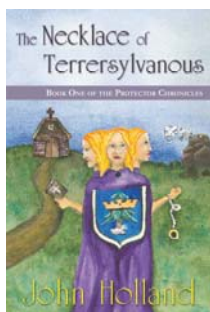


The Necklace of Terrersylvanous

Book One of the Protector Chronicles



FICTION / Fantasy / General
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 28, 2007 Book Signing at Walden Books in Orangeburg from 1:00 to 4:00 PM
June 16, 2007 Book Signing at Walden Books in Charleston from 1:00 to 3:00 PM
July 20, 2007 Book Signing for Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows midnight opening
Walden Books in Sumter Mall from 12:00 midnight to 3:00 AM
July 21, 2007 Book Signing for Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows opening
Walden Books in Sumter Mall from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM

THE BOOK

When Clara is ambushed and nearly killed by animated skeletons, her master is fearful that something is up at the nearby school of magic. They soon discover that the horn of a unicorn, with healing powers so great that it could possibly bring back the dead, has been stolen. Clara is sent off on a mission to find out who did it. Furthermore, the school's master wizard sends his star apprentice, Alexcia, along to help.

Clara finds out quickly that Alexcia is not her kind of people and greatly resents the partnership. Only her sense of duty allows her to continue. Despite the differences, Clara and Alexcia gain audience with the kingdom's master thief. He denies having anything to do with the robbery, but is willing to give them some information in exchange for a service: they must find the legendary Necklace of Terrersylvanous!

As they travel northward to find their prize, Clara's attitude becomes increasingly more disruptive, until the quest itself becomes jeopardized by her disdain. Can Clara overcome her own prejudices in time to salvage their mission?

BOOK EXCERPT

Pastor Brenner looked back at Clara. "You must go to For-Dune and seek Bocard. This is the work of a thief, and we need to have a thief's brain to determine what is going on."

"But what if he is in on the plot, Father?" asked Clara. The real question was hidden in her words.

"Then we need to know that, too," he replied. He had answered in kind, hiding the answer in his own words. Clara knew that she was expendable, but being reminded of it sent chills down her spine.

THE AUTHOR

John Holland, a veteran of the war on terror, started participating in role-playing games in high school and was designing his own rules by the time he went to college. After he became a father, he created a new set of rules especially for his daughters. The Protector Chronicles is based on events that occurred within those games.

SAMPLE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q: What is the book about?

A: The book is about a young lady who has deep religious beliefs and attempts to meet the high moral standards that her Church demands. Her character flaw is that she lacks compassion and understanding. In order to succeed in her mission, she must discover this flaw of hers and overcome it.

Q: Can you tell us a little about the setting?

A: The story takes place in an alternate world. The setting is in a thick forest on the edges of civilization. The time period would be similar to our own middle ages, about the 11th Century.

Q: When did you start writing it?

A: I wrote the story while serving in Afghanistan. There is only so much entertainment available when the work is done, so I would open up my lap top and type. I would periodically get a chance to e-mail chapters to my wife at home for her to proof edit. She is an English teacher at the high school, and her assistance was very helpful. Besides the obvious benefit of polishing the story, this was a means of us to stay connected during the separation.

Q: What is the message that you hope to pass on to your readers?

A: I believe that it is important to be true to your own beliefs, but religious tolerance is essential. I do not believe that anyone can put God into a box and say they have all there is to have. I believe that all religions have different insights into the spiritual world, and that these insights should be respected.

Q: What do you believe will happen if we don't try to understand and respect each other?

A: I spent a year away from my family because there are those in the Islamic community that refuse to accept that other religions are acceptable forms of belief. These people are dangerous because they have a large audience. If we, as a nation, are to find peace against the terrorists, then we must put down the violent propoganda made against us and support leaders who are tolerant.

Q: Will there be more books?

A: There will be ten books in the complete series, plus I see many spin offs as well. For one, I see a bestiary that covers all the monsters that the heroes come across. I also see an anthology of short stories that I am writing right now.

Q: Can you tell us a little about the world in which the story takes place?

A: The world is an alternate earth that somewhat parallels our own. When the forces of evil nearly destroyed it, God stepped in and put an end to the fighting. Crusaders from this world have been sent to bring ultimate salvation to this second world. Clara is a protector, the religious arm of the crusade. While my story is fictitious, it was inspired by the spread of Christianity in Europe during the Roman times.

Q: What were your inspirations?

A: My love of history was a great inspiration. I draw themes from events all over the world, but especially in Europe and North America. The interaction between the missionaries and

the school of magic was based on stories I've read about the saints converting the barbarians. The barbarians in my story are modeled after the Native Americans from the Great Plains. I've included a lot of eastern themes to the mysticism that the school of magic has.

Q: What can readers expect in upcoming books?

A: The focus will be less on Clara and more on the other characters. Of particular note will be Alexcia's slowly becoming more involved with the Church. This is analogous to the historical conversion process. The Church adopted or modified some pagan beliefs in order to ensure conversions, but in the end it was the pagans who changed the most when they formally adopted Christianity.

Q: Where can readers find out more about the world you created?

A: My web site offers a free short story every month. The short stories all relate to my book series, and offer insights into the world where Clara's adventures take place. There is also a forum where I further explain my philosophies as they pertain to my works.

Q: Where can interested readers find your book?

A: My book can be purchased from me directly at www.jhollandbooks.com. In addition, the following places carry my book:

www.wheatmark.com

www.amazon.com

www.barnes&nobel.com

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