

## Balefire

Crisis Chronicles Press is thrilled to announce the publication of Susan Sheppard's long-awaited Balefire, a winner of our most recent poetry chapbook competition. I absolutely love these poems! "From the first poem's first line, Evening is the monster we swim in, a compulsion gripped me to read straight through to the last line of the last poem. It's as if Sheppard is a dark angel who clasped my hand and floated me through haunting poems of 'chrome moon' and 'autumn's sorcery.' Balefire will chill you, thrill you, and fill holes you didn't know were there." --Dianne Borsenik, publisher at NightBallet Press. Balefire is 32 pages, hand crafted and saddle stabled with textured ivory card stock cover, black endpapers, and cottonwood fiber pages. Laser printed, 5.5 x 8.5", with cover art by Susan Sheppard. ISBN. Only \$7 (plus p+h) from Crisis Chronicles Press, 3344 W. 105th Street #4, Cleveland, Ohio 44111 USA.

St. Louis has fallen, and Fort Leonard Wood is gone. With the arrival of the Hrimthurssar, everything has changed. The dead are no longer the biggest threat to their survival. Wylie and the other Einherjar have learned that the Hrimthurssar truly are the Frost Giants of Norse Legend. Not only are they the servants of Loki, but they can control the dead. Since the comets struck the moon and blotted out the sky, the Fimbul Winter has begun and has plunged the world into an ice age. More than just the frigid cold will challenge their every move. Machinations are in place that will bring them closer to the inevitable final battle. The future of mankind will be settled on the frozen fields that was once America's heartland. Lives will be lost, and sacrifices will be made. Stare into the Balefire.

Wicked is in the eye of the beholder...Lexi Balefire thought she was finished unearthing new and outrageous information about her heritage--turns out, she was dead wrong. Still reeling from the pain of ultimate betrayal, and the near-loss of her soul mate, Kin Clark, Lexi embarks on a journey through time, uncovering pieces of the Balefire family's sordid past. Her mother's witch blood combined with the divine essence of her father, Cupid, makes Lexi the most powerful Fate Weaver on the planet--but she'll need to repair the pieces of Cupid's Bow of Destiny in order to finally claim her birthright. Will Lexi succeed in keeping her loved ones safe, or will she get lost on her way to spell and back? After seeing her best friend, a Dark Immortal called Incy, torture a human with magick, Nastasya, a spoiled party girl, enters a home for wayword immortals and finally begins to deal with life, even as she learns that someone wants her dead.

In swift ruminations, Star Black traces the hesitant silences that fall between desire and restraint. Balefire, the book's title, alludes to a signal fire seen from a distance.

A rocker who gave up his true love to chase his rock 'n' roll dream must convince her to give him a second chance.

All of the Balefire novellas in one collection. Featuring stories from the Fate Weaver series and the Mag and Clara Balefire Mysteries. A Snowball's Chance in Spell Lexi Balefire lives with her godmothers, three faeries who like nothing more than a good fight. When they knock Santa and his sleigh out of the sky, Lexi must find all of Santa's reindeer before time runs out. This story is a prequel to the Fate Weaver series and features cameos of characters from two other series. A Daring Game Felicity Dare's romantic heart can only be satisfied by a knight in shining armor. Too bad those don't exist in the everyday world. Or do they? Fall in love along with Felicity in this short story set in the world of Lexi Balefire, Fate Weaver One Spell of a Night All Lexi Balefire wants is a chance to enjoy Halloween her way, but the grand plan goes up in flames when the ghost of a witch threatens to haunt Lexi over some unfinished business. Tansy Blankenship died a horrible death, had her soul ripped in half and the pieces stored in Lexi's workshop. Her lover is waiting for her in the place where witches go when

