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C.L. Wilson Biography

C.L. Wilson is a USA Today, New York Times, and Publisher's Weekly bestselling author of epic fantasy romance.

Praised for exceptional worldbuilding and lyric prose, C.L. Wilson's unique blend of action, emotion, and richly-imagined fantasy have endeared her books romance and fantasy readers alike. Her critically acclaimed novels have regularly appeared on bestseller lists including the USA Today, the New York Times, and Publisher's Weekly.

C.L's novels have won numerous awards including, LifetimeTV.com's Best Paranormal debut, the Gayle Wilson Award of Excellence, two National Reader's Choice awards, the Colorado Award of Excellence, and the Holt Medallion. Ms. Wilson is the honored recipient of the PEARL award from Paranormal Romance as the best new author, and winner of the PEARL award for best Romantic Fantasy novel.

Wilson lives in Bradenton, FL with her husband. They have three children, all currently in college or postgraduate school.

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C.L. Wilson Social Media

C.L. Wilson can be found online at:

Website: <u>www.clwilson.com</u>

Facebook Author Page: www.facebook.com/authorclwilson

Twitter: @clwilsonbooks

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/cl_wilson_books





C.L. Wilson Pull Quotes

Praise for The Sea King

"A rollercoaster ride you won't want to stop!"

RT Book Reviews, 4.5 Stars, Top Pick

"This fantastical romance provides an expert mix of magic, love, and adventure."

Kirkus Reviews

"Wilson is the queen of fantasy romance...I highly recommend the THE SEA KING."

Night Owl Reviews, 5 stars, Reviewer Top Pick

"A MAGICAL JEWEL OF THE SEA"

Addicted to Romance, 5 stars

"truly a masterpiece"

The Eater of Books

"I don't think I have held my breath [sic] through so many scenes in a long time... I cannot WAIT to see where the next book takes it!"

Novel Grounds

"The chemistry between her characters is red hot and the romance is sizzling. I am addicted to C.L. Wilson books...I definitely recommend this book to anyone who enjoys fantasy and romance because it's the best of both worlds!"

~ Dreaming of Alba

Praise for The Winter King

"[C.L. Wilson's] imagination once again takes flight giving readers a fantasy world unlike any other. What an adventure this story is! It was well worth the wait."

Night Owl Reviews, Reviewer Top Pick

"Wilson pulls out all the stops in her long-awaited return to epic romantic fantasy, with plenty of steamy sensuality and riveting action Bursting with subtle political intrigue and vivid deals, the beautifully constructed world comes to life."

~ Publishers Weekly on The Winter King

"[Wilson] has lost none of her ability to weave rich, complex, and epic stories, a truly magnificent adventure!"

~ Romantic Times Magazine, 4½ Stars

Praise of Lord of the Fading Lands

"I LOVE this book! A thrilling, captivating story that stays with you long after you put it down. The best book I've read in years."

Christine Feehan, #1 NY Times bestselling author





"New author C.L. Wilson could possibly be the best new author in the fantasy genre for 2007 and beyond. Lord of the Fading Lands is an overall excellent fantasy romance that should not be missed ... a Perfect 10!"

Kate Garrabrant, Romance Reviews Today

"Lord of the Fading Lands grabs the reader from the first line, a truly impressive debut ... C. L. Wilson is an author to keep an eye on!"

~ Kristin Smith, Borders Romance Expert

"This series should have great appeal for fans of fantasy ..."

~ Publisher's Weekly

Praise of Lady of Light and Shadows

"Wilson jumps back into her tale without skipping a beat, expanding her world with finesse while boldly taking her story in entirely unexpected directions... ..."

Publisher's Weekly

"One of the most exciting and original fantasy novels around."

Sue Burke, Fresh Fiction

"One of the year's coolest—and hottest—reads...Stunning."

~ Michelle Buonfiglio, Romance B(u)y the Book on LifetimeTV.com

Praise of King of Sword and Sky

"I cannot praise this series high enough for it is the perfect balance of fantasy and romance! In the end C.L. Wilson masterfully leads the reader to yet another action driven ending that makes you feel sad to leave the Fading Lands and count the day's until **Queen Of Song And Soul** is released." 5 Stars.

