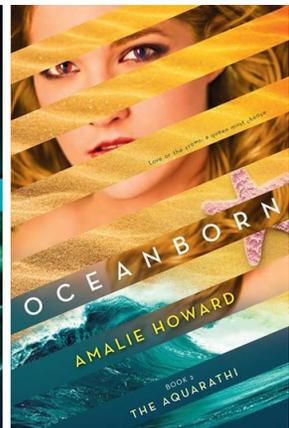
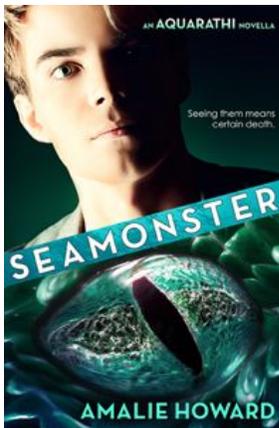
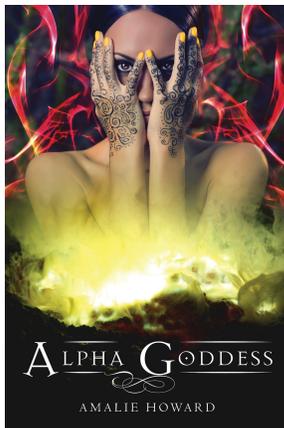
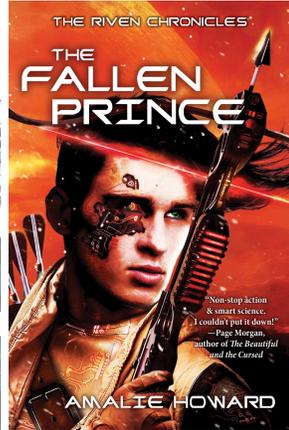
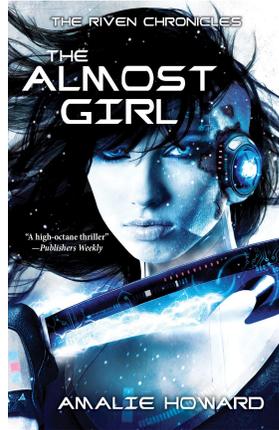
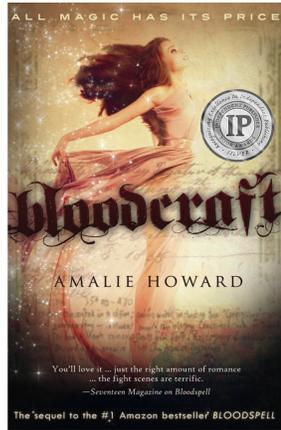
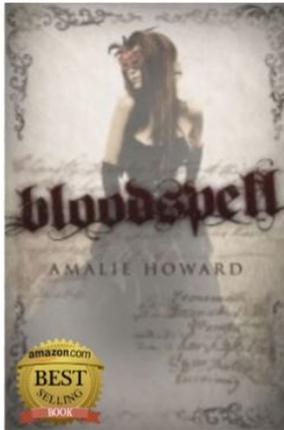


Amalie Howard

YA Author



AmalieHoward.com

 [Amalie Howard](https://www.facebook.com/AmalieHoward)

 [@AmalieHoward](https://twitter.com/AmalieHoward)

 [Amalie Howard](https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/Amalie_Howard)

 [Amalie Howard](https://www.linkedin.com/in/AmalieHoward)

 [Amalie Howard](https://www.youtube.com/AmalieHoward)

 [Amalie Howard](https://www.youtube.com/AmalieHoward)

 [Amalie Howard](https://www.tumblr.com/AmalieHoward)

 [Amalie Howard](https://www.pinterest.com/AmalieHoward)

Roger Charlie

Samantha Lien sam@rogercharlie.com 720-425-3933 rogercharlie.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Samantha Lien at [Roger Charlie](mailto:sam@rogercharlie.com)

720-425-3933 sam@rogercharlie.com

Twitter: @samijolien

**'BLOODSPELL' WRITER AMALIE HOWARD RETURNS TO
BOOKSHELVES WITH SEVEN RELEASES**

Young adult author's debut novel named a Seventeen Magazine Summer Beach Read

FT. COLLINS, CO. – Young adult author [Amalie Howard](#) enchanted readers with her debut novel [“Bloodspell,”](#) a *Seventeen Magazine Summer Beach Read* and Amazon #1 Bestseller, and also excites with seven additional titles for young adult readers.

Readers will take a dive into the deep blue sea in the first novel from Howard’s oceanic science fiction two-part series, The Aquarathi. The first installment [“Waterfell”](#) (October 29, 2013, Harlequin TEEN) tells the story of an alien shape-shifting princess who hides among humankind, and fights to save her species in the depths of the Earth’s oceans when an enemy murders her family, threatening the future of her underwater kingdom. The sequel [“Oceanborn”](#) released in 2014. [Fresh Fiction](#) called it “a winner! Howard knocks it out of the park yet again.”

Continuing a tradition of strong female characters, [“The Almost Girl”](#) (March 1, 2016, Skyhorse/Sky Pony Press), which [Publishers Weekly](#) called a “high-octane thriller,” introduces readers to a tough, independent soldier from a parallel universe who is thrown into an earthly mission that has her second guessing life as she knows it. [“The Almost Girl”](#) is first in a two-book series, and is followed by [“The Fallen Prince”](#) (April 5, 2016, Skyhorse/Sky Pony Press).

