



Birth of a Warrior

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Lysander had to leave his roots as a Helot slave far behind him, when he discovered his true identity as the descendant of a Spartan warrior. The training is ruthless and now he faces his toughest challenge. Sent to the mountains with nothing but a goatskin flask, he and two other boys must prove their ability to survive before they can return. Facing starvation, wild animals and the elements, Lysander discovers that his real enemy is in fact one of the other boys, sent to sabotage his trial. From his vantage point in the mountains, Lysander can see another threat on the horizon - the Persians are invading. He must prove his worth as a Spartan and return to the village as soon as possible in order to warn of the attack. But who is Lysander fighting for - to save Spartan honour, or to protect the Helot slaves, whom he used to live among?

Birth of a Warrior Details

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Author : Michael Ford

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From Reader Review Birth of a Warrior for online ebook

Gabriel says

Still unraveling, Lysander discovers that he has a great future as a Spartan warrior. His rival and him are chosen to go on a crusade to the great mountains (I forget the names) His greatest rival, Damaratos, becomes his best, most trusted friend, as they embark on a perilous mission to survive 5 days and 5 nights, no food, no water. Nothing but a thin cloak. They have to learn how to survive. Together.

Jennifer Heise says

This tackles hard issues of group identity, standing up for oneself, and valuing both one's family and other cultures. I think boys in particular would find it a good read. I wouldn't say it was preachy.

Cole Jensen says

Exposition: Lysander is having nightmares and is forced to whip his best friend Timeon. Lysander gets called to do his ordeal.

Rising Action: Agesilaus makes Lysander climb down a cliff and he almost dies. Lysander is also forced to hike up a mountain then try and survive the night in a blizzard.

Rising Action: Lysander finds out that Timeon got stabbed and died. Demortoes tries to catch a fish but falls in the river. He almost went down a waterfall. They all saw ships that had Persians that had an army.

Lysander wanted to get back Agesilaus would not let him

Rising Action: Lysander figures out that Agesilaus was trying to kill him the whole time with all of his challenges. Lysander takes Agesilaus' knife and kills a wolf. More wolves come and Agesilaus gets killed.

Climax: Lysander's cousin gets taken by the Persians. Lysander goes after them and has to get on their boat. He gets Cassandra back but his grandfather gets killed.

Falling Action: Lysander finds some horses and goes back to Sparta.

Resolution: gets back to Sparta and remembers that he has now one left.

The person that changes the most is Lysander. He went from hating Demortoes to liking him being able to work with him. Lysander was also scared of Agesilaus because Agesilaus was trying to kill Lysander the whole book but towards the end Lysander was not scared of him and actually tried to still his knife.

This book has taught me no matter the age you can make a difference. If you start you can still make a difference. It could be saving someones life or just making someone happy. That is what I learned from the book.

I like this book because it has constant action. It was all about survival during the ordeal and always a problem that someone died or almost died. There was really no boring parts. Even in the parts that were somewhat boring it was still very intense.

Emily (Infinite Lives, Infinite Stories) says

Read my Review Here!

I bought this book thinking that it was either the first in the series or a standalone. As I began to read through the first few chapters, I discovered that I had missed out on the first book. However, without even reading the first book, I think Ford did a fantastic job a recapping what had happened in the previous book.

Although, I was a little disappointed in myself for picking up a book with an awesome cover without looking anything up about it. I did get a sense that Lysander and Timeon were really good friends despite the difference in class. Also, the hatred between Lysander and Demaratos hinted towards the Games that had occurred in the first book. Everything was explained thoroughly and created a perfect picture inside my mind. The only think I wish was explained a little bit more was the Fire of Ares. I understood that it was a necklace that Lysander carried around, but what was its purpose?

I originally picked up this book for a quick, light read. I was pleasantly surprised with how much depth and creativity was pour into this book. I found myself not wanting to put it down, reading chapter after chapter. The characters are well developed, each struggling with their own beliefs and wants. I really enjoyed the mythology thrown in throughout the book.

Nathaniel Sheppard says

Have you guys ever wondered what it would be like to be a spartan? The genre of the book is fiction. My opinion on the book is its amazing you feel what the character is feeling.

The book Birth of a Warrior is about a boy named Lysander he started as a helot in the fields of great Sparta but Lysander wasn't just a helot but he was also half spartan his dad Tharokis was a great spartan warrior and known through out Sparta but he died in a war Lysander's mom was a simple helot women. Until his grandfather notice him and recognized him because he looks like his dad so he was sent to the agoge where he would train to be a spartan warrior master of the spear and short sword. The setting of this story is in great Sparta. Lysander was sent to the mountains where he had to survive a number of days. The conflict is person vs nature Lysander goes up to the mountains with two other Spartans and had to survive there they had to hunt for their own food and work as a team to survive the days to come.

Lysander is a great spartan warrior some examples of my analysis is that when the big spartan boy told Lysander to walk further up the mountain Lysander was able to think of a way to keep himself from freezing from the cold mountain top he was also able to think of a way to save Demratos from falling off of the waterfall . Thats why I think he is a great spartan he is able to think and not just do without thinking.

Lysander has some faults in my opinion he has alot on his mind sometimes and it just overwhelms him at sometimes some examples he gets overwhelmed because his mother died of a very harmful sickness. He also thinks about his father and how he never knew his father so he also thinks about how his father was like.