Dark Huntress, reviewer and cofounder of Realms On Our Bookshelves

"The richly imagined third volume of Wilson's bestselling fantasy romance series ... draws the reader into a complex web of ancient magics and looming war ... Wilson peels back layers of secrets surrounding the evil mages of Eld and their schemes to destroy the Tairen and the Fey, but the revelations never overwhelm the emotional intensity of Ellysetta and Rain's developing relationship or diminish the textured beauty of the writing. An exciting climax will leave fans hungry for more."

~ Publishers Weekly

"Buy it. Now. You're crazy if you don't."

~ Fresh Fiction

Praise for Queen of Song and Souls

"Another exciting addition to the fantastic Tairen Soul series set in the Fading Lands.... This is a terrific series, and I have loved the world and world-building throughout."

~ Fresh Fiction



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"This book is jam packed with action, betrayal, and, of course, love and romance. If you have not read this series, you are definitely missing out on some of the best books to come along in a very long time."

The Good, The Bad & The Unread

Queen of Song and Souls is another amazing addition to this series. You will smile, cry, and for many scenes hold your breath and dare not move until you know the outcome. The fifth and final book of this incredible series will be one of my most anticipated books of 2010.

~ SmexyBooks

"Once again, I found myself not wanting to put this book down.These books are more than just a romance series. They are more than just fantasy. They encompass the fight of good against evil, a vision of a bright world, the power of faith and love and much more. To place a single genre on these books do them a disservice as they take on a life of their own and deserve a place along side Tolken's Lord of the Rings."

Night Owl Romance, 4 ½ Stars, Reviewer Top Pick

"I couldn't put this book down! The fourth installment in the series is awesome. C.L. Wilson jumps right back from where she left off in *King of Sword and Sky* and weaves a brilliant, complex story where she reveals yet another facet in the rich world of Eloran."

ParaNormal Romance

Praise for Crown of Crystal Flame

"The highly anticipated conclusion to Wilson's impressive Tairen [Soul] series is everything fans could wish for ... A truly stellar achievement!"

RT Book Reviews, 4 ½ Stars, Top Pick

"This story is action packed yet with a tender undertone ... Great way to end a war and a series!"

Night Owl Reviews, 5 Stars, Top Pick

"...a truly magnificent masterpiece."

~ Fresh Fiction





Books by C.L. Wilson

The Sea King

Book 2 of the Weathermages of Mystral Series

Published by Avon Books ~ October 31, 2017 ISBN: 978-0-0620-1898-4 MSRP: \$7.99

He wasn't supposed to choose her . . .

Seafaring prince Dilys Merimydion has been invited to court the three magical princesses of Summerlea. To eradicate the pirates threatening Calberna and to secure the power of the Sea Throne, Dilys vows to return home with a fierce warrior-queen as his bride. But politics has nothing to do with unexpected temptation.

She didn't dare wed him . . .

A weathermage like her sisters, Gabriella Coruscate's gentleness exemplifies the qualities of her season name, Summer. Yet her quiet poise conceals dangerous powers she cannot begin to wield. Better to live without excitement, she reasons, than risk her heart and lose control—until an irresistible Sealord jolts her awake with a thunderclap of raw desire.

Until evil threatens everything they hold dear . . .

When pirates kidnap Summer and her sisters, Dilys is in a desperate quest to save the woman he loves. Only by combining his command of the seas with the unleashed fury of Summer's formidable gifts can they defeat their brutal enemies and claim the most priceless victory of all: true love.

The Winter King

Book 1 of the Weathermages of Mystral Series

Published by Avon Books ~ July 29, 2014 ISBN: 978-0-0620-1897-7 MSRP: \$7.99

After three long years of war, starkly handsome, Wynter Atrialan, will have his vengeance on Summerlea's king by taking one of the man's beautiful, beloved daughters as his bride. But though peace is finally at hand, Wynter's battle with the Ice Heart, the dread power he embraced to avenge his brother's death, rages on.

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Khamsin Coruscate, Princess of Summerlea and summoner of Storms, has spent her life exiled to the shadows of her father's palace. Reviled by her father, marriage to Wintercraig's icy king is supposed to be a terrible punishment, but instead offers Kham her first taste of freedom and her first taste of overwhelming passion.

