



Book Synopsis (Spoilers)

Cullen, a young boy, runs through the moonlit redwood forest grabbing at his neck as if he's being choked. He thinks that the vines are still strangling him, but when he arrives home he can't remember how he got there.

1400 years earlier, a druidic tribe was brutally attacked during a wedding ceremony. The bride, Fiana, rushed through the magical veil into the otherworld with most of her tribe, but the doorway closed before her new husband, Rowan, could get through. Trapped on this side of the veil with the attackers, he hid himself in his own magic wand. One of the attackers steals the wand while Fiana watches helplessly from the otherworld.

In the present, Cullen finds the wand buried in the redwood forest in an ancient grove while trying to hide his last book. His cruel foster father burned the rest of his books. This last book, a birthday gift from his favorite teacher Ms. MacFey, was the only one left. Upon finding the wand, the wind and trees whisper a strange word which Cullen repeats out loud. The wand sprouts vines that crawl up his arms and surrounds his neck, then suddenly disappear. The only thing that remains is a strange birthmark over his sternum shaped like a tree.

One day, his foster brother Rex and his bully friends attack Cullen's best friend, April. Since the girl is blind, she cannot see her attackers and runs away into the boy's bathroom where Cullen is hiding. He is terribly frightened, and cowers in the corner when a horrible pain in his chest causes him to pass out. Emerging from the bathroom stall is Rowan, the wizard from the beginning, who saves April from her tormentors.

Cullen comes to realize that he is possessed by a wizard who tries to come to terms with missing the last 1400 years from being stuck in his wand. Believing his new wife is long dead, Rowan tries to adapt to his new situation. Cullen actually likes having the company and is thrilled that the magic he loves to read about is real.

Fiana had returned one year later to the spot where Rowan disappeared. She vowed to spend the remainder of her existence searching for him. She fruitlessly searches for the wand to free Rowan. She preserves her life and youth through magic, but when even this begins to fail, she turns to blacker arts. After two centuries of searching throughout Europe, even dark magic will no longer sustain her. She gives up her soul to become a vampire, enabling her to continue her search. However, she loses her way and becomes bitter and evil. Two of her three fey companions abandon her when she becomes a vampire, only Marlin remains loyal throughout.

Cullen sees Fiana on TV. She is now a successful VIP in San Francisco. Rowan convinces him to go to the city to find her. When the two lovers finally meet again, the unchanged Rowan is confronted with a 1400 year old Fiana whose single-minded quest has changed her into a powerful and evil creature. Now they can only be adversaries despite their continued love for each other. Rowan defeats her in the end, but she escapes to be his nemesis in future books.

About the Authors

Christine & Ethan Rose have marvelous imaginations. Often finding their inspiration among the trees, they write as they lead their lives...with plenty of adventure, magic and love. Although many tragic heroes begin as orphans, Ethan actually was one. He grew up amongst the magical redwoods in Northern California and has read virtually every fantasy novel ever written. Anglophilic Christine holds her M.A. in Medieval/Renaissance Literature & Folklore. She wrote her Master's Thesis on Le Morte D'Arthur, and produced two documentary films. Christine's scholarly, goal-oriented background mixed with Ethan's in-depth knowledge of modern fantasy creates an impenetrable team of writers who look forward to writing more books together. They live in Austin with their three canine kids and Shadow, the cat. This is their premiere novel.



Christine Rose, 38

Christine is an entrepreneur at heart. Often described as a "free spirit" she is believed to have gypsy blood running through her veins, which explains why she moves around so much. (Although some claim that she has ants in her pants.)

Christine produced two documentary films and has credits on IMDB.com. The first film enjoyed a theatrical premiere in Paris and a considerable amount of international press. She also planned and executed a 40-US city promotional tour for it. She has had articles appear in several magazines, including MovieMaker Magazine and IndieSlate Magazine discussing her career as an independent filmmaker.

Her favorite authors include Shakespeare, Swift and Vonnegut, with a more recent adoration of J.K. Rowling and Neil Gaiman.



Ethan Rose, 38

Living in foster care in Mendocino County, Ethan often wandered through the forests with a book in hand. To this day, you will rarely catch him without a trusty paperback to pass the time stuffed in his back pocket. When he can't read, he listens to books on tape, normally while working as a General Contractor.

Christine and Ethan met swing dancing in 1999 and were married a year later. They've traveled together extensively across the USA, in the U.K., Canada and France. The couple attends Burning Man every year.

Reviews and Testimonials

“The story was truly excellent, a really good read, with just about everything a book could need; the romance, and unrequited love is the foundation; but suffering on all levels, and from all characters, in one way or another, really builds into a very good story. The initial chapters where Cullen is first introduced makes the reader wonder if it will become “another Harry Potter” story; where the boy becomes a wizard, but that is not necessarily a bad thing. Then when you realize that the boy is not going to get any pleasant birthday surprise, and the way you have changed it, yes, he does become a wizard, but in a totally different way; that’s an instant attraction for the reader, and really pulls them in. I can’t think of anything negative to say at all, and I am hoping you have written/ will write Book 2. Will they meet again? What happens to Cullen, Maddy, April and Max? Oh, and Moody, he’s such a sweet man. If you haven’t already, please start writing, you have a great talent..”

- Angela Hooper, editor Angel Editing

“..engrossing and enthralling...”

- Sara Visser, carpenter

“..excellent and well written. The descriptions are vivid and makes you feel the story. I couldn't put it down...”

- Jayme Massingil, homemaker and mother

Technical Data

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