My rating on this book is 5 out of 5 because this has alot of action and its just that you are able to feel what Lysander is feeling. I would recommend this to my ELA teacher Mrs. Parker if she likes action book that is. This book would make you be on the edge of your chair

Sean W. says

This is my favorite book ever! Its soooooo good. Birth of a Warrior is the second book in the series. Book one is The Fire of Ares and book three is Legacy of Blood. This series is about a boy named Lysander. Lysander is a helot (a slave to the spartans). He grew up without a father and his mother was very ill so he had to take care of her. Then he finds out that his father was a son of an ephor (one of the most powerful men in all of sparta). Since his father was a spartan that makes him a half breed so he is legally allowed to go to the barracks (a place where a spartan boy goes to train until he is 30 years old). After a while small groups of boys are sent into the mountains with nothing but their tunics and they have to survive five days in the mountains to prove themselves Spartans. Its a great series and you would like it if you were into action-adventure books.

Ponytaorponyboy says

The character development for Demaratos was nice, I mean it's cool that he was able to place himself with Lysander. Especially since half of his minions perished in that battle. I wonder who will take care of the recruits from now on. Will it be someone else? Who will take care of Kassandra from now on? What about that other one dude who was Mothax who disappeared in his trial? Is he going to get found or is it completely true that he died? He might just have run off and left his cloak there, no?

I'm glad Orpheus is still here, and same for Leonidas too. I wonder what is going to happen in the third installment of the series.

Why is it that every time Lysander loses the Fire of Ares, nothing really happens and its 100% certain that he'll get it back almost without even trying? Is it because he's righteous or is it because for real, he's just lucky that way?

Heather says

I liked the first 3/4 better than the last 1/4. I started to lose interest, not because of the plot (the action was great) but because the characters and their dialogue felt stiff. (I mean, what 13-year-old boy tells his friend, "You know what she means to me" (about a girl) and was it really necessary for one of the Spartan kings to introduce himself by saying (to a Spartan soldier, who would know!) "I am one of the two kings of Sparta"?) Otherwise, it was a good story, and I will definitely be reading the third in the series!

Christian Daulat says

I thought that this book was great. The plot in the story was also. The fact that the book was action-packed, made me want to read more. The problem was in the battles, it was very descriptive. So it was gory. All in all it was a really good book.

Ranger says

I must say, this book was extremely tense, had me bouncing with anticipation. Other than some not so real description of characters that get well quickly. It is a quick read and I loved it. However, it is very gory, if you don't mind that, I highly recommend it.

Amanda Setasha Hall says

I liked this book even more than the first one, and I didn't really think that was possible.

Most of the characters from the first book aren't actually in this one much. From a harrowing trial to the front lines of a war, this book highly keeps your attention from start to finish. There wasn't a single slow part.

I'm definitely looking forward to continuing this series.

Kirubaharan says

Well, the story is quite simple. He wants to prove he is a true Spartan to Diokles, Demaratos and Sarpedon. While the last day and the last trial, he saw around the southern coast that the Persians are invading. After his leader in the Ordeal, was killed viciously by wolves when Lysander and Demaratos watching, he went back to warn the Spartans that the Persians are invading. But Spartans are already prepared to face Persians from the North! Soon, the young boys who just finished training have to fend off these Persians to save the beautiful Sparta. That's it.

But the description of the character's emotions, actions and reasons was superb. This was like my first book, when I read, I felt the emotions and lived the book. I felt like I was the one in the book. It was very admirable that the emotions were very notable despite being covered in phrases and words. GO, MICHAEL FORD. NICE WORK!!! FOR THE DESCRIPTION: 5/5 but FOR THE STORY: 4.5/5. Also because I love Greece and fights.... Overall Rating: **5 STARS**

Jason K says

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261 pages

In Birth of a Warrior a teen spartan named Lysander is brought out side to whip his friend Timeon. Timeon is a slave. Lysander used to be a slave but he ended up being a son of a spartan. After that Lysander has to take the Ordeal. The Ordeal is a great test where boys have to live on a mountain for a week. After Lysander does the Ordeal he makes a friend that used to be his enemy. When Lysander is coming back from the Ordeal

he spots a Persian battalion. The main persian fleet is attacking but the spartans are completely vulnerable because they don't know a persian battalion is coming from the south. When Lysander tells his grandfather about the battalion, he sends the boys to fend them off. Lysander's grandfather is a spartan ephor and ends up killing himself to save Lysander. Sparta wins the war and everything goes back to normal.

Birth of a Warrior was a very good book and I would recommend it to anyone. It kept me guessing and was really intense. One time when it kept me guessing was if Lysander would survive the Ordeal. A time when it was intense was when they were in the middle of the battle. I rated it a five because it was really action packed. Birth of a Warrior is a really good book.

Emily Ann says

This book was ok but i'm not sure I liked it. It had a little to much violence and not a good enough plot to catch me up.

Jane says

This is a seamless continuation of the story of Lysander--the half-helot/half Spartiate or *mothax*, begun in The Fire of Ares. Still among his classmates in the agoge, Lysander is a victim of prejudice as well as having faithful friends. Several days in the wilderness in harsh conditions with a boy who dislikes him, show the two that they can more easily overcome hardship by working together. Then, discovering a Persian attack being readied , he fights for Sparta. Written for young people in a clear and fast-moving style, this novel had a moral, as well as teaching about the Spartan lifestyle.

Of course, the historical Leonidas and Lysander lived nearly 100 years apart from each other, but I wonder if the author chose these names intentionally. We know Leonidas from Thermopylae fame, and the historical Lysander, the admiral who won the Peloponnesian War, was a *mothax*.
