

AN ORIGINAL SIN

By Nina Bangs

Dorchester Love Spell, 1999

Reviewed by :: Babe King

It's been a while since a story blew up my skirt, but this one did--or given the Scottish hero, perhaps that should be my kilt. Nina Bangs is a multi-published, USA Today best-selling author, and it's not hard to see why. In this time-travel romance, a smart-mouthed cosmic troublemaker brings together Four-two-N (Fortune) MacDonald, a fabricator of fake men from the sterile world of 2300 where men, passion and violence are extinct, and Leith Campbell, a fierce warrior and tender, experienced lover from the 1700 Highlands. Gotta love his brogue, among other things.

Her mission: to bring back a real male to her world and save humankind from extinction. His mission: to pay penance for betraying his brother during battle by making love to her. The troublemaker's mission: well, to make trouble, of course. Not easy when you're already the biggest trouble maker in the universe and have grown tired of the whole famine/plague/war thing. At least this is what they each think their missions are. This wonderful story carries its theme of the redemptive power of love through all the characters, not just the hero and heroine, with many surprising developments and twists.

From the moment these two meet, naked, in bed, in the year 2000, and she checks out the whole, er... package, the sexual tension between them sizzles. The sex scenes are hot, but the tenderness and warmth are stellar. Fortune and Leith really have to prove the power of their love for each other to the point of death-- no, no, I'm not going to tell you how and spoil it. Suffice to say it choked me up.

This book has both a prologue and an epilogue, which I am dubious about using, but I felt they worked well in this case. I'd like to say how the language and POV and such were, but in all honesty, I was too invested in the story to notice.

"Dinna waste yer time denying what's plain to see." (P.30) This is a keeper, ladies. Do yourself a favour and check it out.

4 ½ Kisses