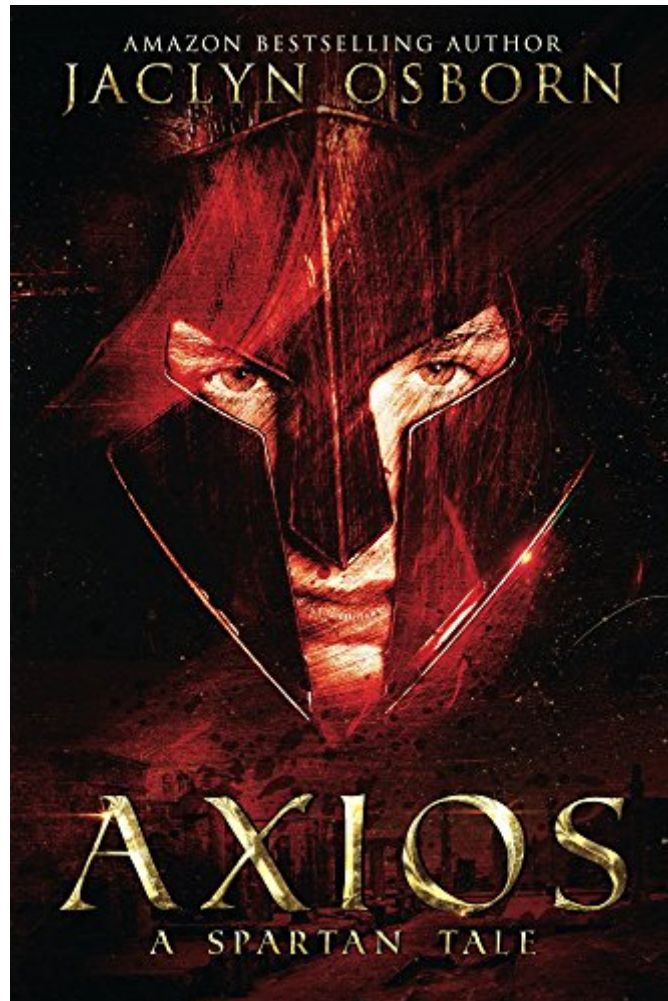




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# Axios: A Spartan Tale



## Synopsis

I am Axios of Sparta, and I was born to kill. At age seven, I left home to train with other boys where we were taught obedience, solidarity, military strategy, and how to withstand pain. My harsh upbringing stripped me of my weaknesses and forced me to become strong. Ruthless. But, I craved something greaterâ€”a life I could never have. Against all odds, and the toughest training a warrior could endure, I found an unexpected love in the arms of a fellow Spartan. He was the very air I breathed and the water that sustained me. Fighting side by side with him, we were invincible. Where he went, I followed. However, there was no place for love in Sparta. Feelings were for the weak. The only life for a Spartan was one of battle and brutality with no guarantee of tomorrow. In times of war, all men were put to the test, but the greatest challenge for us was not one of swords and spears, but of the heart.

## Book Information

File Size: 1278 KB

Print Length: 362 pages

Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited

Publication Date: July 19, 2017

Sold by:Â  Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B0743MK1ZX

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #2,554 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #40 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender eBooks > Romance > Gay Romance #41 inÂ Books > Gay & Lesbian > Literature & Fiction > Fiction > Romance > Gay #158 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction

## Customer Reviews

“Not even death could keep me from you. My soul will forever find yours. In this life and the next.” We had a feeling this story was going to be something quite amazing when we read the

