

Read Free A Prayer Heeded Series 2 Samreen Ahsan Read Pdf Free

A Silent Prayer A Prayer Heeded Once Upon A [Fallen] Time Once Upon A [Stolen] Time Once Upon A [Fallen] Time Cereal Grains Plant Protein Foods Biochemistry of Drug Resistance Jameela Green Ruins Everything Empress The Eastern Front Trilogy Polly and Her Pigtaails The Lost Princess of Oz The Romance of the Rose Hana Khan Carries On The Pillow Parade Wired Courage High Pressure Processing of Food The Woman with the Blue Star Landscape of the Body A Bollywood Affair Left to Tell Wired Secret The Stars Shine Down Theodora Debt Inheritance History of Research on Soy-Related Enzymes and Others (1802-2021): A New Goddess The Way to Wealth An Affair by the Sea The German Midwife The Secret Voice The Devil and Miss Prym The Girl in the Window Castle of Refuge The Underneath Sultan: The Legend of Hyder Ali The Truth Always Prevails River of Fire Ghost Star

High pressure processing technology has been adopted worldwide at the industrial level to preserve a wide variety of food products without using heat or chemical preservatives. High Pressure Processing: Technology Principles and Applications will review the basic technology principles and process parameters that govern microbial safety and product quality, an essential requirement for industrial application. This book will be of interest to scientists in the food industry, in particular to those involved in the processing of products such as meat, fish, fruits, and vegetables. The book will be equally important to food microbiologists and processing specialists in both the government and food industry. Moreover, it will be a valuable reference for authorities involved in the import and export of high pressure treated food products. Finally, this update on the science and technology of high pressure processing will be helpful to all academic, industrial, local, and state educators in their educational efforts, as well as a great resource for graduate students interested in learning about state-of-the-art technology in food engineering. Ever since the beginnings of agriculture, cereals have provided unlimited health benefits to mankind as a staple food in our diet. Cereals are rich in complex carbohydrates that provide us ample energy, and help to

prevent many diseases such as constipation, colon disorders, and high blood sugar levels. They enrich our overall health with abundant proteins, fats, lipids, minerals, vitamins, and enzymes. In every part of the world cereals are consumed for breakfast, lunch or dinner. *Cereal Grains: Composition, Nutritional Attributes, and Potential Applications* provides an overview of cereals including their properties, chemical composition, applications, postharvest losses, storage, and quality. Various well-versed researchers across the globe share their knowledge and experience covering cereal's role in food security, allergens in grains, phytochemical profile, industrial applications, health benefits, global standard of cereals, and recent advances in cereal processing. *Key Features: Contains comprehensive information on general composition and properties of cereals. Discusses the recent advances in cereal technology Provides knowledge on bioactive characterization of cereal grains Contain information on future aspect of grain quality and allergens in cereal grains This handbook is a valuable resource for students, researchers, and industrial practitioners who wish to enhance their knowledge and insights on cereal science. Researchers, scientists, and other professionals working in various cereal processing industries and other horticultural departments will also find the comprehensive information relevant to their work.* He'd fight an empire to save his family. When his father and crewmates are attacked and killed by a ruthless alien commander, young Galen Bray becomes the new captain of the *GHOST STAR*, a notorious smuggling vessel. Barely escaping capture, Galen sets out to rescue the only other survivor of the vicious attack, his sister Trem. Along the way, he discovers a mysterious people thought wiped out long ago, his family's surprising origins, and a destiny he never imagined... Includes an excerpt from *This doesn't happen in the movies*. In this *Ugly Duckling* retelling, *New York Times* bestselling author Melanie Dickerson brilliantly crafts a high-stakes, encouraging tale about a brave young woman, the true meaning of beauty, and the power of love. Ever since she was a child, Audrey wanted her life to be extraordinary. But as the daughter of a viscount born in late fourteenth-century England, the only thing expected of her was to marry—until an act of malice by her sister, Maris, four years ago damaged her face and her prospects. Though Maris was sent away, twenty-year-old Audrey is still suffering the scars of her sister's cruelty. When her father announces his

