

Celebrating Science Fiction,
Paranormal and
Fantasy stories
that take you to new worlds

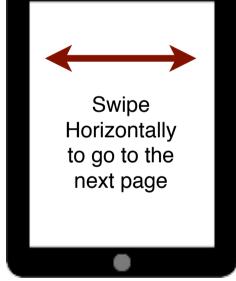
S.E. Smith
M.K. Eidem I Michelle Howard
Bevan Greer
Eve Langlais I Nalini Singh
Milly Tanden



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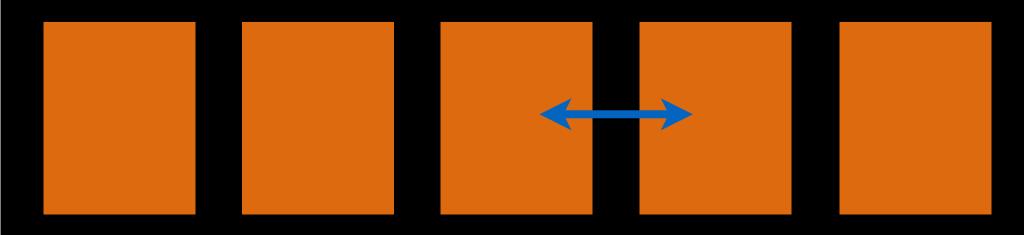
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Editor's Letter



Welcome to Our First Edition

Chances are if you are reading this then you love to read science fiction, paranormal and fantasy just like me.

The magazine is all about stories from these genres and I am thrilled to be able to share with you.

Each edition, we will have interviews with authors both new and established from science fiction, paranormal and fantasy so please feel free to share your favorite authors with me so I can feature them in the magazine.

Please be sure to check out our FB page, Twitter and Pinterest which is full of updates on latest releases, newto-us authors, coming soon books and general chit chat and photos about our favourite moments in life.

Welcome, I am thrilled you are here!

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S.E Smith talks heroines and wilting violets



I have written stories most of my life. It seems the characters live inside me begging to get out and tell their stories. As a child, I loved laying out under the stars and imagining what it would be like to travel to far off worlds. The one beautiful thing about having such a vivid imagination is seeing it as if I am really there. Of course, the true work comes from trying to re-create that world on paper so others can see and experience the same thing.

One thing I believe in is there is a heroine out there in all of us. One who is strong, compassionate, a little afraid to step out of her comfort zone but willing to take the chance, especially for something or someone she really believes in. My heroes, of

course, have met their partner. A strong hero knows how to feel emotions and is not afraid or ashamed of them. He might not always understand them but he is willing to live and learn.

Each character seems to come alive on the paper. I might have one way of viewing them but as they start to tell their story it is their voice, experiences, and reactions to the world around them that make them who they are. Sometimes they listen to me, other times, not. I don't mind as each book is a discovery all in itself.

I try to write everyday but even I need a break sometimes. I write for the enjoyment and it comes through in my books. If I get a block, I set it aside and do something else. My hero often is on me about exercising more and I am trying...really I am.

Besides writing, I enjoy camping, traveling, and spending time with my family. I believe it is important to have balance in life. All work and no play...blah, blah, blah.... So, if I get a little behind I've learned it is not the end of the world.

I hope you've enjoyed the stories as much as I have. I look forward to writing more and sharing the amazing worlds with all of my readers.

Sometimes a story catches your imagination so much it has to be told. That is what I love about writing. It lets the images in your mind burst forth into words drawing a vivid picture that takes you away on a journey that would otherwise be impossible.

Susan Smith



Relationship Stresses & How To Survive Them

Anyone who has ever been in a relationship can tell you that they can be hard work from time to time. This doesn't just include romantic relationships but also relationships with friends, coworkers, and family members. We all have to have relationships of some kind in our lives, so learning to keep them as stress free as possible is necessary.

Have you ever heard the phrase, "Familiarity breeds contempt"? It's true. We take for granted that those close to us will love us forever so we abuse them when we feel bad. It sounds harsh but it is the reality of what happens.

Here's a scenario. A husband comes home from work. He has been belittled by his boss and when he hits the door, he begins to shout orders to his kids and his wife. All of that pent-up frustration with his boss ends up all over his family. Needless to say, everyone develops stress as a result of the work relationship.