synopsis, however we were not prepared for the epic journey we were about to embark on. Axios is quite simply one of the most magnificent books we've ever read. It is unparalleled in its historical grandeur without ever feeling as if we were spectators to a lesson in Greek history. It is steeped in beauty, vivid sounds and smells as well as the conflicting picturesque yet war torn scenery of ancient Sparta. "Sparta can have my life, but she cannot take my heart." Every single character plays a paramount role in this superbly written story; a story of tragedy, love, hope, brotherhood, tradition, violence, humanity and passion. We often say, that when a book fully impacts our soul, we know the Author has bled words straight from the heart onto the pages, and never has that been more apropos than in this story. "What makes up the stars?" I had once asked him in a time that seemed like a different life. A happier one. "The stars are heroes, men who died and are now commemorated for their bravery in battle," he had answered, smiling. Whilst this story follows Axios and Eryx from children -being indoctrinated into becoming Spartan warriors- their fates are deeply entwined with many other wonderful characters thus becoming integral to the very essence of the intense emotional aspect of this reading journey. A journey spanning decades. A journey of a green eyed boy who was destined to become a great warrior and a brown eyed boy who would always question whilst dreaming of the stars, the sea and the spirit of love. Night and day; one cannot be without the other. "One day the light you carry will be snuffed out by darkness. I dread the moment when the gentleness in your brown eyes becomes cold as you see, at last, that the world is unforgiving and cruel. And I fear that I will lose you, either to the god of death or to your inner demons." "We were compelled, enthralled, captivated, entranced; we were utterly mesmerized. There are not enough words to accurately convey how deeply we feel about this book and how incredibly intense it was. We have never highlighted so many passages and quotes as we did in this story. The sheer magnificence and brilliance was astounding. "There is nothing I wouldn't do for you," he whispered, pressing his forehead to mine. "I would kill any man, go any distance, and burn the whole world down if it meant keeping you safe." "We want to give Jaclyn Osborn a standing ovation, not only for her immense historical research but also her stunning writing which captured a story so wonderfully epic it made our hearts beat frantically whilst we rejoiced with love yet cried uncountable tears in despair. Axios will stay with us forever, of that there is no question. It's a story that deserves every accolade and to be on every list of fictional honour. There are quite simply not enough stars to be given to the love story of Axios and Eryx. "I'll see you in the stars my warrior."

I just finished, and that ending will stay with me for a long time. Jaclyn pulls you in and makes you care about her characters as few other authors can. You live their experiences with them, feel their joys and fears. I truly enjoyed the historical accuracy of the battles and their outcomes as well as her use of actual people from the time. It made it that much more genuine. Once again I'm reminded that good writing transcends genre, as I rarely read romance anymore. This was so much more though, it was everything an excellent story should be

I loved how Axios and Eryx love begin at such a young age. They truly loved one another and it was such a joy reading their love story.

Not too often do you get to read this type of stories. I loved following characters through their lives and to see them grow up in my mind's eye. This story is touching, beautiful and often so unfair. Just like life.

One of the best M/M Romance novels I have ever read in my life! Worth every single second reading it.

This is a story unlike no other I have read before. An era that I have little knowledge of. A time period in which boys are ripped from their families at the young age of 7 and trained to become warriors to fight and die for their God's! They are trained to kill and have no mercy on slaves or those they feel are not worthy of the Spartans or their way of life. To be a Spartan warrior you have to be strong, fierce, fight without emotion and die the true Spartans death! To try and run from that destiny will mark him as a coward and will shame not only himself but his family. Axios was not prepared for that way of life at the age of 7, for he was small and not strong as others his age. He feared that he would not be able to handle the brutality of training until he reached adulthood until his eyes met those of the greenest color! A young boy stood out among the rest with his green eyes and friendly face helped him withstand his challenge and from that day on Eryx and him became inseparable! Axios and Eryx were the complete opposite of the other. Where Axios questioned the reasons for war Eryx was determined to be the best Spartan Warrior! Through the years Eryx was just what Axios needed to help him develop into the Spartan Warrior that he needed to become! Along the way the two found they shared more than just friendship but a love like no other! Axios felt he had so many weaknesses as he watched so many of his brothers die at the hands of their enemies but in truth Eryx had the biggest weakness of them all his love for Axios! This is ABSOLUTELY the

best story of love, friendship in the era where war was brutal and young men died at such early ages! The Story of Axio and Eryx as they journey through the trails of brutal training together, friendship that turns into a powerful love, until they reach manhood and into many wars as Spartan warriors this is a must read!!!

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