Howard’s [“Alpha Goddess”](#) (March 2014, Skyhorse/Sky Pony Press), an [IndieNext](#) pick, seamlessly blends East Indian mythology and fantasy. Her unique take on the Hindu myth of *Ramayana*, the epic love story of Rama and Sita, has already piqued the interest of a Hollywood producer who is eager to adapt the book into a film. [“Dark Goddess,”](#) the sequel to [“Alpha Goddess,”](#) will be released in the spring of 2017.

With sixteen novels under her belt, including eight published works, and four more to be published in 2016 and 2017, Howard is a sought-after novelist with her finger on the pulse of her readers. After the release of her first book [“Bloodspell,”](#) she earned a stellar reputation as an engaging writer with a sixth sense for what young readers are really looking for in literature. Fans loved the book so much, that Howard released a sequel - [“Bloodcraft”](#) especially for her devoted readers in 2015, which was awarded a national IPPY silver medal for YA Fiction in 2016. Howard has been honored by the Royal Commonwealth Society, and is a member of the Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators. She currently lives in Colorado with her husband and three children.

Roger Charlie

Samantha Lien sam@rogercharlie.com 720-425-3933 rogercharlie.com

Biography of Amalie Howard



A rising star among young adult writers, [Amalie Howard](#) developed a loyal following after releasing her debut book, “Bloodspell” in 2011. Since that release, she has released seven additional titles that excite her devoted fans and catch the attention of new readers all over the world.

A bookworm from the beginning, Howard grew up on a small island in the Caribbean with her nose buried in books. When she was just 12 years old, her poem “The Candle” was published in a University of Warwick journal, marking a sign of great things to come. Howard immersed herself into other cultures, globetrotting through 25 countries in North America, Europe, Asia and Australia. After moving to the United States, she earned a bachelor’s degree in International Studies and French from Colby College in Maine. She also holds a certificate in French literature from the Ecole Normale Supérieure in Paris, France. Traveling around the world, Howard has lent talents as a research assistant, marketing representative, freelance writer, teen speaker, blogger and global sales executive.

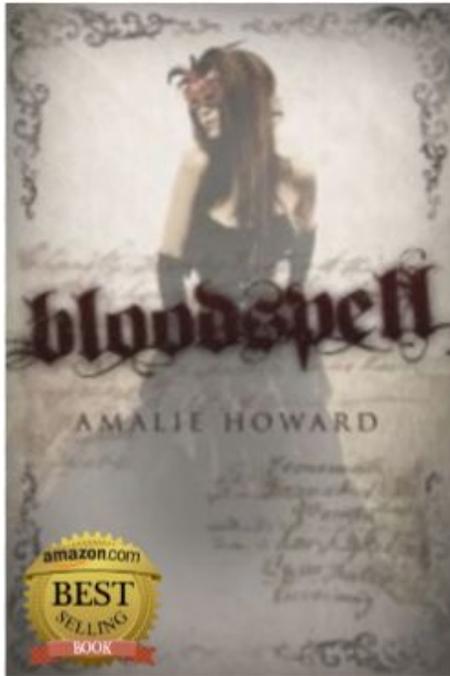
Howard is a recipient of a [Royal Commonwealth Society](#) award, an international young writing competition. She is also a member of the [Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators](#), and an award-winning author of several young adult novels critically acclaimed by [Kirkus](#), [Publishers Weekly](#), [VOYA](#), and [Booklist](#), including “[Waterfell](#)”, “[The Almost Girl](#)”, and “[Alpha Goddess](#)”, a [Spring 2014 Kid’s INDIE NEXT title](#). Her debut novel, “[Bloodspell](#)”, was a #1 Amazon bestseller, and the sequel, “[Bloodcraft](#)” was a national silver [IPPY](#) medalist. She is also the co-author of the adult historical romance series, “[The Lords of Essex](#)”.

As an author of color and a proud supporter of diversity in fiction, her articles on multicultural fiction have appeared in *The Portland Book Review* and on the popular *Diversity in YA* blog. She currently resides in Colorado with her husband and three children.

Roger Charlie

Samantha Lien sam@rogercharlie.com 720-425-3933 rogercharlie.com

Bloodspell (The Cruentus Curse #1)



Paperback: \$15.99
Ebook: \$2.99
ISBN: 978-1936782116

Young Adult
Langdon Street Press
June 1, 2011
Pages: 394

An Amazon #1 Bestseller

The spell was simple... Cruentus Protectum (Defend the Blood)

But what do you do if your blood is your enemy?

Victoria Warrick has always known she was different. An outcast at school, she is no stranger to adversity. But when she receives an old journal for her seventeenth birthday, nothing prepares her for the dark secrets it holds -- much less one that reveals she's a witch with unimaginable power.

