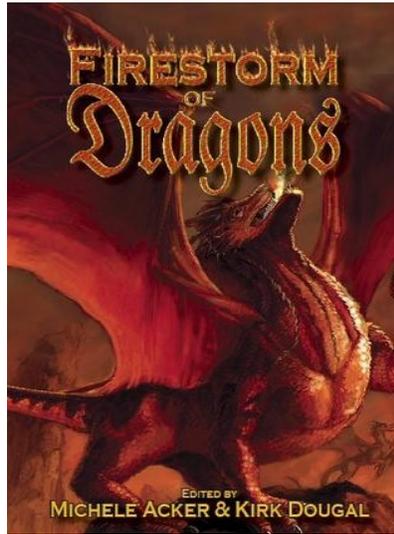


Firestorm of Dragons – Blog Tour

(<http://www.firestormofdragons.com>)



November 2008
at
Time with Tannia
(<http://timewithtannia.tripod.com>)

**An Interview with Karina Fabian, Sandra Ulbrich, Bob Nailor,
Kim Richards, and their dragons.**

By:

Tannia E. Ortiz-Lopés

Do you believe in dragons? Have you ever dared to search for one? Have you ever wondered how the authors and the dragons in the book *Fire Storm of Dragon* met? Wonder no more, come alone and enjoy the reading!



KARINA FABIAN, author of "DragonEye, PI."

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Karina's writing career began with writing about parenting issues, the Catholic faith, and artists and community leaders. She's written for over 50 publications, including newspapers, magazines of all sizes and radio. She wrote three craft books for a EcceHomo Press by using her kids to test, create and model the crafts. She and her husband, Robert, write science fiction stories while on dates.

In 2005, she turned her attention totally to fiction. With Rob, she has edited the Christian SF anthology, *Leaps of Faith*, (coming 2008) and *Infinite Space, Infinite God*, an award-winning SF anthology with Catholic themes (2007 twilight Times Books)

Her latest fantasy adventure, *DragonEye, PI*, features a down-and-out dragon working off a geas by the Faerie St. George. Vern d'Wyvern (yes, it's an embarrassing name for a dragon) is partnered by Sister Grace, a Mage for the Faerie Catholic Church. Together they solve crimes magical and Mundane and save the universes on an all-too-regular basis. *DragonEye, PI*, stories appear in magazines and on the Internet, and its first book, "Magic, Mensa and Mayhem" comes out from Swimming Kangaroo in early 2009.

* * * * *

BACKGROUND STORY : When the Interdimensional Gap opened between Faerie and Mundane, an undersized and underpowered dragon working off a compulsion by the Faerie St. George to serve sentient beings, came to Los Lagos Colorado and started a detective agency. Vern, that dragon, has since been joined by a mage nun from Faerie, Sister Grace. Together they've saved the universes more than a handful of times and gotten into many other adventures. Karina Fabian transcribes those cases for them and in return, is allowed to make them into stories and novels. You can learn more about them and read Vern's blog at www.dragoneyepi.net.

1. What aspects of dragons tales fascinated you the most that you dare enter into their world and even been allowed to write stories about them?

For me, it wasn't so much that Vern is a dragon as it is Vern is, well, *Vern*. He's got a wuirky sense of humor and a unique way of looking at the lives of us mere mortals. (Faerie dragons are immortal, you know.) Plus, he has the most interesting adventures. "DragonEye, PI" is just the first of many I've written--"Amateurs" published in *The Sword Review*; I have two more stories

coming in anthologies, and two novels coming from Swimming Kangaroo in 2009. In short, I love the world, I love the adventures, I love Vern!

2. Do you get along with your dragon? If not, how do you settle your conflicts?

I wouldn't transcribe his cases if we didn't get along. He doesn't pay me enough. We seldom have conflicts, however. He's 850 pounds of muscle and teeth--why would I argue with that?

3. What is your dragon's personality type?

Cynical, but not as much as he'd like us to believe. Fiercely loyal but easily annoyed. Not always sure he can do everything God asks of him, even though he does have the Wisdom of the Ages and the Experience of Eternity, as his phone book ad says.