plans to marry off his damaged daughter and bring Maris home, Audrey decides to flee in search of her true destiny. Life outside her home is dangerous, and Audrey soon finds herself attacked, sick, and in desperate need of help. She is taken in at Dericott Castle to be nursed back to health. While there, she decides to keep her identity a secret and work as a servant in the castle. But she doesn't count on falling in love with the young and handsome Lord Dericott, who lost his arm several months earlier and bears scars of his own. Meanwhile, Edwin—Lord Dericott—is curious about the new, well-educated servant's identity. All he knows is that he's quickly becoming smitten with her. When the man Audrey's father wanted her to marry comes looking for her, she and Edwin must make life-changing decisions about what to believe and whether or not love is truly worth trusting. Praise for *Castle of Refuge*: "When it comes to happily-ever-afters, Melanie Dickerson is the undisputed queen."—Julie Lessman, award-winning author

Full-length clean fairy-tale reimagining *Second* in a brand-new series set in England: *The Dericott Tales* Includes discussion questions for book clubs

The true story of a Canadian drafted into the Soviet Red Army in 1941—on the eve of Operation Barbarossa, the greatest land invasion in history: the attack by Hitler's Germany. Adam Gibson is a multimillionaire who is not searching for God or demons when he finds love with a beautiful woman. Unfortunately, Rania, the one who has captured his heart, has a tormented past. Adam is unaware of his powers, how God makes sure his each prayer is heeded due to his virtue of charity. Adam knows Rania is still the answer to all his silent prayers. But now only time will tell if her soul is destined to be his once again. Rania Ahmed is dead inside. Adam, the man she mistakenly considered to be her soul mate, has crushed her soul into millions of pieces. Due to her broken past, she still believes her curse will keep her from loving ever again. What she does not know is that Adam has made a promise to himself to never give up on her no matter what. But Adam does not know what he is getting himself into. In this spiritual romance, an atheist embarks on a path of enlightenment with a tormented soul who may just have the power to change everything he has ever believed to be true. From the twenty-first century to the fifteenth century, past and future collide in a tale of love, obsession, betrayal, and the hope for redemption. The memoir of one of Pakistan's most prominent businessmen in exile 'I reached to see not the beautiful hotel

that we had so lovingly built, but a war zone. . . . We found bodies of our dear guests, colleagues, friends: faces I recognized, faces I had worked with and smiled at. The sight that stunned me was the crater—60 feet wide and 20 feet deep. It had been created by over 1000 kg of RDX. The hotel had not been attacked, it had been brutalized. Dead bodies and dismembered limbs, little pools of blood—it was a massacre. I had thought of myself as a hardened man who had seen violence and gristly sights—but what I saw that day left me shaken.’ Truth Always Prevails is the memoir of one of Pakistan’s most prominent businessmen, Sadruddin Hashwani, chairman of the internationally renowned Hashoo Group. From sleeping in the back of trucks in the cold deserts of Balochistan to now owning a brand of luxury hotels as well as numerous other businesses, Sadruddin Hashwani has led a remarkable life. He has struggled against corrupt politicians and uncooperative government officials to build and sustain an extensive business empire. He has faced near-death experiences, most remarkably the 2008 bombing of his own hotel, the Marriott Islamabad, and has overcome seemingly insurmountable odds. Filled with fascinating anecdotes and telling sketches of prominent Pakistani personalities, his is an extraordinary story that will inspire and entertain readers. The world’s most comprehensive, well documented, and well illustrated book on this subject. With extensive subject and geographic index. 124 photographs and illustrations – mostly color. Free of charge in digital PDF format. “I think we got off on the wrong foot, with you telling me I had to be killed and then me getting all upset about it. Let’s start again. My name is Jameela, and I’m a writer. What do you do, besides . . . assassinations? Is that a hobby or more of a full-time thing?” Jameela Green has only one wish: to see her memoir on the New York Times bestseller list. When that doesn’t work out, she decides that her best next step is to make a deal with God, so she heads over to her local mosque. The idealistic new imam, Ibrahim Sultan, is appalled by Jameela’s shallowness but agrees to assist her, on one condition—that she perform a good deed. Jameela reluctantly accepts his terms, kicking off a series of unfortunate events. The homeless man they try to help gets recruited by a terrorist group, causing federal authorities to become suspicious of Ibrahim. When the imam mysteriously disappears, Jameela is certain that the CIA has captured her new friend for interrogation and possibly torture. Despite having no

