

the summoning by kelley armstrong

the summoning by kelley armstrong is a captivating novel that marks the beginning of the Women of the Otherworld series, blending elements of supernatural fiction, mystery, and thriller genres. This book introduces readers to a rich world filled with witches, werewolves, and other paranormal beings, centered around the story of Chloe Saunders, a teenager who discovers her extraordinary powers. Kelley Armstrong's masterful storytelling and complex character development have made this novel a favorite among fans of urban fantasy and paranormal fiction. This article explores the plot, characters, themes, and critical reception of *The Summoning* by Kelley Armstrong, providing a comprehensive overview for new readers and enthusiasts alike. Additionally, it delves into the unique aspects of Armstrong's writing style and the impact of the book within the genre. Below is the table of contents outlining the main topics covered in this article.

- Plot Overview of *The Summoning* by Kelley Armstrong
- Main Characters and Their Roles
- Themes and Motifs in *The Summoning*
- Writing Style and Narrative Techniques
- Critical Reception and Impact
- Place Within the Women of the Otherworld Series

Plot Overview of *The Summoning* by Kelley Armstrong

The Summoning by Kelley Armstrong tells the story of Chloe Saunders, a seemingly ordinary teenager who wakes up in a morgue, unable to remember how she got there. As she tries to piece together the events leading up to this mysterious incident, Chloe discovers that she has supernatural abilities linked to the spirit world. The narrative follows her journey to understand her powers, confront dark forces, and uncover hidden truths about her past. The plot expertly combines elements of suspense, paranormal intrigue, and teenage drama, keeping readers engaged throughout the novel.

Introduction to Chloe's World

Chloe's discovery of her necromancer abilities thrusts her into a secretive world inhabited by witches, werewolves, and other supernatural beings. Her struggle to control her powers while navigating the challenges of adolescence forms the heart of the story. The novel also explores the dynamics of trust and friendship as Chloe allies with other supernatural characters to face emerging threats.

Key Plot Developments

Throughout the book, Chloe confronts various dangers, including a mysterious antagonist determined to exploit her abilities. She learns to harness her powers, uncovering secrets about her identity and the paranormal community. The pacing of the plot ensures a blend of action, mystery, and character growth, making *The Summoning* by Kelley Armstrong a compelling read.

Main Characters and Their Roles

The characters in *The Summoning* by Kelley Armstrong are well-crafted and integral to the storyline, each bringing unique traits and backgrounds that enrich the narrative. The protagonist, Chloe Saunders, is a relatable and complex character whose growth is central to the book's appeal.

Chloe Saunders

As the main character, Chloe's transformation from an ordinary teenager to a powerful necromancer drives the plot. Her resilience, curiosity, and determination make her a dynamic protagonist. Chloe's internal conflicts and evolving relationships offer depth to the story.

Supporting Characters

The novel features a diverse cast, including:

- Adam Vasic – A werewolf who becomes one of Chloe's closest allies, providing guidance and protection.
- Simon Bae – A sorcerer with a mysterious past, whose motives are ambiguous throughout much of the story.
- Dana Hathaway – A witch who introduces Chloe to the complexities of the supernatural world.

Each supporting character plays a critical role in advancing the plot and highlighting different aspects of the paranormal universe created by Kelley Armstrong.

Themes and Motifs in *The Summoning*

The Summoning by Kelley Armstrong explores several themes that resonate with young adult and fantasy readers alike. These themes contribute to the novel's depth and engage readers beyond the surface-level plot.

Identity and Self-Discovery

A central theme is Chloe's journey of self-discovery as she comes to terms with her necromancer

abilities and what they mean for her identity. The novel explores the challenges of accepting oneself amidst external pressures and internal doubts.

Good vs. Evil

The classic struggle between good and evil is portrayed through Chloe's battles with malevolent forces. However, the story also emphasizes moral ambiguity, showing that characters often face difficult choices without clear-cut answers.

Friendship and Trust

Trust and friendship are vital motifs, as Chloe must decide whom to trust in a world filled with secrets and deception. The relationships she forms are tested by danger and betrayal, highlighting their importance to her survival and growth.

Writing Style and Narrative Techniques

Kelley Armstrong's writing style in *The Summoning* is accessible yet richly descriptive, combining fast-paced action with introspective moments. Her use of first-person narration allows readers to connect deeply with Chloe's perspective and emotional experiences.

Use of Suspense and Pacing

The novel employs suspense effectively, with cliffhangers and plot twists that maintain reader interest. The pacing balances action sequences with character development, ensuring that the story progresses smoothly while allowing time for reflection.

World-Building and Supernatural Elements

Armstrong crafts a detailed supernatural world that feels believable and immersive. The integration of various paranormal beings and their unique rules enriches the narrative, providing a complex backdrop for the events of the story.

Critical Reception and Impact

The Summoning by Kelley Armstrong received positive reviews from critics and readers, praised for its engaging plot, well-developed characters, and fresh take on paranormal fiction. It has been credited with helping to popularize urban fantasy in the young adult genre during the early 2000s.

Reviews and Reader Feedback

Critics have highlighted Armstrong's ability to blend supernatural elements with relatable teenage experiences, creating a story that appeals to a broad audience. Readers often commend the book's suspenseful narrative and strong character voices.

Influence on Paranormal Fiction

The success of *The Summoning* contributed to the growth of the *Women of the Otherworld* series, inspiring other authors and expanding interest in paranormal young adult fiction. Its impact is evident in the continued popularity of supernatural themes in contemporary literature.