they die, but Tansy can't get to the Summerlands without help. Join Lexi and Tansy on the adventure to send Tansy home before the clock strikes midnight and traps her here forever. One Spell of A Night is a short story that takes place directly following No Chance in Spell, but can be read as a standalone story. Shot to Spell To Lexi Balefire, matchmaking witch, Valentine's Day is just like any other day only with a side of added pressure to make perfect matches. All she wants to do is get through it without thinking about her ex, and have the day over with as quickly as possible. Neither of those things will be happening when she is forced to relive February the 14th until she gets it right. Shot to Spell is a short story that takes place in the timeline of the Fate Weaver series but can be read as a standalone story. When Spell Freezes Over When you find a half-dead Christmas elf on your lawn first thing in the morning, the day is sure to go downhill from there. Sisters Mag and Clara Balefire need to find a way to revive the elf, but first they have to figure out who stole his magical mojo. Welcome to the sleepy town of Harmony, a hotbed of hidden magic, intrigue, and small town mystery. Vacation from Murder All Mag and Clara Balefire want is a chance to enjoy a three-day weekend without having to hide their magic. Camping on a secluded beach seems to be the perfect solution until their campsite is invaded by a family with two young boys. Quicker than you can say broomstick, the boys steal the Balefire's hearts and then the unthinkable happens. The family disappears in the night and the witches are certain they've fallen victim to foul play. Join Mag and Clara's adventure to figure out what happened to the Young family before it is too late. Vacation from Murder is a short story that takes place directly following Murder Above the Waterline, but can be read as a standalone story.

The Wheel of Time® is a PBS Great American Read Selection! Now in development for TV! Since its debut in 1990, The Wheel of Time® by Robert Jordan has captivated millions of readers around the globe with its scope, originality, and compelling characters. In Towers of Midnight, the Last Battle has started. The seals on the Dark One's prison are crumbling. The Pattern itself is unraveling, and the armies of the Shadow have begun to boil out of the Blight. The sun has begun to set upon the Third Age. Perrin Aybara is now hunted by specters from his past: Whitecloaks, a slayer of wolves, and the responsibilities of leadership. All the while, an unseen foe is slowly pulling a noose tight around his neck. To prevail, he must seek answers in Tel'aran'rhiod and find a way--at long last--to master the wolf within him or lose himself to it forever. Meanwhile, Matrim Cauthon prepares for the most difficult challenge of his life. The creatures beyond the stone gateways--the Aelfinn and the Eelfinn--have confused him, taunted him, and left him hanged, his memory stuffed with bits and pieces of other men's lives. He had hoped that his last confrontation with them would be the end of it, but the Wheel weaves as the Wheel wills. The time is coming when he will again have to dance with the Snakes and the Foxes, playing a game that cannot be won. The Tower of Ghenjei awaits, and its secrets will reveal the fate of a friend long lost. Dovie'andi se tovyā sagain. It's time to toss the dice. TV series update: "Sony will produce along with Red Eagle Entertainment and Radar Pictures. Rafe Judkins is attached to write and executive produce. Judkins previously worked on shows such as ABC's "Agents of SHIELD," the Netflix series "Hemlock Grove," and the NBC series "Chuck." Red Eagle partners Rick Selvage and Larry Mondragon will executive produce along with Radar's Ted Field and Mike Weber. Darren Lemke will also executive produce, with Jordan's widow Harriet McDougal serving as

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Twenty years ago, Morgan Rowlands was the most powerful young bloodwitch to come around in generations - making magickal discoveries, facing and conquering unimaginable evil, and surviving a devastating betrayal. Her daughter, fifteen-year-old Moira, knows there's more to her mother's past than she's been told. And the secrets that lie in Morgan's heart could destroy Moira's entire world. When Moira learns two painful truths about her family, she begins to put the puzzle together - and realizes that someone close to her is in grave danger.

Balefire is not only a powerful collection of poetry - it is a signal fire sparked by injustice and reaching for those who ache for a world less hostile, more equitable, and full of sustainable beauty. The beacon is lit. Will you answer its call? Come to the night Come to the water's edge Dip your tired flesh into the ocean where your sorrows feel at home in the salt. Come to your questions Come to yourself Do not fear our fire - it is the beacon lit to beckon you home. Join us here, at the knife edge of the meeting of anger and doubt We teeter into the void and, in the dark, find our wings - Balefire is for the unloved, the rightfully angry, the forgotten, and the outcast. It is for the wounded, warming earth. It is for those who refuse to look away, and for those waiting for a sign. It is time. Let us begin.