talent for this sort of thing, Jameela decides to set off on a one-woman operation to rescue him. Her quest soon lands her at the center of an international plan targeting the leader of the terrorist organization—a scheme that puts Jameela and count-less others, including her hapless husband and clever but disapproving daughter, at risk. A no-holds-barred satire about the international cost of the American Dream, Jameela Green Ruins Everything is a compulsively readable, darkly comedic, yet unexpectedly touching story of one woman's search for meaning and connection. In this stunning novel, Coelho's unusual protagonist sets the town a moral challenge from which they may never recover. "Magisterial" (Pankaj Mishra, The New York Review of Books) and "to Urdu fiction what One Hundred Years of Solitude is to Hispanic literature" (TLS) The most important novel of twentieth-century Urdu fiction, Qurratulain Hyder's River of Fire encompasses the fates of four recurring characters over two and a half millennia. These characters become crisscrossed and strangely inseparable over different eras, forming and reforming their relationships in romance and war, in possession and dispossession. River of Fire interweaves parables, legends, dreams, diaries, and letters, forming a rich tapestry of history and human emotions and redefining Indian identity. But above all, it's a unique pleasure to read Hyder's singular prose style: "Lyrical and witty, occasionally idiosyncratic, it is always alluring and allusive: Flora Annie Steel and E. M. Forster encounter classical Urdu poets; Eliot and Virginia Woolf meet Faiz Ahmed Faiz" (The Times Literary Supplement). An enthralling tale from the #1 Globe and Mail and USA Today Best Selling Author. "A powerful, haunting debut"—Kate Quinn, New York Times bestselling author of The Alice Network Advance reviews: An incredible, unique journey down a rabbit hole of intrigue & history. Pepper's writing was captivating and thrilling, combined with her trademark for dark lyrical deliciousness, creating a perfectly braided work that screams...dark, sinful, forbidden, but also daring, alluring, and lustful. *** Please note, this is a Dark Romance. If you don't like darker topics, please don't read. It's ultimately a love story, but to find pleasure you must feel pain. You have been warned.*** "I own you. I have the piece of paper to prove it. It's undeniable and unbreakable. You belong to me until you've paid off your debts." Nila Weaver's family is indebted. Being the first born daughter, her life is forfeit to the first

born son of the Hawks to pay for sins of ancestors past. The dark ages might have come and gone, but debts never leave. She has no choice in the matter. She is no longer free. Jethro Hawk receives Nila as an inheritance present on his twenty-ninth birthday. Her life is his until she's paid off a debt that's centuries old. He can do what he likes with her--nothing is out of bounds--she has to obey. There are no rules. Only payments.

*Debt Inheritance is a full length book at 252 pages and ends on a cliffhanger. There are Six Books in the Series. A page-turning thriller of love and betrayal from the bestselling Master of Suspense and author of *If Tomorrow Comes* and *The Other Side of Midnight*. Adam Gibson is a young and powerful Toronto billionaire. Despite his many blessings, he is an atheist, though he has an altruistic soul. He denies there is a God until he meets a beautiful stranger in a place that does not exist for anyone but him. Rania Ahmed strongly believes in God, but has lost hope she will ever find her soul mate. Endowed with hypnotic beauty and cursed by a brutal past, Rania has no idea she has cast a spell on Adam, who has never received more from a woman than physical pleasure. As Adam slowly discovers the true meaning of love from Rania, he begins to face his demons and reconsider his beliefs. He learns to love, forgive and repent. But as Adam grows closer to Rania, a series of strange, unexplained events threatens to drive them apart. To keep her from being destroyed by her past, he must persuade her to trust him with her deepest secrets. In this captivating and thrilling romance, an atheist embarks on a path of enlightenment with a tormented soul who may just have the power to change everything he has ever believed to be true. From the author of *Ayesha at Last* comes a sparkling new rom-com for fans of "You've Got Mail," set in two competing halal restaurants. Sales are slow at Three Sisters Biryani Poutine, the only halal restaurant in the close-knit Golden Crescent neighbourhood. Hana waitresses there part time, but what she really wants is to tell stories on the radio. If she can just outshine her fellow intern at the city radio station, she may have a chance at landing a job. In the meantime, Hana pours her thoughts and dreams into a podcast, where she forms a lively relationship with one of her listeners. But soon she'll need all the support she can get: a new competing restaurant, a more upscale halal place, is about to open in the Golden Crescent, threatening Three Sisters. When her mysterious aunt and her teenage cousin arrive from India for a