Place Within the Women of the Otherworld Series

The Summoning by Kelley Armstrong is the first installment in the *Women of the Otherworld* series, setting the stage for subsequent novels that explore different characters and facets of the supernatural world. This series is known for its interconnected stories and evolving mythology.

Series Overview

The *Women of the Otherworld* series follows various female protagonists with supernatural abilities, addressing themes of power, identity, and community. Each book focuses on a different character, allowing for diverse perspectives and storylines.

Continuity and Development

The Summoning establishes key elements and characters that reappear or influence later books, creating a cohesive universe. Fans of the series appreciate the depth and continuity Armstrong maintains across multiple novels.

Recommended Reading Order

For readers interested in exploring the series after *The Summoning*, the recommended order is:

1. *The Awakening*
2. *The Reckoning*
3. *The Gathering*
4. Other subsequent titles in the *Women of the Otherworld* series

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main plot of 'The Summoning' by Kelley Armstrong?

'The Summoning' follows Chloe Saunders, a teenage girl who discovers she is a necromancer after waking up in a morgue with no memory. She is sent to a paranormal reform school where she learns about her powers and the supernatural world.

Who is the protagonist in 'The Summoning'?

The protagonist of 'The Summoning' is Chloe Saunders, a young necromancer who navigates the challenges of her new abilities and the mysterious paranormal school.

What supernatural abilities does Chloe Saunders have in 'The Summoning'?

Chloe Saunders possesses necromancy, the ability to communicate with and see the dead.

Is 'The Summoning' part of a series?

Yes, 'The Summoning' is the first book in the 'Darkest Powers' trilogy by Kelley Armstrong.

What themes are explored in 'The Summoning'?

The novel explores themes of identity, self-discovery, friendship, and the struggle between the supernatural and human worlds.

Where is 'The Summoning' by Kelley Armstrong set?

'The Summoning' is primarily set in a paranormal reform school called Lyle House, where teens with supernatural abilities are sent.

What genre does 'The Summoning' belong to?

'The Summoning' is a young adult paranormal fantasy novel.

How does Kelley Armstrong portray the paranormal school in 'The Summoning'?

The paranormal school, Lyle House, is depicted as a mysterious and guarded institution where teens with supernatural powers are monitored, creating an atmosphere of suspense and intrigue.

What challenges does Chloe face in 'The Summoning'?

Chloe faces the challenge of controlling her necromancer abilities, uncovering the truth about her

past, and dealing with dangerous supernatural threats.

Why is 'The Summoning' popular among young adult readers?

'The Summoning' is popular due to its engaging protagonist, thrilling supernatural elements, relatable themes of self-discovery, and the suspenseful storytelling by Kelley Armstrong.

Additional Resources

1. *The Awakening* by Kelley Armstrong

This is the first book in the Women of the Otherworld series and introduces the story of Elena Michaels, the world's only female werewolf. She struggles to balance her human life with her supernatural identity while facing threats from both humans and other supernatural beings. The novel blends suspense, romance, and paranormal elements, setting the stage for the series.

2. *The Reckoning* by Kelley Armstrong

Continuing Elena Michaels' journey, this sequel delves deeper into the complexities of werewolf packs and their dangerous enemies. Elena must confront new challenges that test her loyalty and strength, all while uncovering secrets that could change everything she knows about her kind. The book combines thrilling action with emotional depth.

3. *The Gathering* by Kelley Armstrong

This book introduces a new protagonist, Maya Delaney, who discovers her powers as a witch after her family is attacked. As Maya learns to control her abilities, she must navigate a world filled with mystical dangers and dark forces seeking to destroy her. The novel explores themes of identity, power, and resilience.

4. *The Summoning* by Kelley Armstrong

The first installment in the Darkest Powers trilogy, this novel follows Chloe Saunders, a teenage girl who discovers she is a necromancer. Sent to a mysterious group home, she uncovers dark secrets about her past and the supernatural world. The story blends mystery, horror, and suspense with a coming-of-age narrative.

5. *The Awakening* (Darkest Powers series) by Kelley Armstrong

Not to be confused with the Women of the Otherworld novel, this book follows Chloe Saunders as she escapes from the group home and tries to live a normal life. However, her supernatural abilities continue to draw dangerous attention. The novel explores themes of trust, friendship, and survival.

6. *The Reckoning* (Darkest Powers series) by Kelley Armstrong

This thrilling conclusion to the Darkest Powers trilogy sees Chloe and her friends confronting powerful enemies and uncovering hidden truths. The stakes are higher as they fight for their freedom and the future of the supernatural community. The book is fast-paced and emotionally charged.

7. *The Gathering Storm* by Kelley Armstrong

A collection of short stories and novellas set in the Women of the Otherworld universe, this book expands on the lives of various supernatural characters. It offers additional insights and background that enrich the understanding of the main series. Fans enjoy the blend of different perspectives and storytelling styles.

8. *Bitten* by Kelley Armstrong

The first book in the Women of the Otherworld series focusing on Elena Michaels, this novel reveals her struggle to accept her werewolf nature and the violent world she inhabits. It combines elements of romance, mystery, and fantasy, creating a compelling narrative about identity and belonging.

9. *No Humans Involved* by Kelley Armstrong

This installment follows Jaime Vegas, a necromancer and private investigator, as she solves supernatural crimes. The book mixes detective fiction with paranormal elements, providing a fresh take on the genre. Jaime's character offers a witty and engaging perspective on the supernatural world.

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