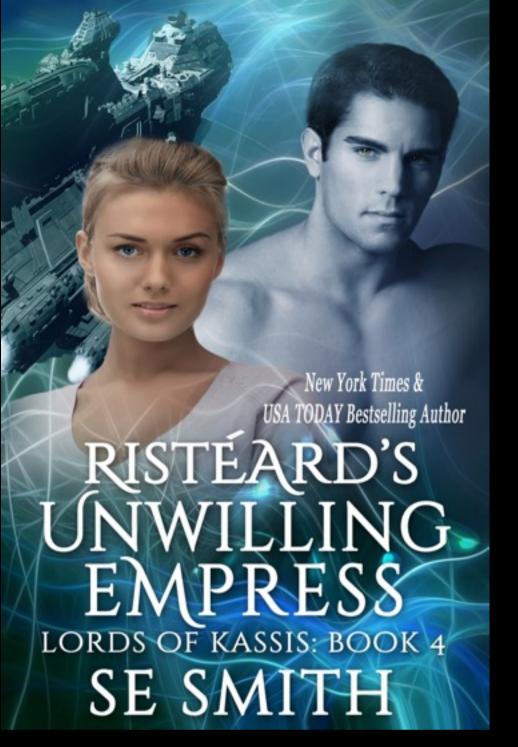
Stresses within relationships are easier to ignore than to confront, but that only increases the stress. Out of sight, out of mind doesn't work when it comes to relationships. Internalizing problems has an effect on the body whether we know it or not. It could be as simple as feeling a knot in your stomach when that person comes around.

This is not a good response especially in relationships with spouses and family members. We can quit our jobs or stop seeing friends, but family is forever. Instead of going around with a headache or stomach ache learn to confront the problem when it arises.

Just like we pile on the frustration with people who are close to us, we can also communicate our problems in a civil manner. When a friend, coworker, or family member has offended us or done something that we don't like, go to them and discuss it. Chances are the person didn't even know that we were affected in such a way.

Now, there will be times that we have to deal with difficult people who hurt us on purpose. The first reaction is to give them one of those slaps we see in the movies where the other person goes flying across the table, but save that for the punching bag at the gym. Instead, go to that person and let them know you are aware of what they are doing and won't accept it continuing.

The bottom line here is communication. We harbor too many ill feelings based on misunderstandings. The stress of it will topple our relationships and ruin our health. Isn't it worth the effort to clear up the situation? Everyone will be a lot better when we do.



Ristéard Roald is the powerful and deadly ruler of Elpidios, a planet that is slowly dying without the blood stones needed to absorb the radiation gradually destroying its stratosphere. He has sworn to do whatever it takes to protect his world and his people, but time is running out.

Hope comes from an unexpected source, the Kassis. They have found a way to replicate the blood stones needed to save his world, but his first dealings with a traitorous Kassisan has left a deep distrust for the species.

Ricki Bailey is used to dealing with diplomats and handling complex situations. After all, as the daughter of the owners of Cirque de Magik, the most spectacular Circus to the Stars, she is used to organizing their trips to foreign countries. Her life changes when her mother and father decide to take the circus to the real stars... and to another star system!

If she thought learning new laws and customs was going to be a challenge, it was nothing to the sudden interest she was getting from a huge blue male known as the Grand Ruler! Ricki discovers words that she didn't even realize were in her vocabulary, most of them not in the least polite.

She decides the best way to deal with the arrogant male is to treat him like she did when encountering difficult Consuls during the circus' travels on Earth; stay cool, calm, and professional and only deal with the facts necessary to complete whatever business transaction was required.

Ristéard is stunned when a strange, alien female, foretold in the ancient tablets as being the great Empress who will save his world, appears. He is even more astonished when she refuses his attentions! With the life of his planet at stake, not to mention his own peace of mind and body, he will do whatever is necessary to ensure the female stays by his side.

Yet, there are forces working against him and Ricki, powerful forces that do not want him to be successful. Dangers and traitors among his own council threaten not only him, but her. It will take all of Ristéard's resources, and a few unexpected allies, to complete the dangerous journey ahead of them.