Books 1-3 of The Mag and Clara Balefire Mysteries Including Murder Above the Fold, Murder on the Backswing, Murder Below the Waterline. If you like a good paranormal mystery with a heaping dollop of sarcasm and wit, you'll love this humorous magical story full of chaos and intrigue.

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Lives will be lost, and sacrifices will be made. Stare into the Balefire

BalefireBantam

If Lexi Balefire's matchmaking skills seem like magic, it's for a good reason—witchiness has always run in the family. Without access to her full powers, Lexi can't help wondering if she'll ever control the Balefire legacy—or end up a wicked witch like her mother and grandmother before her. When a formerly happy client gets dumped unexpectedly, Lexi must pick up the pieces in order to save her business—all while dealing with four fighting faerie godmothers, an obnoxious arch-nemesis, and the only man to ever light her fire.

In a distant future, the Galactic Empire stretches from one end of the Milky Way to the other. Its capital lies on a soulless, metallic world-city close to Galactic Center, its fortress planets guard every spiral arm. At its heart, its citizens dwell in sybaritic indulgence, their lives eased by luxuries imported from the outer worlds whose populations toil as slaves beneath the stinging electro-lash of the overseers. For a million years the Empire has been expanding, but its star cruisers can venture no further until a spacedrive is invented that can cross the unimaginable gulfs between this galaxy and Andromeda. Now the Empire begins to turn inward. The ensuing revolt will set the Galaxy at war. Does this spell the end of Empire? When it is gone, what will take its place? Freedom? Or a tyranny far worse? For now, all the citizens of the galaxy can do is prepare themselves for the FALL OF THE GALACTIC EMPIRE...

Sister witches Margaret and Clara Balefire are starting to wonder if they should have opened a detective agency instead of an antique shop. For the second time since moving to the sleepy coastal village of Harmony, Clara and Mag Balefire find themselves involved in a murder investigation—only this time, catching the killer means clearing the Balefire name. As if trying to catch a murderer isn't enough, the mischievous elderly leader of the local coven seems intent on exposing magic to the entire town. However, things aren't always as they seem when it comes to ancient magic and those powerful enough to wield it. If you like magic, murder, and spunky old witches, then join the Balefire sisters as they stalk the local country club and build a love nest for perilous pixies in order to clear their good name. *Murder on the Backswing* is the second book in the *Elder Witch* paranormal cozy mystery series. This is a full-length, humorous paranormal cozy mystery novel.

Balefire tome 3 Clio et Thais sont des sorcières. Si Clio l'a toujours su et a été élevée dans la sorcellerie, Thais, elle, n'a découvert l'étendue de ses pouvoirs que récemment, après la mort de son père. Alors qu'elle tente de maîtriser ce nouveau don, elle se retrouve au cœur du rite des Treize, dont la puissance pourrait bien changer sa vie et celle de sa sœur à jamais. À la clé de ce rite millénaire ? L'immortalité. Alors que Thais rejette en bloc cette éventualité et se méfie des sorciers qui composent l'assemblée, Clio s'intéresse de plus en plus à la magie noire. La légende qui raconte que les jumeaux sont divisés entre ombre et lumière se vérifiera-t-elle ? Le lien qui unit les deux sœurs résistera-t-il à cette divergence ? Et, surtout, les pouvoirs balbutiants de Thais sont-ils à la hauteur d'un tel rite ? Entre secrets, rêves de grandeur et double jeu, les jumelles sont-elles de taille à faire

face à une assemblée de sorciers qui cherche à les manipuler ? Traduit de l'anglais (États-Unis) par Anne-Sylvie Homassel

A team of dedicated police investigators and crime-lab specialists work against time to track down Thanatos, a professional killer responsible for a series of brutal, unexplained murders