surprise visit, they draw Hana into a long-buried family secret. A hate-motivated attack on their neighbourhood complicates the situation further, as does Hana's growing attraction for Aydin, the young owner of the rival restaurant—who might not be a complete stranger after all. As life on the Golden Crescent unravels, Hana must learn to use her voice, draw on the strength of her community and decide what her future should be. One of John Guare's classic plays, *Landscape of the Body* tells the story of a woman's unfulfilled life and premature death – and her reflections from the grave. Betty travels to New York to convince her sister Rosalie to leave her gritty New York City life and come home to bucolic Maine. After dying in a freak bicycle accident, Rosalie revisits the world she left behind. From the beyond Rosalie witnesses Betty effortlessly easing into her previous persona – moving into her apartment, taking over her job, but then Betty abruptly loses her teenage son to a gruesome murder. In a sardonic turn of events, Betty finds herself the primary suspect in her son's death. Guare brilliantly moves back and forth in time and space to create an affecting study of the American dream gone awry. What happens when a wallflower's extremely make-believe fake suitor appears in the flesh just in time to ruin all her spinsterly plans? Find out in *AN AFFAIR BY THE SEA!* Orphaned pianist Allegra Brown is a poor relation with nothing much to recommend her, save a minuscule dowry and a very big imagination. She has spent the past several years as governess to her younger cousins, who are now ready for their come out—and want Allegra to marry, too. Specifically, they eagerly await the return of Allegra's dashing, handsome, swashbuckling, conveniently absent and secretly fictional fiancé, the dread pirate Captain L'Amour. The only place Mr. John Sharp strikes fear is in the courtroom, where his neat, ordered mind is renowned for winning every case he presents. John loves predictability and longs to be a chef. Unfortunately, every time he puts on an apron, the entire kitchen catches fire. Much like passion burning between him and a certain wildly unpredictable spinster, who seems to have confused him for a dashing, exciting pirate. By fulfilling her fantasies, can his dreams come true...together? It is the eighteenth century, and turmoil is brewing all over India. In the country's south, Hyder Ali, an ordinary soldier, rises through the ranks to take over Mysore, a small kingdom that is in danger of being swallowed by the Marathas and the Nizam of

the Deccan. Despite overwhelming odds, Hyder Ali forges an empire right under their noses through tact, bravery and unparalleled military strategy. Before long, he holds sway over a kingdom that spans from the dry lands near the Krishna River to the lush forests of the Malabar. But the angry Marathas are thirsting for revenge, and the English are fast gaining ground. Will the Sultan of Mysore be able to crush these formidable enemies? Will his son Tipu come to his aid? Or will he be forced to surrender the vast and powerful kingdom he has so passionately built? For generations, sheep have had a proud history of jumping over fences to help children sleep. But when a little bunny tries to join this bedtime ritual, will the sheep be ready to welcome her into their group? Join Olive on her adventure, as she sets out to change bedtime as we know it and, along the way, discovers the joy that comes from helping others and the importance of not giving up. *The Pillow Parade* is a funny and lighthearted rhyming book that you will enjoy reading to your kids over and over again. In a playful and subtle manner, the story shows children the importance of not giving up when they are confronted with a difficult situation or a flock of veeeeeeery stubborn, and not-so-nice, sheep. "An impressive debut . . . Vibrant and exuberantly romantic, *Affair* is chock full of details that reflect India's social and cultural flux."—NPR.org Mili Rathod hasn't seen her husband in twenty years—not since she was promised to him at the age of four. Yet marriage has allowed Mili a freedom rarely given to girls in her village. Her grandmother has even allowed her to leave India and study in America for eight months, all to make her the perfect modern wife. Which is exactly what Mili longs to be—if her husband would just come and claim her. Bollywood's favorite director, Samir Rathod, has come to Michigan to secure a divorce for his older brother. Persuading a naïve village girl to sign the papers should be easy for someone with Samir's tabloid-famous charm. But Mili is neither a fool nor a gold-digger. Open-hearted yet complex, she's trying to reconcile her independence with cherished traditions. And before he can stop himself, Samir is immersed in Mili's life—cooking her dal and rotis, escorting her to her roommate's elaborate Indian wedding, and wondering where his loyalties and happiness lie. Heartfelt, witty, and thoroughly engaging, Sonali Dev's debut is both a vivid exploration of modern India and a deeply honest story of love, in all its diversity. "Deeply-felt emotions that will keep

