

Writer of the Year 2020



Charlie N. Holmberg

Charlie N. Holmberg served as the Vice President of the Herriman Chapter of the League of Utah Writers when it was initially formed. She served the chapter for years providing amazing service by bringing in high-quality guest speakers and providing insight into the industry as a traditionally published author consistently willing to pass along her knowledge to fellow League members.

Charlie Nicholes Holmberg was born in Salt Lake City, Utah to two parents who sacrificed a great deal to give their very lazy daughter a good education. As a result, Charlie learned to hate uniforms, memorized all English prepositions in alphabetical order, and mastered the art of Reed-Kellogg diagramming a sentence at age seven. She entered several writing contests in her elementary years and never placed.

Being a nerd, Charlie started writing fan-fiction as a teenager in

between episodes of Star Trek: The Next Generation. She became a full-fledged band geek with mediocre talent in high school, where she met her husband. While she strove to win his attention by baking him cookies and throwing ramen noodles at his house, he didn't actually ask her out until six years later.

Charlie began taking writing seriously during her undergrad at Brigham Young University, where she majored in English and minored in editing. She finally won a few writing contests. She graduated with her BA in 2010 and got hitched three months later. Shortly afterwards, her darling husband dragged her to Moscow, Idaho, where he subsequently impregnated her.

In summer 2013, after collecting many rejection letters and making a quilt out of them, Charlie sold her ninth novel, *The Paper Magician*, and its sequel to *47North* with the help of her wonderful agent, Marlene Stringer. Charlie has since finished the original trilogy with the WSJ-bestseller *The Master Magician*, and in 2016 sold the movie rights to Disney. Her second trilogy, the *Numina* trilogy, includes *Smoke & Summons*, *Myths & Mortals*, and *Siege & Sacrifice*. She has also published five stand-alone novels: *Followed by Frost* (a 2016 RITA finalist); *Magic Bitter*, *Magic Sweet*; *The Fifth Doll*; *The Plastic Magician*, a story in the *Paper Magician* universe; and *Veins of Gold* (a sixth stand-alone, *The Will and the Wilds*, releases January 2020).