You can't keep a good witch down! Clara Balefire spent the last quarter century imprisoned in stone for a crime she did not commit. Now she's free and ready to take up where she left off. Before she gets the chance, another young witch turns up dead. Half the coven blames Clara, the other half expects her to solve the crime. What is a witch to do? With two Balefire witches in the house, the job of Keeper of the magical flame is up for grabs and Lexi Balefire must choose between giving up the position or the chance to go out on tour with her musician boyfriend. But first, there's a murder to solve. Series keywords: witch fantasy mystery, romantic fantasy mystery, psychic witch mystery comedy, funny romantic paranormal mystery, romantic mystery ghosts, romantic mystery aura reader, light romantic suspense, spirits, ghosts, tarot reader, romance series, romantic comedy series, paranormal romance, cozy romantic mystery series, for fans of Nora Roberts, romance mystery books, romance novels, fun and funny paranormal mystery series, cozy romance, romantic mystery, ghostly mystery, feel-good mystery, uplit, small town mystery, women sleuths, female protagonists, haunted mysteries, romantic mystery series, fae, faerie.

After seventeen-year-old Thais Allard loses her widowed father in a tragic car accident, she is forced to leave the only home she's ever known to live with a total stranger in New Orleans. New Orleans greets Thais with many secrets and mysteries, but none as unbelievable as the moment she comes face to face with the impossible—an identical twin, Clio. Thais soon learns that she and the twin she never knew come from a family of witches, that she possesses astonishing powers, and that she, along with Clio, has a key role in Balefire, the coven she was born into. Fiery Clio is less than thrilled to have to share the spotlight, but the twins must learn to combine their powers in order to complete a rite that will transform their lives and the coven forever.

When sister witches Mag and Clara Balefire stumble over the dead body of a local woman, they refuse to let the ruling of accidental death stand—not when they're positive it was murder.. Digging deeper, secrets begin to surface and the sisters suspect some of the townsfolk aren't as innocent as they appear. When they discover the killer might be someone close to the victim, they don't know who to trust. As if that's not enough, the local coven expects them to bring their cantankerous, ancient leader to heel, and she's having none of it. Between solving two murders and keeping a mischievous, elderly witch with power to spare from wreaking havoc, moving to a small town isn't quite what the Balefire sisters bargained for. If you like a good paranormal mystery with a heaping dollop of sarcasm and wit, you'll love this humorous magical story full of chaos and intrigue. *Murder Above the Fold* is the first book in the *Elder Witch* paranormal cozy mystery series. This is a full-length, humorous mystery novel featuring paranormal characters.

A guide to promoting literacy in the digital age With young children gaining access to a dizzying array of games, videos, and other digital media, will they ever learn to read? The answer is yes—if they are surrounded by adults who know how to help and if they are introduced to media designed to promote literacy, instead of undermining it. *Tap, Click, Read* gives

educators and parents the tools and information they need to help children grow into strong, passionate readers who are skilled at using media and technology of all kinds—print, digital, and everything in between. In *Tap, Click, Read* authors Lisa Guernsey and Michael H. Levine envision a future that is human-centered first and tech-assisted second. They document how educators and parents can lead a new path to a place they call 'Readialand'—a literacy-rich world that marries reading and digital media to bring knowledge, skills, and critical thinking to all of our children. This approach is driven by the urgent need for low-income children and parents to have access to the same 21st-century literacy opportunities already at the fingertips of today's affluent families. With stories from homes, classrooms and cutting edge tech labs, plus accessible translation of new research and compelling videos, Guernsey and Levine help educators, parents, and America's leaders tackle the questions that arise as digital media plays a larger and larger role in children's lives, starting in their very first years of life. *Tap, Click, Read* includes an analysis of the exploding app marketplace and provides useful information on new review sites and valuable curation tools. It shows what to avoid and what to demand in today's apps and e-books—as well as what to seek in community preschools, elementary schools and libraries. Peppered with the latest research from fields as diverse as neuroscience and behavioral economics and richly documented examples of best practices from schools and early childhood programs around the country, *Tap, Click, Read* will show you how to: Promote the adult-child interactions that help kids grow into strong readers Learn how to use digital media to build a foundation for reading and success Discover new tools that open up avenues for creativity, critical thinking, and knowledge-building that today's children need The book's accompanying website keeps you updated on new research and provides vital resources to help parents, schools and community organizations.