readers turning the pages."—Susan Elizabeth Phillips, New York Times—bestselling author "Debut author Sonali Dev writes a beautiful love story in *A Bollywood Affair* . . . One of the best romances I've read this year."—USA Today

Paradise is stalked by a relentless evil. What would you do if your family was threatened? Sophie just wants to settle down with her unusual family—but a powerful presence sweeps in to steal her joy. At her most vulnerable physically and emotionally, Sophie must rise up to hunt down those who would take what's most precious to her. The boundaries of love and friendship are tested as the men in her life grapple with their roles, each trying to help—but in the end, it's Sophie who must face the darkness from her past and vanquish it. "The Paradise Crime books really should be picked up as a film script...they're that good!" ~ Nancy S., Reviewer

From the twenty-first century to the fifteenth century, past and future collide in a tale of love, obsession, betrayal, and the hope for redemption. Such is the voice of Shan Sa's unforgettable heroine in her latest literary masterpiece, *Empress*. Empress Wu, one of China's most controversial figures, was its first and only female emperor, who emerged in the seventh century during the great Tang Dynasty and ushered in a golden age. Throughout history, her name has been defamed and her story distorted by those taking vengeance on a woman who dared to become emperor. But now, for the first time in thirteen centuries, Empress Wu (or Heavenlight, as we come to know her) flings open the gates of the Forbidden City and tells her own astonishing tale—revealing a fascinating, complex figure who in many ways remains modern to this day. Writing with epic assurance, poetry, and vivid historic detail, Shan Sa plumbs the psychological and philosophical depths of what it means to be a striving mortal in a tumultuous, power-hungry world. *Empress* is a great literary feat and a revelation for the ages.

Regular consumption of plant-based protein foods instead of animal-based protein foods reduces the risk factors for cardiovascular diseases, diabetes and certain cancers. Apart from human health, the adverse effects to the environment due to the production of protein is much higher for animal sources than plant sources. Greenhouse gas emissions from the production of one pound of lamb meat, for example, are thirty times higher than one pound of lentils. As consumers are increasingly aware of personal health and environmental impact of food production, the demand for plant protein foods is increasing globally. This trend has