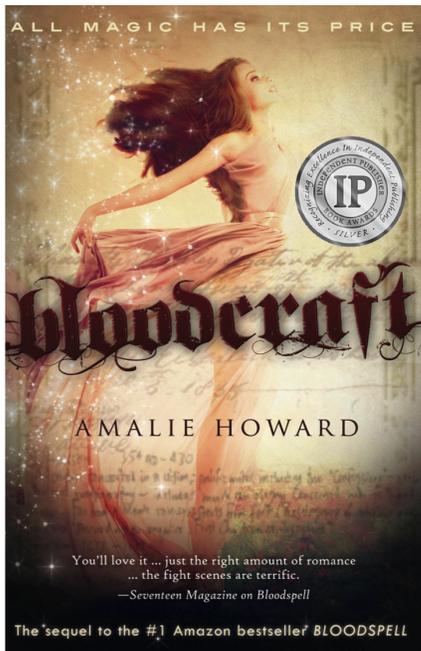
What's more, when she meets the dazzling but enigmatic Christian Devereux, she has no idea how much her life is about to change. Enemies will hunt her. Friends will turn on her. The terrible curse that makes her blood run black will stop at nothing to control her. And Christian has a sinister secret of his own...

Without knowing whom to trust, can Victoria survive her blood's deadly desires? Or will she lose everything, including herself?

Roger Charlie

Samantha Lien sam@rogercharlie.com 720-425-3933 rogercharlie.com

Bloodspell (The Cruentus Curse #2)



Paperback: \$13.99
Ebook: \$2.99
ISBN: 978-0996958400

Young Adult
RAH Media LLC
November 19, 2015
Pages: 380

A 2016 Silver IPPY Winner in YA Fiction

All magic has its price, and no one knows that better than Victoria Warrick. Gifted with a centuries-old blood curse, Tori has finally learned to master her blood's demands and has emerged triumphant with Christian Devereux, a vampire overlord, at her side.

But the worst is yet to come ...

In the infamous City of Lights, home to both the Witch Clans and the Vampire Council, Tori enrolls at the exclusive Belles Fontaines school in Paris, where she is faced with a devastating choice: choose Christian and be an outcast, or choose the coven and secure her place with the witches.

When the fate of the supernatural world is targeted by a sinister new threat, Christian and Victoria must unite their two warring species to defeat it. Their bond will be tested, twisted, and sorely weakened, and Tori will find herself in uncharted territory—a dangerous place to be when her blood's magic has its own dark agenda.

But to save them all, she may have no choice but to invoke its deadly power.

Roger Charlie

Samantha Lien sam@rogercharlie.com 720-425-3933 rogercharlie.com

Praise for Amalie Howard's "The Cruentus Curse" Series

"You'll love it if... you're sick of all the lovey-dovey stuff other books can't seem to leave out of their supernatural stories. This is just the right amount of romance here, but it doesn't overpower the plot. The fight scenes are terrific, and much more satisfying than listening to people whine about wanting to be together forever!" – *Kara McGrath, Seventeen Magazine*

"Conjures up elements of teen angst: forbidden love, loss and, of course, supernatural powers, in this fast-paced tale of a young witch come into her powers." – *Nancy L. Claus, Westchester Magazine*

"Intricately written and deliciously mysterious! Witches, Vampires, war, love and a blood curse all wrapped into one amazingly told story. Seriously a must read." - *Good Choice Reading*

"Readers will find themselves swept away within the complex, intricate and massively incredible and enjoyable story." - *Romancing the Book*

"The story itself is compelling and interesting, the descriptions of the locales are beautiful, the teen melodrama mostly manages to stay at the level of actual drama, and the ideas are fresher and newer than most in the genre." – *Samantha Holloway, Albedo Magazine*

"From the first page this story grabbed me and did not let me go until I closed the book. This narrative moves. It is not kinetic – it is highly compelling. Amalie Howard is a good storyteller and a nuanced writer who knows her material, knows how to draw us in as readers, and clearly cares about her characters – therefore we do. I loved the backstory of Victoria's family and the connections that are brought forward to the present in the narrative as a riddle for both the protagonist and the reader to discover together. They are beautifully woven into the story from beginning to end." – *Jon Luniewicz, author of "Open Wounds"*

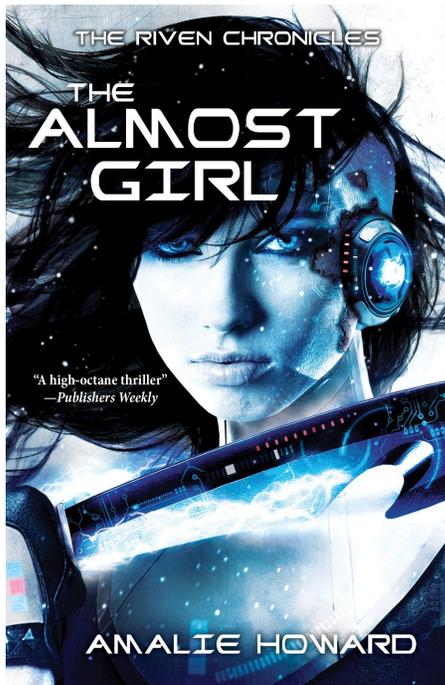
"Bloodcraft blew me away! The magic, the rules, the history, it's just all completely fascinating! [G]orgeous writing + an epic world + an intriguing plot + epic characters = another incredible book by Amalie Howard! She creates these amazing worlds that just pull you in and refuse to let you go. I HIGHLY recommend this book." – *Pandora's Books*

"My favorite thing about Bloodcraft though is the plot itself. This book keeps you on your toes. All in all, Bloodcraft was a wonderful sequel to Bloodspell and I have been reminded why I fell in love with this series. Paranormal fans, this is a series for you." – *Readers Live A Thousand Lives*

