mina has sworn revenge for her father's death, but the man she plans to destroy could be her own undoing, or the salvation of all London. What readers are saying about Kiss of Steel: "a scrumptious blend of steampunk, vampires, sex, and danger""excellent paranormal romance with a touch of steampunk""Loved this book, the noir of steam, vampires, werewolves, and lust find a perfect stew." "A must read for paranormal fans." What reviewers are saying about Kiss of Steel: "An enthralling debut... A leading man as wicked as he is irresistible... Heart-wrenching, redemptive and stirringly passionate... A series opener to be read and savored. 4 1/2 Stars" - RT Book Reviews "Dark, intense, and sexy... A stunning new series with an intriguing twist on the vampire theme." - Library Journal "Compulsively readable... The mythology surrounding the vampires and the not-quite-vampiric blue bloods felt fresh and original..." - Mindful Musings What everyone is saying about Bec McMaster: "a must read for paranormal fans and steampunk fans alike. 5/5 Stars, Reviewer Top Pick" - Night Owl Reviews "richly imagined, gritty and dark, and full of hot heroes and hot sex... utterly delicious. " - Smart Bitches, Trashy Books "Action, adventure, steampunk, and blazing hot seduction...Bec McMaster offers it all." - Eve Silver, author of Sins of the

Flesh

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Customer Reviews

What can I say about Kiss of Steel- I loved it, it's vampire steampunk done well! Honoria Todd is a human woman, down on her luck. She is in charge of her two younger siblings, one of which is facing the blue blood virus. She hardly has enough money to make ends meet when she is noticed by Blade, the master of the rookeries and notorious Blue Blood. Blade is drawn to Honoria and determined to make her his, but he wants her for more than blood and finds himself going out of his way to keep her safe, especially when powerful enemies want her as well. I am a fan of the steampunk genre, but I don't get the opportunity to read it very often. So, when I had the opportunity to read and review Kiss of Steel, I was excited. Bec McMaster has created a very unique paranormal world filled with humans and thralls, Blue Bloods (infected/vampire-like humans), and the occasional vicious/rabid vampire on a rampage. It took awhile for me to understand the setting, but I really loved the set up, and the story in general. I liked Honoria a lot, it was easy to relate to her and her situation, even in such a unique world. She was just trying to take care of her family to the best of her abilities, and she had a difficult time overcoming prejudices that had been taught to her. I

really like Blade as well, he is a good man with a nasty reputation. However, he takes care of his own and he made a place and a life for himself outside of the rulers confines. Honoria and Blade develop a solid connection, and sparks fly between them. I love the romance in this book, it doesn't come easy for Honoria and Blade, but it is well-deserved. Steampunk is a historical setting, but that doesn't mean that there is no action. There is plenty of action in this fast-paced book.

Review courtesy of All Things Urban Fantasy. *KISS OF STEEL* reimagines our world with an aristocratic vampire class as the lynchpin that changes everything familiar. People pay their taxes in blood, medicine strives to discover more about this all important virus, and weaponry scales up to combat a different class of powerful superhumans. Though there are certainly flavors of steampunk in the alternate history, *KISS OF STEEL* feels much more like a well written paranormal romance to me. But while advanced gadgets doesn't get much pagetime, McMaster does explore the medical developments of the time. Calling the ruling class "vampires" is an oversimplification, and is actually incorrect by the mechanics of this world. I loved the intricacies of blue bloods and vampires, the infected and the changed, all the different permutations of a virus that society doesn't entirely understand. And despite the fact that Honoria and Blade are drawn together by a classic, paranormal romance "inexplicable physical attraction", McMaster provided growth and emotional connection to support turning that sexual chemistry into something more lasting. There were a few instances where the plot stumbled, mostly concerning the supporting character Barrons, his relationship with Honoria's father, and his enmity for Vickers. Those missteps bumped the series from "pre-order" to "wait and see", if only because Barrons's murky motivations made me less interested in him as a future hero. Even with Barrons low on my list, there are still plenty of intriguing characters I'm hoping to see again. If the sexually conflicted Will, the duchess of Casavian, or the human queen held captive by her vampire consort are in starring roles, London Steampunk #2 will go to the top of my To Be Read list.

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