

Press Kit



Christina Wallace

Speaking about Light Keeper and the two main characters, Christina says, “The beauty in their friendship is the way they balance one another out.”

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Christina has been telling stories through writing since grade school. What once started as a mere hobby to entertain her friends with short “movie scripts” turned into a passion to share her vision with the world. In her early days of writing,

Christina focused on the mere moments available to her, a few minutes between classes, during a break at work, or even scribbling notes on receipt paper while on the run.

Inspiration for “The Light Keeper” came from a short prompt on “Pinterest.” From the one-sentence prompt, an entire world emerged. Christina has yet to base characters around people she knows, but she hopes the characters’ essence will feel familiar to readers.

Christina said, “Isaac’s driving force was inspired by an instructor of mine who used to joke about everyone’s favorite radio station: WIIFM, or What’s In It For Me. Readers will see Isaac is largely driven by his own selfish desires. Even when he begins to help tame the

faeries, it’s only because he wants to get back to his normal life.

Everyone needs to find their perfect match, someone who is almost their exact opposite. This is where the inspiration from Yara came from. Whereas Isaac is entirely selfish, Yara has been made to live selfless her entire life. She is not afraid to put Isaac in his place. The beauty in their friendship is the way they balance one another out.”

Christina feels most at home when writing for younger age demographics. “In a way, I feel it is easier to write (pre)teens. They are independent enough to go on their own adventures but don’t often have the responsibilities of life in the way. Even as an adult, I prefer to read “Teen Fantasies.”

Although Christina has yet to be published, she cannot wait for readers from around the globe to become acquainted with Isaac and Yara. She hopes her series will fuel imaginations everywhere.

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Why are you seeking traditional publishing instead of self-publishing?

In my blog post “finding an agent in a haystack” I list my 5 reasons for choosing to find an agent for the traditional publishing route. My number one reason I do not want to self-publish is that anyone can do it nowadays and the market is saturated with self-edited and poorly written novels. Some people still manage to find success, but it is increasingly difficult, especially when you take my target age group into consideration. Not nearly as many pre-teens are searching for e-books. I want to be on bookshelves nationwide, not just the local stores. No route to publication is easy, but for what I want to achieve, I believe the traditional route is best for me.

What has been the most difficult part of this process?

The waiting. The writing and editing all falls on me, I can get that done as quickly or slowly as I desire. Waiting for feedback is tough, because I

feel like I cannot continue without it, especially if it might mean a major overhaul. Now I am waiting on query responses. Then I'll be waiting for a publication offer and after that I'll be waiting for the book launch and sales. There is just so much waiting after the story has been written.

What is your favorite scene, no spoilers, of Light Keeper?

Ooh, tough one! There are many great moments that I fist pumped after writing, haha. I am partial to the way Cristo is introduced and the ending line of story, just feels so good.

Which character embodies your traits the most, and which trait is most prevalent? There is a little bit of me in Yara's character. She's a loner and very stubborn in her own ways. She knows the way things are supposed to be done and wants them to go exactly that way. I would say the stubborn planner is the trait she and I share most significantly.

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What is your writing Kryptonite?

“Let me look this up, real fast...” doesn’t matter what, could be a better synonym might be a technical name for catwalk on a castle’s edge, of the Filipino word for lizard. I’ll get hung up on a minor detail and instead of skipping it and making a note to figure it out later, I’ll jump online and spend way too much time trying to figure a single word. I have to know things, skipping makes me crazy, but I’m trying to be better about it.

How do you decide the names of characters in your books?

Mostly I just make them up. I’ll think about the character and start writing and the name just comes to me. Sometimes, I’ll have a character whose name has a purpose. Yara is one of those, it means strength and another meaning is a nod to something about her that will be revealed in the next book. Cristo on the other hand, was just out of the blue. I had a story about a boy discovering a glass ball in his attic with a name on it and I wrote the first thing that popped into my head as I pictured that scene-- Cristo. I’ll make names up, too. Tommison is not a real name. Kearney I got just by searching for Irish names and chose one I liked, sometimes I’ll tweak them a bit.

What comes first, the ending or the concept?

The concept. The original ending for The Light

Keeper was in a stadium and involved Isaac releasing all of the faeries himself to command them to stop Cristo. The new ending is much better because the old Isaac didn’t really learn his lesson. But I like to write with a more vague idea of where I am going and just see where it leads me.

What is the hardest part of the story to put together?

Right now is introducing tidbits of information that the reader will enjoy and learn more about in later books, but not enjoy too much that they’ll be annoyed if they have no answer. Also, the first chapter. From finding a publisher standpoint, the first chapter has to really shine. I’ve worked on mine time and time again, and I really like it, but there is still the fear that I drag the beginning out too long. I really want to make sure I’ve set the scene, so when it all comes tumbling down, the reader will feel it.

Do you hide easter eggs in your books for your core audience?

Not yet, maybe in later books. Though I suppose someone could keep track of much Isaac talks about food, haha.

Have you read any books that made you think differently about your writing?

Not really. You’ll hear writers say time and

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time again that a great writer is an avid reader-- That we learn from reading. I suppose I do, at times. But when I read, I'm not studying it, I'm enjoying it for what it is. I like the way Sarah J. Maas writes, but I want to write my way. Sometimes I wish I were better at writing descriptions and then I receive feedback from several people who say my writing is "cinematic" and my scenes are full of detail. So, from a literary standpoint, I may be a weaker writer, but my writing speaks to readers and they are the most important.