Roger Charlie

Samantha Lien sam@rogercharlie.com 720-425-3933 rogercharlie.com

The Almost Girl (The Riven Chronicles #1)



Paperback: \$9.99
eBook: \$6.99
ISBN: 978-1510701717

Young Adult
Sky Pony Press
March 1, 2016
Pages: 432

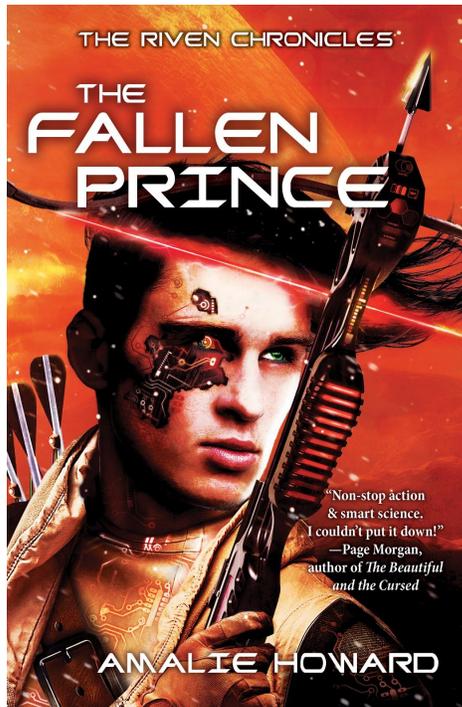
Seventeen-year-old Riven comes from a world parallel to Earth, a world that has been ravaged by a devastating android war. As a Legion General, she is the right hand of Prince Cale, the young Prince of Neospes. In her world, she's had everything: rank, responsibility, and respect. But when Prince Cale sends her away to rescue his long-lost brother, Caden, who has been spirited to modern day Earth, Riven finds herself in uncharted territory.

Armed with the mindset of a soldier and racing against time to bring Caden home, Riven must learn how to blend in as a girl in a realm that is the opposite of all she's ever known. Will she be able to find the strength to defy her very nature? Or will she become the monstrous soldier she was designed to be?

Roger Charlie

Samantha Lien sam@rogercharlie.com 720-425-3933 rogercharlie.com

The Fallen Prince (The Riven Chronicles #2)



Paperback: \$15.99
eBook: \$9.99
ISBN: 978-1510701700

Young Adult
Sky Pony Press
April 5, 2016
Pages: 384

Riven has fought for a hard-won peace in her world, and has come to shaky terms with who and what she is—a human with cyborg DNA. Now that the rightful ruler of Neospes has been reinstated, Riven is on the hunt for her father in the Otherworld to bring him to justice for his crimes against her people.

But when she receives an unwelcome visit from two former allies, she knows that trouble is brewing once again in Neospes. The army has been decimated and there are precious few left to fight this mysterious new threat.

To muster a first line of defense, her people need help from the one person Riven loathes most—her father. But what he wants in return is her complete surrender.

And now Riven must choose: save Neospes or save herself.

Roger Charlie

Samantha Lien sam@rogercharlie.com 720-425-3933 rogercharlie.com

Praise for “The Riven Chronicles”

“A high-octane thriller. SF and dystopia fans will be right at home with this book and its fierce, capable heroine.” - *Publishers Weekly*

“Amalie Howard writes a fast paced and thrilling story with a kick butt, authentic heroine and a brilliantly crafted world.” - *Eve Silver, author of Rush*

“The Almost Girl is a feminist tour de force. It is filled with powerful, interesting female characters. Riven is one of my favorite fictional characters ever; she is fierce, passionate, funny and smart. This sexy, fast-paced story is impossible to put down. A must read! Fans of Divergent will love it!” - *Kim Purcell, author of Trafficked*

“In The Almost Girl, Howard never lets the plot or her characters settle into a rut. Something is always pulling the narrative forward with urgency, whether an action scene when Riven is battling the zombie-cyborg Vectors, or if she examining her feelings about Caden. The parallel worlds, zombie-soldiers, genetic manipulation gave a great science fictional feel to the world of Neopses.” - *SFFWorld*

“This second book of The Riven Chronicles is packed with action. Imagery is the highlight of this book.” ~ *VOYA Magazine*

“This sequel to The Almost Girl was everything I wanted: non-stop action, smart science, new and intriguing characters, and a satisfying romance. I couldn't put it down!” - *Page Morgan, author of The Beautiful & The Cursed*

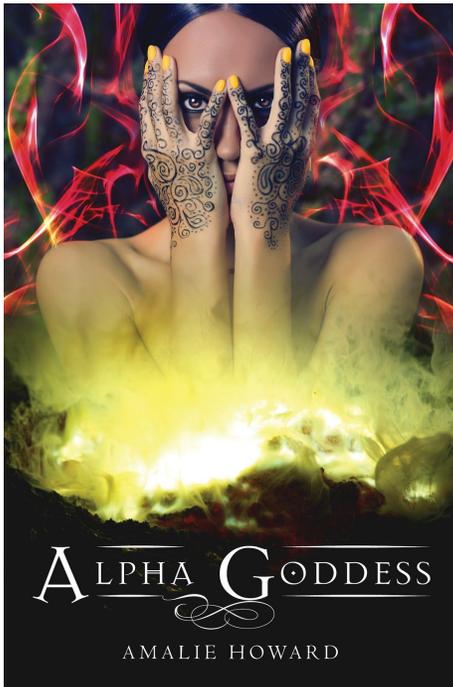
“A parallel-dimension–jumping cyborg soldier must make questionable alliances to save her country from an existential threat in this sequel to The Almost Girl. [O]ffers a solid conclusion.” - *Kirkus Reviews*

