

Aphrodite's Tears by Hannah Fielding

4 stars

Romance under the Grecian sun

Usually, I am not a great fan of romance novels, being as I am, a bit of a cynic with few illusions about love. As a standalone romance I would have given this three stars, but it gains another due to the addition of an interesting back story and plenty of suspense.

Oriel Anderson is an archaeologist who has also been trained to work on dive sites and so she is an obvious choice when the charismatic Damian Lekkas seeks out someone to work on a submerged Roman galley ship. When she arrives on the remote private island of Helios she is shocked and embarrassed to find that she has met Damian before.

The two couldn't be more different; whilst Oriel is petite with fair skin and hair, Damian is a dark, muscular Greek god of a man. So far, so very Mills and Boon, but there is more to this romance than meets the eye. Damian's family have been dogged by tragedy, not least his beautiful but unhinged cousin Helena who is confined to a wheelchair.

The book is well-written and the characters each have a tale to tell, all stemming from the history of the rather claustrophobic island. Personally, I found the descriptive passages overdone and florid, for example, 'every part of her was responding to the potency of his body: her breasts peaking, fire licking her thighs, her mouth drier than a desert.' (p.488).

Overall this was an easy and enjoyable read, albeit not my preferred genre. The descriptions of the Greek islands and sunshine are very beguiling.

For lovers of romance, lock the doors, curl up, and enjoy.

Pashtpaws

Breakaway Reviewers received a copy of the book to review.