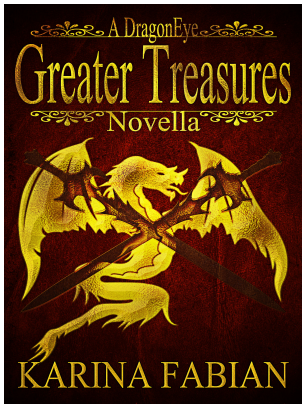
Greater Treasures Blog Tour with Vern the Dragon Detective and Karina Fabian



About Karina Fabian: Winner of the 2010 INDIE for best Fantasy (Magic, Mensa and Mayhem), Karina Fabian has imagination that takes quirky twists that keep her--and her fans--amused. Nuns working in space, a down-and-out Faerie dragon working off a geas from St. George, zombie exterminators—there's always a surprise in Fabian's worlds. Mrs. Fabian teaches writing and book marketing seminars, but mostly is concerned with supporting her husband, Rob Fabian as he makes the exciting leap from military officer to civilian executive, getting her kids through high school and college, and surviving daily circuit torture…er, circuit training.

Read about her adventures at http://fabianspace.com/.

About Vern, owner of The Dragon Eye Private Investigations Agency: I'm Vern, a professional problem solver in two universes and yes, a for-real dragon. Sister Grace, my partner, is a mage from the Faerie Catholic Church. Need high-powered magic or magic from On High? She's your nun.

We'll handle just about any case that pays and, being a dragon, I'm not particular about how I get paid. Cash or carrion, I'm your dragon. We do everything from find lost pets to save the universe--sometimes at the same time. Hey, I'm a dragon. I can multi-task. Karina Fabian novelizes our cases.

Check them out on our site (http://dragoneyepi.blogspot.de/), or better yet, check them out at the library or Amazon. It helps the dragon, and that's a good thing.

Book Summary: Most people associate the DragonEye stories with high humor ranging from puns to slapstick, and in fact, the first stories and the novels have certainly been crazy fun. But the life of a cynical dragon PI isn't all laughs, and Vern has had a few chilling stories to tell me. Some of these, I've sold to anthologies, but some are too long for that. Thus, I've decided to start publishing them on my own.

One thing I like to do for DragonEye stories is watch old noir films. Greater Treasures came to me while watching the Maltese Falcon. If you've never seen it, I recommend it. (Then, reread the story to see if you catch the in jokes.) I needed something with more "oomph" than a bird statue, and since Vern has some history with the Lance of Longinus, it made a good fit. I enjoyed looking up all the conspiracy theories about the use of the Lance by Hitler, which is where the neo-Nazi angle came in. To say more would be spoilers, so please, enjoy the story.

And if you do, be sure to check out Vern's other tales at http://dragoneyepi.net.

1. What elements of the *Maltese Falcon* movie inspired you to write Vern's new adventure, *Greater Treasures*?

Actually, the whole thing. I often write DragonEye stories by watching noir films and putting Vern and Sister Grace in place of the main characters. Of course, being a dragon, Vern's not falling in love with anyone (but himself), and he probably has the Maltese Falcon stashed in cave back in Faerie, so we needed a treasure with higher stakes. However, the general flow of plot follows the movie, although the ending is very different. Remember, Vern loves television and movies; he's seen the *Maltese Falcon*.

Noir movies inspire me in general. I like the cynicism of the main characters, the struggle to do good when it would be so easy to just walk away, and the movement of the plots. They're also great fun to adapt by adding fantasy elements.

2. How does Vern's previous experience with the Lance of Longinus prepared him to endure the unexpected tragic events involved in this adventure?

The Faerie Lance of Longinus was instrumental in a Great War in Faerie, kind of like our WWII, but more vicious, if you can believe it, with demons actively involved. Vern himself was tasked to find and destroy the Lance, and did so at great cost to his physical, mental, and spiritual health. So he knows what carnage a magically-imbued Lance can do in his world, much less ours!

3. Many great war leaders allegedly possessed this lance which brought them victory. What aspects of the conspiracy theories about the use of the Lance by Hitler motivated you to include Nazis in your story?

I found the whole conspiracy theories with Hitler owning the Lance interesting, and he's the last one to have used it. Also, the timing between WWII and the Faerie Great War (which I'd already imagined) are closest. Finally, the neo-Nazi movement made it more applicable than if I'd chosen some other war leader.

4. Is Sister Grace's friendship so highly valued by Vern that he is willing to lay down his life in exchange for her?

Dragons don't die. Having said that, he'd do just about anything for her. Would he cross God? Read the story and find out.

5. Is Stan Rakness aiding Vern to save their poisoned friend, Sister Grace?

This story takes place before they met Stan. (They get partnered with Stan in *Live and Let Fly*, a super-spy spoof in e-book from MuseItUP: http://dragoneyepi.blogspot.com/p/live-and-let-fly.html)

6. Where can our readers buy the book?

http://tinyurl.com/greatertreasureskindle

You can find all of Vern's books and stories at http://dragoneyepi.net

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