“The Fallen Prince is precisely what I was expecting from the sequel to The Almost Girl: an exciting and gripping adventure in a truly post-apocalyptic setting that stands apart from other dystopian landscapes by virtue of its original and thoughtful details. From peculiar flora and fauna to unusual technology leftover from the brutal war, and the immersive attention to detail with scorching temperatures and the necessary biotechnology to survive them, *The Fallen Prince* feels like an authentic and vibrant ride through a gritty scorched-earth style adventure.” - *Jet Black Ink*

Roger Charlie

Samantha Lien sam@rogercharlie.com 720-425-3933 rogercharlie.com

Alpha Goddess



Hardcover: \$16.95
eBook: \$9.99
Audible: **\$14.95**
ISBN: 978-1626362086

Young Adult
Sky Pony Press
March 18, 2014
Pages: 384

**A Spring 2014 Kids' INDIE NEXT pick and
a VOYA Magazine Best of 2014 Pick**

In Serjana Caelum's world, gods exist. So do goddesses. Sera knows this because she is one of them. A secret long concealed by her parents, Sera is Lakshmi reborn, the human avatar of an immortal Indian goddess rumored to control all the planes of existence. Marked by the sigils of both heaven and hell, Sera's avatar is meant to bring balance to the mortal world, but all she creates is chaos. A chaos that Azrath, the Asura Lord of Death, hopes to use to unleash hell on earth.

Torn between reconciling her past and present, Sera must figure out how to stop Azrath before the Mortal Realm is destroyed. But trust doesn't come easy in a world fissured by lies and betrayal. Her best friend Kyle is hiding his own dark secrets, and her mysterious new neighbor, Devendra, seems to know a lot more than he's telling. Struggling between her opposing halves and her attraction to the boys tied to each of them, Sera must become the goddess she was meant to be, or risk failing, which means sacrificing the world she was born to protect.

Sky Pony Press, with our Good Books, Racehorse and Arcade imprints, is proud to publish a broad range of books for young readers—picture books for small children, chapter books, books for middle grade readers, and novels for young adults. Our list includes bestsellers for children who love to play Minecraft; stories told with LEGO bricks; books that teach lessons about tolerance, patience, and the environment, and much more. While not every title we publish becomes a *New York Times* bestseller or a national bestseller, we are committed to books on subjects that are sometimes overlooked and to authors whose work might not otherwise find a home.

Roger Charlie

Samantha Lien sam@rogercharlie.com 720-425-3933 rogercharlie.com

Praise for “Alpha Goddess”

“Alpha Goddess is a touching depiction of the strength of family and the importance of love and loyalty. Fans of books blending the modern with the mythical will enjoy Sera’s story and the love triangle involving her best friend and her immortal love.” - *VOYA Magazine*

“I was absolutely immersed in Sera’s world! Alpha Goddess is a fiery, gripping twist on a timeless love story. The rich mythology and exotic themes were beautifully imagined and unlike anything I’ve ever read before. Brilliantly dark and powerful. A must read!” - *Colleen Houck, New York Times bestselling author of the Tiger’s Curse series.*

“Howard’s Alpha Goddess is a breath of fresh air for any young adult fantasy fan. Sera’s adventures in discovering her parentage and her existence as the reincarnation of Lakshmi, one of the most powerful beings in the created universe, are exciting and interesting. Sera finds herself caught amid the battle between good and evil and must choose to take her place as the savior of the known world. Howard’s writing is excellent and her concept stands out among the flood of angel and demon fiction already populating the genre.” - *Demi Marshall, Park Road Books, Charlotte, NC (INDIE NEXT nomination)*

“Complete with non-stop action and deft writing, Alpha Goddess is mesmerizing and inventive. It’s the kind of novel that invites readers in and doesn’t let go until the very end. Howard is a talented storyteller whose strengths lie in her worldbuilding and characterizations. The Hindu mythology provides an alluring and refreshing backdrop, and Howard cleverly uses and adapts it to her advantage. Though her behavior and dialogue falter in the second half of the book, Sera is a great heroine with a believable journey of self-discovery. Overall, this is an intriguing read full of surprises!” - *RT Book Reviews*

