

This Author Life...



Hey all! I hope you're doing well and enjoying the last of these summer days. How is it almost September?? Last year couldn't end fast enough; I swear it CRAWLED by. But this year is FLYING. It feels like I can't hold on to time in the least.

I'm currently recovering from Covid. I finally decided to give the big, open world a try and went with my husband to Asheville, North Carolina. We went to the Biltmore and enjoyed some art galleries, shopping, good food, and scenery. And REST. We're vaccinated and we masked up, but alas, the one time I braved the New World, I got the plague.

I'm doing okay, though. I've been very tired and this cough is for real, but I've been fortunate--thanks to the vaccine and infusion therapy--to make it through with just exhaustion and needing some Mucinex and DayQuil.

On the writing front, I can announce that the word tally for The Witch Collector was way more than I expected. 113K words. Right at 400 pages. It's still so wild that a story I thought I could fit into a novellasized package can now be used as a small doorstop;)

Also, thanks to all who participated in the cover reveal in July. It was a ginormous success. Storygram did an amazing job, and the hype was so fun to be a part of. I've met lots of new readers who are pumped for The Witch Collector's release and I'm so very excited to share the journey with all of you. On that front...

The Witch Collector Book Box Giveaway...

I gave away one of these boxes during the Storygram Cover Reveal, but I'm going to be giving away three more via my newsletter. Details for the giveaway will be posted in October's Newsletter, so keep an eye out!

A few notes on what the book box will contain (though there might be additional goodies):

- A signed copy of the novel
- Either a Witch Collector themed mug or candle
- Swag: stickers, bookmark, bookplate
- Character Art Print
- Map Print
- Handwritten note from me

The boxes will be shipped out about a week after the book is released, and I *might* have a handful of these for sale via my website in November. I can't wait to make these up and see everyone's unboxing videos! There will also be a giveaway in my Rebel Readers group.









The Winners of the Divergent and Crescent City Giveaways were: Amanda Kassing and Marcia Deans

$\overline{Character} \, \overline{Art}$





ALEXUS THIBAULT
THE WITCH COLLECTOR

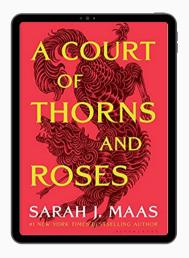
RAINA BLOODGOOD
WITCH WALKER

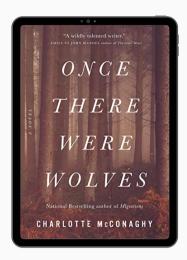
More fun! I made the character art for the hero and heroine over on ArtBreeder--I love these two so much. But, like the maps, a real artist will take these imaginings and create lovely artwork that I plan to give away around release time along with other bookish goodies. Juliet at @bxromance on Instagram has signed on to do a special art piece for the book, and I'm so excited about it! It's from a fave scene of mine. I cannot wait to see it come to life!

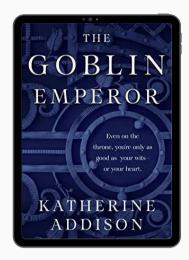
What Else I'm Working On...

I've been sick, so I've had to take a break, but next week I'm reading over the final pass of Ashley R. King's contemporary romance novel, The Wilde Card, reviewing copy edits for my client Katherine Quinn on her book titled The Girl Who Belonged to the Sea, and I should be dipping into edits on Starla DeKruyf's Valentine's romance novel. I'm also going to finish City of Ruin in September--or that's the hope, y'all. As of right now, the release is set for 2/22/22 (Cool, huh?) AND, I have to write a synopsis for The Witch Collector so it can go out on foreign rights submissions. I hate summarizing anything, so this is a task. But I can do it! Wish me luck!

Books, Books, Books...



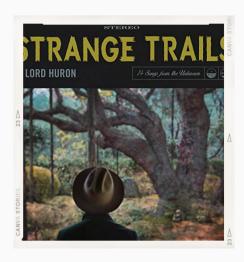




Man, I've had so little time to pleasure read. This is my 5th time trying to read ACOTAR in a matter of several years. I always get to Prythian and lose my focus. I'm gonna stick with it this time, though! Once There Were Wolves has been on my list for a while, and when I saw it in the Book of the Month offerings, I snagged it immediately. Super excited about it. And! The Goblin Emperor. I've heard such good things about this book. Hoping that I love it! It's kinda hard to dip into reading when my brain is in editing and drafting mode. The end of the year might consist of me inhaling books while sipping Irish coffee by the fire. Here's hoping.

What are you reading??

My Current Playlist



LORD HURON is at the top of my listening list these days. <u>MEET ME IN THE WOODS</u> is on my Witch Collector playlist. It goes with the story so well. Other songs tickling my ears right now?

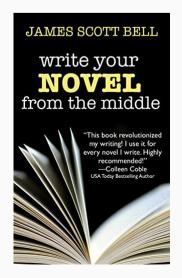
- The Night We Met/Lord Huron
- Cosmic Love/Florence + the Machine
- Breathe/Fleurie and Tommie Profitt
- Walk Through the Fire/Zayde and Ruelle
- Woman/Mumford and Sons

Online Event...

Storygram Tours will be hosting an eARC Tour in September...EEK. Not terrifying AT ALL. The tour stops are listed below. I'll be sharing this on my Insta next week. Cross your fingers for me! I hope they like it!



Writer Resources...



I recently read this book to brush up on my midpoint skills. I highly recommend it. From Amazon:

What's the best way to write a "next level" novel? Some writers start at the beginning and let the story unfold without a plan. They are called "pantsers," because they write by the "seat of the pants."

Other writers plan and outline and know the ending before they start. These are the "plotters." The two sides never seem to agree with each other on the best approach.

But what if it's not the beginning or the end that is the key to a successful book? What if, amazing as it may seem, the place to begin writing your novel is in the very middle of the story? According to #1 bestselling writing teacher James Scott Bell, that's exactly where you'll find your story's heart and heat. Bell's "Mirror Moment" is the secret, and its power is available to any writer, at any stage of the writing process.

Bringing together years of craft study and personal discovery, Bell presents a truly unique approach to writing a novel, one that will stand the test of time and serve you all your writing life.

Bookish Giveaways!

I'm participating in a couple of newsletter and social media builders to reach readers. Click the images and take a look! They're easy to enter!





I'm working on a book list with links to new reads and releases for the end of the year.

Watch Next month's newsletter for details!

Thanks For Reading!

Until next time, come chat with me on Instagram or in the Rebel Reader Group:)

Charissa