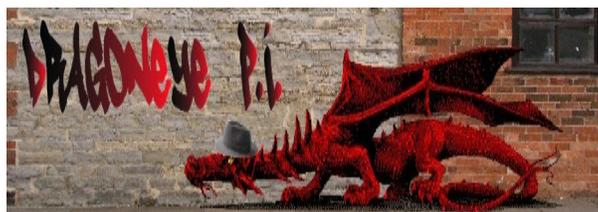
4. How did you negotiate a fair division of the book royalties with your dragon?

He pays me peanuts to transcribe the cases, but I get royalties on all the stories and books. I do always bring dinner when I visit, however.

5. Have you met your dragon's immediate family? If yes, how was that encounter.

Dragons are androgynous and immortal. They don't have family. In a sense, they are all related, but not in the way we think of family units. They all have their own territory in Faerie (which vary from country to continent size), and occasionally, they meet to talk, spar or dance, but if they don't see each other for a millennium or more, it's not a big deal.

Vern has many people who love him in Los Lagos, but they are not family. In fact, the Costa kids used to call him "Uncle" until he broke them of the habit. The closest thing to "family" he'd get is Sister Grace, ut even then, the word doesn't apply.



Dragon's Name: Vern d'Wyvern

1. How did you meet your storyteller?

Karina approached us. She'd heard about some of our tales and asked if we needed a transcriber. She brought food. It worked out.

2. Have you shown your storyteller where you keep your treasure?

My real treasure is in Faerie, and now that I serve the Faerie Church, I'm only allowed to visit it on rare occasions. (God bless St. George, magically overpowered pain-in-the-tail.) In truth, however, dragons really treasure unique experiences and good friendships, which as our transcriber, Karina gets to see on a regular basis.

3. Describe to us your ideal world.

Here's the description from the novel *Live and Let Fly* (Coming 2009 from Swimming Kangaroo.)

I try not to get too nostalgic for those days. That was back when dragons were dragons, virgins were snacks you took because the townsmen were too stupid to toss out a nice, plump cow, and the knightly entertainment was delivered to your cave entrance in full armor-clanking glory. I was top of the food chain and happily snoozing on my hoard of gold and precious jewels--and valuable artifacts, I was something of a connoisseur then--in an abandoned dwarf mine in the mountains of Caraparavelenciana. The High Elves consulted me for my wisdom and didn't mind tarrying for a day or two for storytelling. Humans gasped in awe and fear as I flew high over their lands, and even if they didn't get my take-out orders right, at least they kept me well fed. Mages of all races sought my magic, and occasionally, when one was smart enough to trade or inept enough to amuse me, I'd grant them the spare scale or let them draw a vial of my blood. The human religion of the Risen Christ had grown strong and united throughout the known world, and Satan and his minions had retreated for the most part, so life was overall pretty peaceful. As an undying creature of God, I was feeling lazy and looking forward to a quiet millennium.

4. When you lose your temper, how do you cool off?

Used to be, I ate the offender. You can guess people avoided ticking me off. Now, I snap and snarl, make snide comments. I don't get mad too often, except at Kitty McGrue. That reporter has a knack for getting under my scales.

5. A word of advice for dragon hunters daring to come into your world.

Make my day.



SANDRA ULBRICH; author of "A Reptile at the Reunion"

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Sandra Ulbrich is an assistant scientist for an enzyme company in the Chicago area. She got the idea for “A Reptile at the Reunion” after receiving an invitation to her own graduate school reunion. She studied Molecular Biology and English at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and has a Master of Technical and Scientific Communication from Miami University. Sandra is married and has one son, Alexander, born in 2007. Her interests include the Beatles, science, crocheting, and tango. She appeared on *Jeopardy!* in 1997 and came in second, but she’s still too embarrassed by her erratic performance to watch the episode. Sandra writes both science fiction and fantasy and is a member of BroadUniverse. Her novella “Move Over Ms. L.” earned an Honorable Mention in the international 2001 UPC Science Fiction Awards. “A Reptile at the Reunion” is her first published work, though she has several novels in progress. Her website is at www.sandraulbrich.com, and her blog is at www.ulbrichalmazan.blogspot.com.