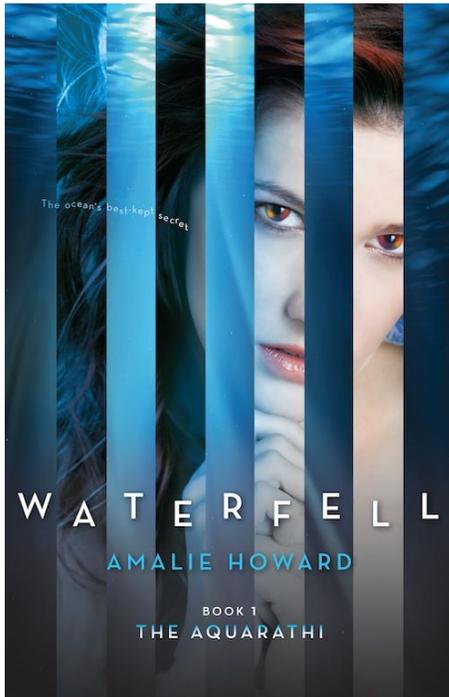
“This book took me on a journey of hope, forgiveness and acceptance. Friendships evolved, secrets were revealed, and just about everything I was expecting to happen didn’t. This book had many amazing twists and turns. It was an exciting read that kept me enthralled, and I’d recommend it to readers of this genre who are looking for something a bit different, while still sticking close to everything they love about these types of stories.” - *Roxanne Kade*

“With its rich mythology Alpha Goddess is a pleasing tale of a timeless love story that somehow raised an interesting questions about choices and beliefs. Amalie Howard successfully delivered a unique and intriguing take into an epic love story of Rama and Sita of Hindu mythology.” - *Black Plume*

Roger Charlie

Samantha Lien sam@rogercharlie.com 720-425-3933 rogercharlie.com

Waterfell (The Aquarathi #1)



Paperback: \$9.99
eBook: \$4.99
ISBN: 978-0373211050

Young Adult
Harlequin TEEN
October 29, 2013
Pages: 384

A Beverly Hills Book Awards Finalist

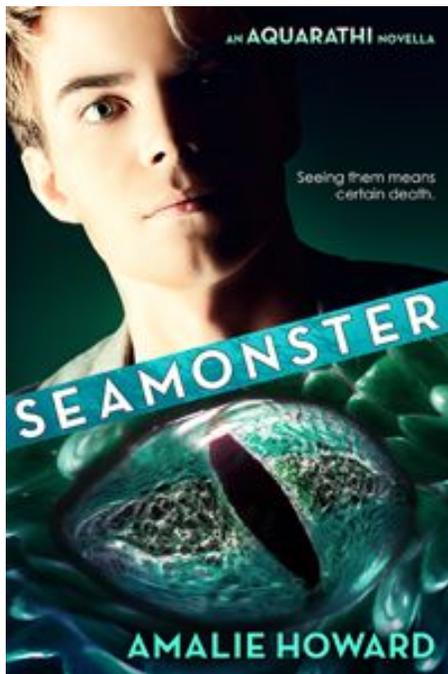
Nerissa Marin hides among teens in her human form, waiting for the day she can claim her birthright—the undersea kingdom stolen from her the day her father was murdered. Blending in is her best weapon—until her father's betrayer confronts Nerissa and challenges her to a battle to the death on Nerissa's upcoming birthday—the day she comes of age.

Amid danger and the heartbreak of her missing mother, falling for a human boy is the last thing Nerissa should do. But Lo Seavon breaches her defenses and somehow becomes the only person she can count on to help her desperate search for her mother, a prisoner of Nerissa's mortal enemy. Is Lo the linchpin that might win Nerissa back her crown? Or will this mortal boy become the weakness that destroys her?

Roger Charlie

Samantha Lien sam@rogercharlie.com 720-425-3933 rogercharlie.com

SeaMonster (The Aquarathi #1.5 - A Novella)



eBook: \$0.99
ASIN: B00L3LRG0M

Young Adult
RAH Media LLC
June 17, 2014
Pages: 81

They say that love is the death of duty ...

Speio Marin is land-bound, tied to the side of the Waterfell queen-to-be, Nerissa. There's only one problem--she wants nothing to do with any of the Aquarathi or her undersea kingdom, preferring instead the freedom of pretending to be human. Torn between his own desires and his duty to serve his future queen, he spirals into an abyss of malcontent. Speio's mistrust of humans is no secret, and he sees them only as a threat to the existence of his people.

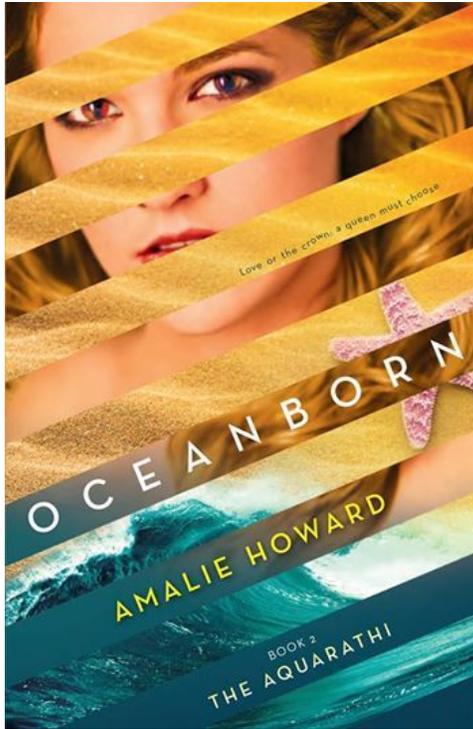
Until he meets Anya Delmonico--a mysterious and enigmatic girl, teetering on the edge of survival. Anya is sedate and secretive, yet reckless enough to brave a hundred-foot cliff jump. Caught between a dark past and an ex-boyfriend who refuses to let her go, Anya knows that getting involved with anyone new is the last thing she should do. But when her past catches up to her, Speio turns out to be the only one she can trust, refusing to let her face her demons alone.