Silke Dyson is a sculptor who is dealing with impaired vision as a result of a physical assault. Kirin Foster is a pragmatic travel magazine writer with wonderful opportunities to see the world. Their lives collide at thirty-thousand feet during a tropical storm and they strike up a friendship under the Belize sun. Much to their delight, they discover they both live in Milwaukee and, back home, they develop an easy rapport amidst common interests and friends. Sometimes a random spark of kindness or caring can spark a small flame. With patience and opportunity, this small flame can grow into a balefire, a beacon of hope to guide a pair of souls to their true home.

Blu My entire life is my music—and all the trappings that come with it. Sex, booze, and rock 'n' roll is all I ever wanted. Touring the world as the lead singer of Balefire, I have it all. Until on hiatus, I meet the girl next door. Ashleigh Baker is nothing like the groupies and celebrities who usually have all my attention. In her cute floppy hat with her knees stained with dirt, she spends her days creating a flowering show piece from her rented yard. She's the most gorgeous woman I've ever met, and she acts like she doesn't want a damn thing to do with me. But from the moment I laid eyes on her,

she's all I can think about. Ashleigh Growing up the only child of an Air Force Colonel, all I wanted was to stay in one place for more than a minute. When I score a pretty little house with a long-term lease, I just want to grow my flowers and my freelancing gig as a music reviewer. Then a loud Harley wakes me from a sound sleep and I discover my neighbor is Blu Connolly. Yeah, that Blu Connolly, lead singer for my favorite band Balefire. With his killer good looks and panty-melting voice, he's a walking temptation to sin. Though I do my best to avoid him, it seems Blu has other ideas. He's on a mission to wear me down, let him in, but what happens when he stops wanting to sing for me?

Separated since birth, seventeen-year-old twins Thais and Clio unexpectedly meet in New Orleans where they seem to be pursued by a coven of witches who want to harness the twins' magical powers for its own ends.

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"Sony will produce along with Red Eagle Entertainment and Radar Pictures. Rafe Judkins is attached to write and executive produce. Judkins previously worked on shows such as ABC's "Agents of SHIELD," the Netflix series "Hemlock Grove," and the NBC series "Chuck." Red Eagle partners Rick Selvage and Larry Mondragon will executive produce along with Radar's Ted Field and Mike Weber. Darren Lemke will also executive produce, with Jordan's widow Harriet McDougal serving as consulting producer." —Variety

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In the conclusion to the "Wheel of Time" series, all of humanity is in peril as Rand al'Thor moves forward to break the seals on the Dark One's prison and the Last Battle will determine the fate of the world.

Whyborne's Endicott relatives have returned to collect on the promise he made to help them take back their ancestral manor from an evil cult. In exchange, they'll give him the key to deciphering the Wisborg Codex, which Whyborne needs to learn how to stop



the masters. To that end, Whyborne, his husband Griffin, and their friends Iskander and Christine travel to a small island off the coast of Cornwall. But when they arrive at Balefire Manor, Whyborne must not only face the evil within the ancient mansion, but the painful truth about his own destiny.

Evil forces are after Morgan, forces connected with a dark wave of magick. And she knows something is wrong with the way Cal is acting, although she can't put her finger on it. Cal is definitely hiding something, but is he out to hurt her, as Hunter says?

The Balefire coven has tried and failed to replicate the original rite that bestowed immortality upon them centuries ago. Some were hoping to finally die, others to discover new reaches of power. Twins Clio and Thais weren't sure what to expect, but now they are forced to confront a hidden enemy who still wants them dead. In addition, they're coping with the love they both feel for the same person, who has finally made his choice. Readers who devoured the first three books in this thrill-ride series will be dying to see what happens next, and they'll be rewarded with a shocking turn of events that no one will predict!

What will Mag Balefire do when someone from her past comes back to haunt her? When Bradley Graham disappeared a few weeks before his wedding, everyone assumed he had a case of cold feet. Except for his fiance and a dead medium named Roma. In order to get Roma to leave Balms and Bygones, and take all her ghostly friends with her, Mag and Clara must solve the mystery. If you like a good paranormal mystery with a heaping dollop of sarcasm and wit, you'll love this humorous magical story full of chaos and intrigue. Haunted by Murder is the fourth book in the Elder Witch paranormal cozy mystery series. This is a full-length, humorous mystery novel featuring witches and other paranormal characters.

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