1. What aspects of dragons tales fascinated you the most that you dared enter into their world and even been allowed to write stories about them?

The chance to create my own vision of this ancient and universal myth.

2. Do you get along with your dragon? If not, how do you settle your conflicts?

My dragon is easy to get along with as long as humans aren’t interfering with her.

3. What is your dragon’s personality type?

My dragon develops a sardonic edge over the course of the story.

4. How did you negotiate a fair division of the book royalties with your dragon?

I get the money; she gets the pears.

5. Have you met your dragon's immediate family? If yes, how was that encounter.

No, my dragon is too territorial to visit family.

Dragon's Name: "Defends the Orchard."

1. How did you meet your storyteller?

Pesky humans brought her to me.

2. Have you shown your storyteller where you keep your treasure?

I'm not the kind of dragon who keeps treasure.

3. Describe to us your ideal world.

Cool, shaded, with lovely trees for me to glide along and plenty of pears to eat.

4. When you lose your temper, how do you cool off?

By releasing my inner fire.

5. A word of advice for dragon hunters daring to come into your world.

Don't stand behind me.



BOB NAILOR, author of "Druid's Dragon"

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Bob Nailor: Bob is a retired government worker who was on the cutting edge of technology as a Systems Manager but now enjoys being an end user. Having raised four sons he enjoys spoiling his six grandchildren and weaving a tale by the campfire to excite, thrill, scare or fascinate them while on travel enjoying the sights of our great country. He still remembers his first critique, 3rd grade, of his poem, Angels and Volcanoes. His first rejection was from Children's Highlights while a sophomore in high school. Today he is published at many websites and is a contributing author to Companion Guide to Writing Fantasy and The Complete Guide to Writing Science Fiction.

He was a columnist for a small, local newspaper when he lived outside of Washington, DC and was the poetry editor and production manager for The Emporium Gazette (www.emporiumgazette.com), an online writer's ezine. He currently is the coordinator for the Northwest Ohio Writers' Conference (<http://www.nwowc.com/>) which keeps him quite busy.

1. What aspects of dragons tales fascinated you the most that you dare enter into their world and even been allowed to write stories about them?

The sheer magnificence of the creature should tell you that; their grace in the air is only overshadowed by their bulk and when flames come into play, absolute power is displayed. I guess because I still hold awe for them I am allowed to write about these fabulous creatures.

2. Do you get along with your dragon? If not, how do you settle your conflicts?

There are no conflicts with a dragon, or at least, with mine. There are only two sides to an argument with him – he is right, you are wrong. It's quite simple.

3. What is your dragon personality type?

I prefer the laid back, easy going personality.

4. How did you negotiate a fair division of the book royalties with your dragon?

Where do you get the idea that we negotiated? He flipped a coin, heads: he wins; tails: I lose. It was tails. Of course, I did ask what would happen if it landed on its edge but he assured me it

couldn't and wouldn't but IF it did, we'd split on the standard weight payment ratio: 99.9/.1 He's all about being fair.

5. Have you met your dragon's immediate family? If yes, how was that encounter.

He is the last of his kind so family life is a really lacking, but we have played 'Chase the Clouds' and toasted marshmallows.

Dragon's Name: DooDahn

1. How did you meet your storyteller?

It was a dark and stormy night... Sorry, wrong approach. It was a quiet evening, I was sleeping when he stomped on my tail and from there, well, things just tumbled into a so-so friendship that has endured far longer than it probably should have.

2. Have you shown your storyteller where you keep your treasure?

And have you told everyone all your secrets? Of course not, honey. As we dragons say, A loose tongue gets burned.

3. Describe to us your ideal world.

My perfect world would be free of Druids. If you read my story, you'll understand my plight. I was tempted to start a movement but with only one dragon left in the world, yours truly, in case you missed that aspect, I figured it was a moot point.