When Anya discovers the truth about Speio, putting her life in mortal danger from the Aquarathi as well as her own sinister pursuers, will he risk everything to protect her? Or will he choose duty above all?

Roger Charlie

Samantha Lien sam@rogercharlie.com 720-425-3933 rogercharlie.com

Oceanborn (The Aquarathi #2)



Paperback: \$9.99
eBook: \$5.99
ISBN: 978-0373211258

Young Adult
Harlequin TEEN
July 29, 2014
Pages: 384

But the battle has just begun.

Nerissa Marin has won her crown. But can she keep it? Already, her ties to the human realm are driving a wedge between Nerissa and her people. When word arrives that her part-human prince consort, Lo, has been poisoned, she makes the difficult choice to leave Waterfell and return landside. As the royal courts debate her decision, even more disturbing rumors surface: a plot is rising against her, led by someone she least expects.

On land, Nerissa learns another shocking truth: Lo does not remember who she is. As her choice to try to save him threatens her hold on her crown, changing loyalties and uncertainty test her courage in ways she could never have imagined. Nerissa will have one last chance to prove herself as a queen ...and save the undersea kingdom she loves.

Roger Charlie

Samantha Lien sam@rogercharlie.com 720-425-3933 rogercharlie.com

Praise for “The Aquarathi”

“A coming-of-age story complicated by regicide, superhuman powers, the duty to protect a kingdom and one hot surfer. A fantastical surf-and-turf romance.” - *Kirkus Reviews*

“Howard has crafted a page-turning blend of magical realism and fantasy, set in an American high school starring a main character who morphs from sea monster to gorgeous sixteen-year-old with ease. Plot shifts, surprises, and a love affair not yet fully realized sets readers up for the second in the fascinating trilogy.” - *Booklist*

“Waterfell was such a fun and unique journey. This is young adult as it should be done. It’s full of angst and drama and of course life altering situations.” - *Readers Live A Thousand Lives*

“This novel is full of surprises and plenty of action and romance that will leave readers content and on the edge of their seats, all at the same time.” - *The Bookshelf Sophisticate*

“Waterfell gave me both sides of the ocean, still and stormy, through the wondrous simplicity of human life and the violent and challenging ups and downs of friendship, love and otherworldly affairs. Beautifully written, atmospheric and out of this world, Waterfell will capture the hearts of readers of mythology and paranormal.” - *Fragments of Life*

“Second book in the series is a winner! Howard knocks it out of the park yet again with OCEANBORN!” - *Fresh Fiction*

“Oceanborn continues a fantastic series that really stands out from the crowd, that continues to be unique, continues to make you laugh and continues to give you one of the best written romances! Not to mention the totally unique premise and mythology! Fast paced and full of plot twists, Oceanborn is going to leave you with the mother of all book hangovers!” - *Reality’s A Bore*

“I’m totally hooked on this world and these characters. And, while it’s not a mermaid book, I still think fans of such underwater books will completely appreciate this series.” - *The Cover Contessa*

“A brilliant sequel that managed to top the first, Oceanborn was a fantastic YA read. The stakes were upped, the characters grew, the romance deepened, and the ending left me wanting more. I absolutely LOVED this book!” - *Imagine a World*

Roger Charlie

Samantha Lien sam@rogercharlie.com 720-425-3933 rogercharlie.com

Q&A with author Amalie Howard

You released your first book “Bloodspell” in 2011, which led to an impressive streak of publishing deals over the past few years. How do you have time to write so much, and what does it feel like to have your work recognized in such a great way?

I am so incredibly grateful that my wonderful editors saw something they loved in my books and wanted to publish them. All of my subsequent novels bring something different and unique to the table, so I’m really excited that readers will get to sample such a diverse range of what I have to offer as an author. As far as writing so much, I’m very lucky that I’m a fast writer, so once I get an idea in my head, I just go. I plot a basic outline, and then I let the story take me on its journey. And as I always say to my teen creative writing classes, writing is like homework. You have to *make* time for it and be diligent about doing it. Thankfully, I really enjoy this kind of “homework.”

What will fans of “Bloodspell” like best about your additional titles?

In **The Aquarathi** series, I was particularly excited to share my love of the ocean (I grew up on an island) and surfing! I also wanted to explore the myth of the sea monster and shift it from something terrifying into something beautiful. I love dragons, so being able to write about underwater dragons was an incredible experience.

I’ve always been intrigued by quantum mechanics (even though I was hopeless at physics in high school) and the possibility of alternate universes. In **The Riven Chronicles**, I was able to explore that and more, like the whole concept of nature versus nurture and whether we evolve differently based on harsher environments. I think this book will take readers on an interesting journey.

With **Alpha Goddess**, I’ve always been in love with Greek mythology as a reader, and I wanted to share some of the stories that I grew up with as a child in a Hindu household, like the *Ramayana*, which is a particularly beautiful East Indian love story. And while my novel is a work of fiction, I really enjoyed crafting my version from such an inspiring mythology.

And finally, I’m especially hopeful that readers will love the closure of the **Cruentus Curse** series with **Bloodcraft**. A fan wrote me last year asking whether she should “give up hope waiting for the sequel.” It really was humbling to know that someone was waiting for me to finish this series. So I put some time aside between other contract deadlines and wrote the book. This one is for her. Like **Bloodspell**, this sequel is full of witchcraft, vampires, political intrigue, and forbidden love.