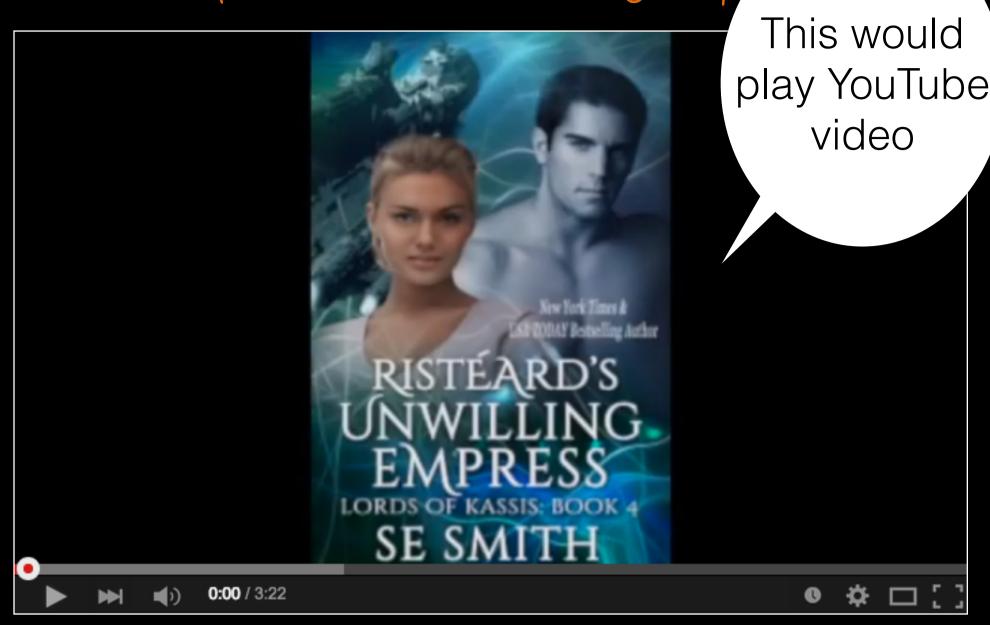
Can he keep his unwilling Empress safe from those that would destroy her? Better yet, can he save his world when there are those that would destroy it for the treasure of precious blood stones hidden somewhere beneath its surface?

Turn the page for the Book Trailer

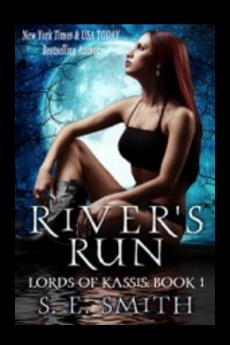


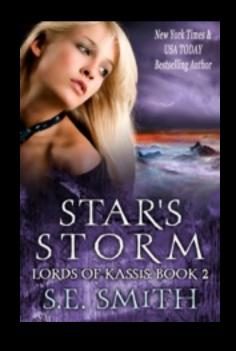


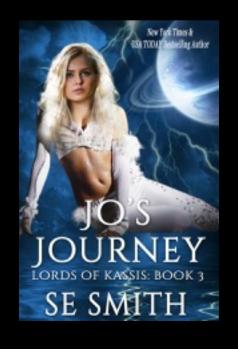
Book Trailer for Risteard's Unwilling Empr



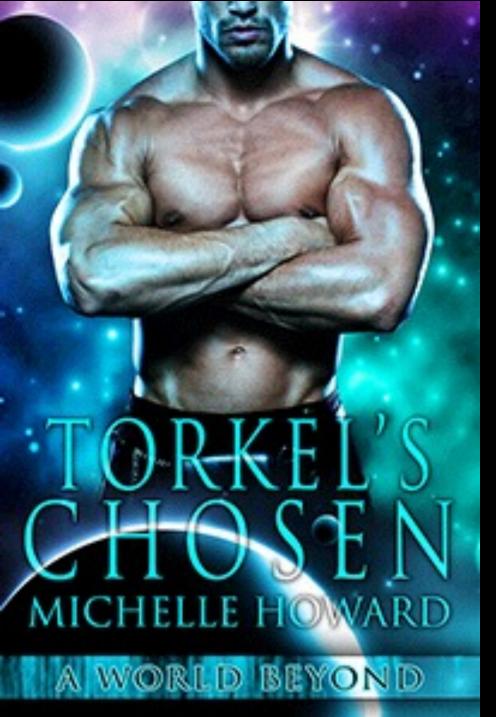
Other books in the Lords of Kassis series. Click on each cover for more info:











What would you do if Earth didn't have enough men?

Would you take a chance and leave the only world you knew behind?

This is what Faith Reid does as she places her hope in a new government program that offers a chance for the women of Earth to find love among the stars, on a world beyond the one they know.

How many times can one man risk rejection? Would you give up on your dreams?

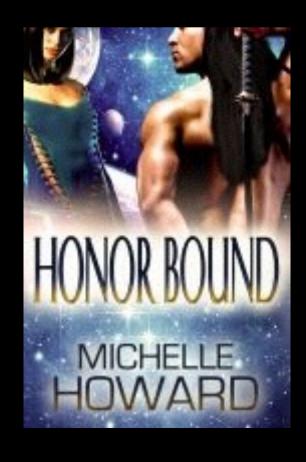
Torkel Alonson has had enough of being ignored and looked over by females on his adopted home world of Enotia. His pride has suffered and he must accept the painful truth. Females will never choose a male with his lineage despite his honorable service to his government's military.