prompted several large-scale collaborative research projects on plant-based protein products supported by the industry and governmental agencies. Several established multinational meat companies have started adding plant-protein product lines to meet the current demand. This book presents the first comprehensive compilation of literature on plant-based protein foods. Chapters cover protein extraction technologies from plants, comparison of amino acid profiles of plant- and animal-based proteins, approaches to product development for plant-based protein products, health benefits of plant-based protein foods, market opportunities, and future challenges. *Plant Protein Foods* is an essential reference for consumers, students, researchers, food manufacturers and other stakeholders interested in this domain. This book provides a comprehensive discussion on the current information and evidence on the latest developments in the field of drug resistance. Drug resistance is the reduction in effectiveness of a medication such as an antimicrobial or an antineoplastic in treating a disease or condition. This leads to negative outcomes at great risk of public health; therefore, increasing efforts are dedicated to the development of a new generation of medications that will help deal with this phenomenon. Decades of technological innovations in drug design have demonstrated the potential of resistance. Enormous information on various aspects of antibiotics resistance is available. However, literature on drug resistance specifically related to infectious and non-infectious diseases is rarely presented, particularly those focusing on the mechanisms, biochemistry, kinetics, dynamics, and management of drug resistance. Therefore, there is an immense need for a systematic compilation on the available information about this issue. All the chapters are logically selected and arranged to provide state-of-the-art information about all aspects of drug resistance. After an introductory chapter, four chapters are dedicated to infectious microbial diseases, whereas two other chapters are complimenting this theme and focusing on drug resistance in ear, nose and throat, and skin diseases. The recent advances in the understanding of drug resistance in lung, neurological, kidney, heart, and liver diseases are also covered. Biochemistry of drug resistance in cancer, HIV, ocular, reproductive, and diabetes diseases is also discussed. Finally, a chapter dedicated to the "management of drug resistance" has been included. With the assurance and grace of

her acclaimed novels *The Hare* and *The Gloaming*--which have earned her comparisons to Patricia Highsmith and Lauren Groff--Melanie Finn returns with a precisely layered and tense new literary thriller. *The Underneath* follows Kay Ward, a former journalist struggling with the constraints of motherhood. Along with her husband and two children, she rents a quaint Vermont farmhouse for the summer. The idea is to disconnect from their work-based lifestyle--that had her doggedly pursuing a genocidal leader of child soldiers known as General Christmas, even through Kay's pregnancy and the birth of their second child--in an effort to repair their shaky marriage. It isn't long before Kay's husband is called away and she discovers a mysterious crawlspace in the rental with unsettling writing etched into the wall. Alongside some of the house's other curiosities and local sleuthing, Kay is led to believe that something terrible may have happened to the home's owners. Kay's investigation leads her to a local logger, Ben Comeau, a man beset with his own complicated and violent past. A product of the foster system and life-long resident of the Northeast Kingdom, Ben struggles to overcome his situation, and to help an abused child whose addict mother is too incapacitated to care about the boy's plight. *The Underneath* is an intelligent and considerate exploration of violence--both personal and social--and whether violence may ever be justified. "An emotional novel that you will never forget." --Lisa Scottoline, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *Eternal* From the author of *The Lost Girls of Paris* comes a riveting tale of courage and unlikely friendship during World War II -- Now a New York Times bestseller! 1942. Sadie Gault is eighteen and living with her parents in the Kraków Ghetto during World War II. When the Nazis liquidate the ghetto, Sadie and her pregnant mother are forced to seek refuge in the perilous tunnels beneath the city. One day Sadie looks up through a grate and sees a girl about her own age buying flowers. Ella Stepanek is an affluent Polish girl living a life of relative ease with her stepmother, who has developed close alliances with the occupying Germans. While on an errand in the market, she catches a glimpse of something moving beneath a grate in the street. Upon closer inspection, she realizes it's a girl hiding. Ella begins to aid Sadie and the two become close, but as the dangers of the war worsen, their lives are set on a collision course that will test them in the face of overwhelming odds. Inspired by incredible true stories, *The Woman with the Blue Star* is an