Roger Charlie

Samantha Lien sam@rogercharlie.com 720-425-3933 rogercharlie.com

“Waterfell” departs from the world of vampires and witches but stays in the realm of fantasy and science fiction. What do you like about those genres?

Clearly, I love escaping reality. Fantasy and science fiction have always been my true loves. Don't get me wrong, I love a great contemporary novel as much as anyone, but getting lost in an epic fantasy world or meeting characters from other planets who have superhuman powers is icing on the cake for me. I like being able to push the boundaries of reality, to create mind-boggling 'what if' scenarios ... for example, with **Waterfell**, what if sea monsters really did exist? And what if they were a species from another planet hiding on ours? And what if they could shift into human form? With science fiction and fantasy, the possibilities are endless.

Like all of your books so far, “The Riven Chronicles” feature a strong, independent female character as the protagonist. What do you hope readers learn from her?

I'm a huge fan of strong female protagonists (that said, I do have a novel with a strong male protagonist so I'm not gender-biased). I do like strong protagonists on the whole, but I also do think there has to be character growth that is transparent and meaningful to the reader. No one's going to relate to a character who stays the same. With Riven from **The Almost Girl** and **The Fallen Prince**, I love that she has to dig deep down to embrace her emotions. A soldier first, she's so hard on the outside but still vulnerable on the inside—I really connected with her struggle to just let go of all her rules and be a girl. We build so many walls to keep from being hurt that we don't allow ourselves to connect with others. I love that she was brave enough to trust her heart. In the end, I'm hopeful that readers will empathize with Riven and learn, as she does, that humans are born to feel, and that being open to life and love doesn't make you weaker ... it makes you stronger.

“Alpha Goddess” is your take on an Indian mythological tale. Where did you first hear about it?

Although **Alpha Goddess** is a work of fiction, a lot of my inspiration for the characters and the world-building in this novel is based on Hindu mythology. My father is a second generation Brahmin (priest class in traditional Hindu society), so Indian mythology was an integral part of my childhood and religious upbringing. Fascinated by stories and legends of various Hindu gods who incarnated as avatars to avert human tragedy, I wanted to write an epic story that encompassed some of the Hindu mythology elements I enjoyed as a child, like the *Ramayana*, the story of Rama and Sita. Of course, **Alpha Goddess** is my own invented take on another reincarnated version of these characters, and does not actually exist in Indian scriptures.

You are quite the world traveler. How do you incorporate the cultures you come across into your writing?

I love meeting new people and exploring different cultures. I really believe that traveling the world has helped me to craft my characters, especially the ones that aren't human (whom I have

Roger Charlie

Samantha Lien sam@rogercharlie.com 720-425-3933 rogercharlie.com

to invent). How do they evolve? How are they different from regular people? How are they the same? I enjoy using elements and facets from all the different cultures I've interacted with over the years to develop compelling scenarios and create robust characters in my writing. I also like to include some of my favorite cities in my novels, for example, Paris and New York in **Bloodspell** and **Bloodcraft**, San Diego, California in **Waterfell** and **Oceanborn**, and Fort Collins, Colorado in **The Almost Girl** and **The Fallen Prince**. **Alpha Goddess** is set in upstate New York. Although a writer can research anything online, writing about a place I've actually been to helps me to picture scenes and places more vividly. It allows me to create more authentic descriptions, so that my readers can feel like they are there, too.

We love that so many of your stories feature strong female characters. Why is that?

I've always been inspired by heroines who are fierce and fearless, but I think *strength* can present in different forms. As a female author writing young adult fiction, it's not just about writing "strong" female characters, it's about writing *real* ones—making them well rounded with both emotional and physical strengths and weaknesses. It's about giving them challenges and allowing them to rise to meet those challenges. At the end of the day, it's not about actual strength—it's about versatility and resilience. It's about how these characters respond to the things they come up against and how they are shaped by their experiences. Strength can be about embracing your vulnerability, making a choice you've never made before, or trying something out of your comfort zone. As a writer, I enjoy creating multilayered characters, especially characters that show growth over the course of a story. For me, adaptability, heart, and resilience are signs of true strength.

We can only imagine you're working on something new. Can you give us any sneak peek into the mind of Amalie Howard and what's to come?

My next young adult book is **Dark Goddess**, out from Sky Pony Press in 2017, and is the sequel to **Alpha Goddess**. I'm super excited about it because I get to write about one of the most misunderstood East Indian goddesses—Kali.

I'm also excited about my co-written adult historical romance series, [The Lords of Essex](#), releasing this coming November (November 21, 2016) from Entangled Publishing, [My Rogue](#), [My Ruin](#). It's steamy historical romance with lots of intrigue and heart. The next book in the series, **My Darling, My Disaster**, will be out in the spring of 2017 and the third in the trilogy, **My Hellion, My Heart**, will be out in the fall of 2017. I'm super thrilled about these. As a reader, historical romance has always been one of my favorite genres.

As far as works in progress, I'm also working on a few new projects, including a contemporary young adult novel with magic realism, two new YA science fiction and fantasy series, and a new historical romance series.

Roger Charlie

Samantha Lien sam@rogercharlie.com 720-425-3933 rogercharlie.com