Can two people looking for the same thing find not just what they want but what they need in one another?



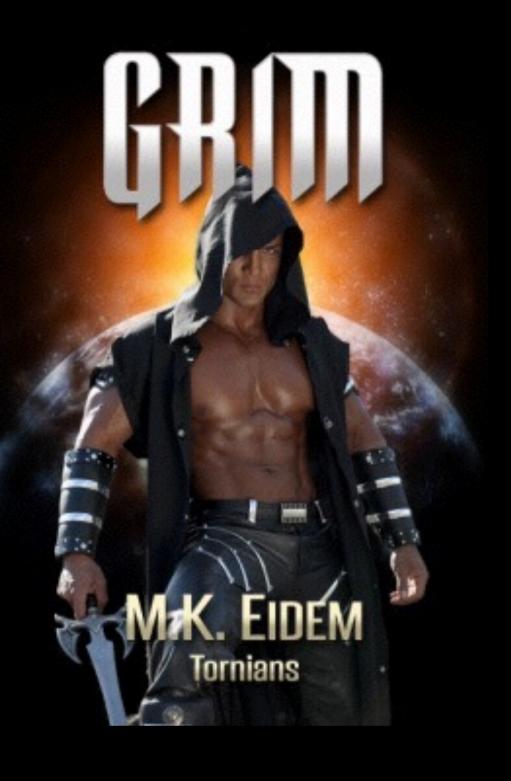
Other books by Michelle Howard. Click on each cover for more info:











King Grim Vasteri is the strongest and most feared warrior in the Tornian Empire. He is the King of Luda, blood brother to the Emperor and his line will die with him. He will have no offspring for no female would join with him for once he was scarred he was considered 'unfit'. The Tornian Empire has been dying ever since the great infection caused the birth of females to become a rarity. Since then they have been searching the known universes for compatible females. The Emperor's discovery of a compatible female on a slave ship changed that. He'd ordered Grim to find his Empress' home world so more 'unprotected' females could be obtained, knowing Grim would never be allowed to Join with one.

Lisa Miller is a widowed mother of two little girls, Carly and Miki. Her husband died just a year ago, after a long battle with cancer and she misses him immensely. Friends want her to start dating again but in her heart, she knows there isn't a man on the planet she could love like her Mark. Who could love their girls like their own. Therefore, she'll stay alone.

When Lisa is discovered 'unprotected' at her husband's grave, she wakes on an alien ship heading for an alien world. Refusing to accept this she confronts the large males, demanding she be returned to her children. Seeing his chance to have a female, Grim agrees to accept and protect her offspring, if she agrees to Join with him and only him. Realizing this is the only way she can retrieve her children Lisa agrees and the Tornian Empire changes forever.



Book Cover

This is a book blurb. And i tell the story of the hero and heroine and how they fight the bad guys and fall in love.

Did you ever wonder why they say hero and heroine? What if the heroine was placed first? What the story change? Would it matter? Would you want to read a story where the hero is not alpha and the heroine is the heroine?

What if the alpha hero wanted a day off? It is quite possible that on the day of the big incident, he might have a headache and just want to spend the day in bed. But no everyone expects him to up and leading the courageous in the fight against the bad guys.

Why are there bad guys? What if there were no bad guys? I think reading would be pretty boring without some bad guys. After all, in real life sometimes the bad guys win which sucks. But in reading land, the bad guys get what they deserve and we get to cheer along.

Take that bad guys!



GREEK STYLE CHICKPEA SOUP



This is an example of a hearty Greek dish that is vegan friendly. Serve with slices of fresh, whole grain bread and a salad.

Ingredients:

- 3, 15 ounce cans of chickpeas, drained and rinsed
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 teaspoon dried rosemary
- 3 tablespoons fresh, chopped parsley
- 1 teaspoon sea salt
- 4 cloves garlic, chopped fine
- 1, 28 ounce can crushed tomatoes (keep the juice)
- 3 cups water
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- Salt and pepper to taste

Instructions:

Add all of the ingredients to a large pot. Bring to a boil, then simmer on low for an hour until flavors are well blended. You can also cook it in a crock pot on the low setting for 4-6 hours.

Yum! Enjoy!

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