unforgettable testament to the power of friendship and the extraordinary strength of the human will to survive. Highly recommended by Entertainment Weekly, Washington Post, CNN, BookTrib, Goodreads, Betches, AARP, Frolic, SheReads, and more! Don't miss Pam Jenoff's new novel, Code Name Sapphire, a riveting tale of bravery and resistance during World War II. Read these other sweeping epics from New York Times bestselling author Pam Jenoff: The Lost Girls of Paris The Orphan's Tale The Ambassador's Daughter The Diplomat's Wife The Last Summer at Chelsea Beach The Kommandant's Girl The Winter Guest The year is 1961. In a quaint, rural NW Ohio town, secrets are coming to light. Daniel Yoder, an Amish boy with a dream, wants to attend high school against the strict rules of the Amish church. Surprisingly, the Bishop and Daniel's father agree to let him attend. At school, Daniel meets the newly-hired chorus teacher, Julie Bronson, the sole black person in the all-white community. Julie discovers Daniel has the gift of song and tries to encourage his talent. Together, this pair conquer adversity and the stresses pitting them against both religious stereotypes and racial segregation. Everyone has secrets - some kept better than others. Still, secrets tend to surface. Nobody can hide from who they truly are in... The Secret Voice. Immaculee Ilibagiza grew up in a country she loved, surrounded by a family she cherished. But in 1994 her idyllic world was ripped apart as Rwanda descended into a bloody genocide. Immaculee's family was brutally murdered during a killing spree that lasted three months and claimed the lives of nearly a million Rwandans. Incredibly, Immaculee survived the slaughter. For 91 days, she and seven other women huddled silently together in the cramped bathroom of a local pastor while hundreds of machete-wielding killers hunted for them. It was during those endless hours of unspeakable terror that Immaculee discovered the power of prayer, eventually shedding her fear of death and forging a profound and lasting relationship with God. She emerged from her bathroom hideout having discovered the meaning of truly unconditional love—a love so strong she was able seek out and forgive her family's killers. The triumphant story of this remarkable young woman's journey through the darkness of genocide will inspire anyone whose life has been touched by fear, suffering, and loss. The long search for a thief and the things he stole--all the magic in Oz as well as Princess Ozma, its ruler. The time has come to end their punishment or the

world. For nearly destroying the world in an ancient war, the Ashanti were cursed by the Goddess Mhyrah with lifespans of less than a decade. To regain normal lives for his people, Beh'kana, the Ashanti King, will conquer death by gaining control of the source of all elemental magic: the spirit realm. Even if he must burn the world to do so. After all, he already killed his closest friend to gain the Ashanti throne. But his defeat at the Earth Gate nearly cost him his life. Lavinia did not seek to be named Guardian of the Spheres when she touched each to gain control of elemental power. But now that choice has propelled her to being the key to stop the Ashanti. She controls the gates that allow magic into the world. And she must close them or the Ashanti will cross into the spirit realm and gain power beyond imagination, enough to enslave or destroy the world they once sought to rule. But with the closure of each gate, an elemental power is lost. Only two gates remain open. Magic is faint. Just when the fight grows the most desperate. To win needed help, Lavinia has promised a man who once tried to kill her best friend that she would open the gates and restore magic again. It might give them the power to fight the Ashanti or it will give their enemy the world. Discover the end to the epic fantasy journey begun in book 1 of the Games of Fire trilogy, *Spark of Defiance*, and continued through book 2, *Gates of Fire & Earth*. The struggle for the power over life and death as well as all the elements comes to a dramatic conclusion. Can a cruel ancient punishment be ended without destroying magic or the world?

Welcome back to the world of Myrrah and meet the Elementals of Fire, Earth, Water, Air, and Spirit who shape it. Pick up book 3 of the Games of Fire trilogy, *A New Goddess*, today! Polly believes that nothing is more important than being the prettiest girl at school – and her pigtails are her trademark! But an incident with the class bully helps Polly discover the meaning of true beauty. Set in the 1930s and still relevant today, *Polly and Her Pigtails* teaches children about self-esteem, self-confidence, self-discovery and the ability to transform their own lives. This book is a gripping, long-overdue biography of one of the most intriguing and powerful female figures of Western history: Theodora of Byzantium. Ruthlessly criticized and reviled by her contemporaries, Theodora, the beautiful wife of Emperor Justinian, began her life as the daughter of a bear-keeper and rose to be Justinian's partner in politics as well as in life, ruling from 527 to 548. She stood by his side in

Constantinople as he built a "second Rome," waging battles against the Goths and Vandals, quelling nationalist unrest in Egypt, and suppressing a rebellion at their doorstep by mercilessly slaughtering 30,000 in Constantinople's stadium. Theodora's political savvy saved Justinian's empire time and time again. When the European editions of Theodora were published, it was hailed as the "Book of the Year." Author Paolo Cesaretti received the Ginzano Cavour Prize for sifting through a vast range of documentary material to deliver a richly entertaining story of an ambitious and cunning woman who defied the conventions of her time and triumphed over those who sought to defame and destroy her.

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