4. When you loose your temper, how do you cool off?

Well, in the old days it was simple – a quick spin in the air, find a nice wooden sailing ship, torch it, then go for a quick dip in the ocean. Let me tell you, those big, deluxe cruise ships, they just don't torch all that well. So the ocean dip don't cut the mustard. Ask anyone around me, now I just stay cranky for a few days.

5. A word of advice for dragon hunters daring to come into your world.

Don't even think of it. See this? [holding right foot up] Talk to the foot. My best buddy, Drako, he loved when those silly little foil wrapped meals came charging in on horses. He could warm them with his flames, then remove that crusty outer skin. I never really got that opportunity, I was more a temple type, virgins you know. But, if a hunter does show up, trust me, he will be more than sorry.



KIM RICHARDS, author of “Dragonfruit”

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Kim Richards currently resides in Santa Rosa, California though she was born and raised in Roswell, New Mexico. Though she is about the same age and shares the same name, she is not the actress. She loves all things in the fantastical genres of horror, fantasy and science fiction. Her hobbies include sewing, bellydance and costuming. Kim moderates guest author chats for Writerschatroom.com; writes the monthly newsletter for Pretty-scary.net; edits for MyShelf.com reviews and works as the Marketing Manager for Eternal Press. You can find information on her work on the web at www.kim-richards.com; on ebay at robedinfantasy.com; and at Live Journal, Goodreads, My Space, Shelfari and Facebook as kim-richards

1. What aspects of dragons tales fascinated you the most that you dared enter into their world and even been allowed to write stories about them?

I enjoy writing something new and hadn't taken on a dragon before. I love fantasy and jumped at the chance to write about one.

2. Do you get along with your dragon? If not, how do you settle your conflicts? I've never met him face to face, just telling his story.

3. What is your dragon's personality type? Protective

4. How did you negotiate a fair division of the book royalties with your dragon?. Have you met your dragon's immediate family? If yes, how was that encounter?

No, I met my dragon and his warrior women when I told their tale. Don't know that I'd want to get that close.

Dragon's Name:

1. How did you meet your storyteller? She came around with a pen and pad of paper; hung out in the shadows so we ignored her.

2. Have you shown your storyteller where you keep your treasure?

Life is the true treasure.

3. Describe to us your ideal world.

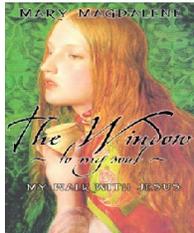
One in which men were good to one another.

4. When you lose your temper, how do you cool off?

Soaring high in the clouds

5. A word of advice for dragon hunters daring to come into your world.

I am enduring, you are not, so don't bother.



Tannia E. Ortiz-Lopés, author of *The Window To My Soul; My Walk With Jesus* (ISBN 0975393359; 2004 Tate Publishing; www.tatepublishing.com).

Author's websites: timewithtannia.tripod.com, www.shoutlife.com/tanniaortizlopes, www.myspace.com/tanniaortizlopes, and www.myspace.com/tanniaortizlopesmusic. The author also has a blog at www.amazon.com

Copyrighted November 2008, Tannia E. Ortiz-Lopes – All Rights Reserved

Author's Comments:

Name: Sandra Ulbrich Almazan Date: November 3, 2008 8:55:09 AM EST
Email Address: (optional) sandra@sandraulbrich.com
Web site URL: (optional) www.sandraulbrich.com

Comments: Thank you for hosting this!

Name: Karina Fabian Date: November 3, 2008 8:52:57 AM EST
Email Address: (optional) karina@fabianspace.com
Web site URL: (optional) www.fabianspace.com

Comments: Oh, these interviews are priceless. I love Bob's negotiations, how Kim's dragon "met her," and Sandra's advice to dragon hunters. Folks, the stories are even more fun than the interviews. Please read more at www.firestormofdragons.com or purchase the book at http://www.amazon.com/Firestorm-Dragons-Michele-Acker/dp/1896944809/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1225507290&sr=8-1. Thanks, Tannia! Karina Fabian www.dragoneyepi.net