As fierce, indomitable Wynter weathers even Khamsin's wildest storms, surprising her with a tenderness she never expected, Kham wants more than Wynter's passion – she yearns for his love. But the power of the Ice Heart is growing, dangerous forces are gathering, and a devastating betrayal puts Khamsin and Wynter to the ultimate test.

Lord of the Fading Lands

Book 1 of the Tairen Soul Series Originally published by Leisure Books ~ October 2, 2007

Reissue published by Avon Books ~ Sept 28, 2010 ISBN: 978-0-0620-2302-5 MSRP: \$7.99

- USA Today Bestseller
- National Reader's Choice Award Winner

Long ago, in the magical holocaust known as the Mage Wars, the immortal Fey and their allies fought to defeat the grasping evil of the Elden Mages and their dark-gifted supporters. During those wars, in a fit of grief-induced madness caused by the death of his mate, Fey shapeshifter Rain Tairen Soul nearly destroyed the world in a blaze of tairen fire.

Now, a thousand years later, the fierce Fey king must fight to save his race from the brink of extinction and once again stop the evil rising in the homeland of his enemies, the Eld. The key to his success lies in the mortal city of Celieria, where the Mage Wars began, and with a young woman whose soul sings to him in ways no woman's ever has, whose presence reawakens the primal fury of the tairen within his soul, and whose vast, untapped power can either save or destroy him and his people.

Lady of Light & Shadows

Book 2 of the Tairen Soul Series Originally published by Leisure Books ~ October 30, 2007

Reissue published by Avon Books ~ Sept 28, 2010 ISBN: 978-0-0620-2301-8 MSRP: \$7.99

- USA Today Bestseller
- NY Times Bestseller





New York Times Bestselling Author

Since her earliest memories, Ellysetta Baristani has feared magic, even as she has been inexorably drawn to all things Fey, especially the poetry and legends of Rain Tairen Soul. Now claimed as Rain's truemate and no longer able to deny her own magic, Ellysetta is swept into the very center of a struggle filled with the magic and darkness she has always feared. The High Mage of Eld wants to capture her. The most murderous *dahl'reisen* who ever lived wants her dead. And her enemies will corrupt even the people she loves most in their quest to claim her magic for themselves.

King of Sword and Sky

Book 3 of the Tairen Soul Series Originally published by Leisure Books ~ Sept 30, 2008

Reissue published by Avon Books ~ Sept 28, 2010 ISBN: 978-0-0620-2300-1 MSRP: \$7.99

• NY Times Bestseller

The magical tairen were dying, and none but the Fey King's bride could save them. Rain had defied the nobles of Celieria to claim Ellysetta, battled demons and Elden mages to wed her. Now, he would risk everything to protect his kingdom, help his truemate embrace her magic and forge the unbreakable bond that alone could save her soul.

But as they return to the Fading Lands, Rain and Ellie discovers dissension among the most powerful members of Rain's own council. As the Eld plot their next deadly strike, Ellysetta struggles to master her powerful magic and discover how to save the tairen, while Rain confronts open challenge to his rule and prepares to lead the Fey army to war.

Queen of Song and Souls

Book 4 of the Tairen Soul series Originally published by Leisure Books ~ Feb 24, 2009

Reissued by Avon Books ~ Sept 28, 2010 ISBN: 978-0-0620-2299-8 MSRP: \$7.99

- USA Today Bestseller
- NY Times Bestseller
- Publisher's Weekly Bestseller

The first deadly battles of the new Mage Wars have been fought, and victory has been won at a terrible price. As the toll of an unfulfilled matebond and the torment of war tips Rain towards madness, Ellysetta knows if she cannot find a way to defeat the darkness growing inside her and complete the truemate bond, Rain will die and she will become the prophesied monster Vadim Maur uses to destroy the Fey and enslave the World.





Crown of Crystal Flame

Book 5 of the Tairen Soul Series Avon Books ~ Oct 26, 2010

ISBN: 978-0-0620-1896-0 MSRP: \$7.99

- USA Today Bestseller
- NY Times Bestseller
- Publisher's Weekly Bestseller

The Elves had long foreseen an extraordinary destiny for Ellysetta Baristani. Already, she had won the heart of the Fey King—the magnificent Rain, ever her ally, eternally her love. She had saved the offspring of the magical tairen, and fought beside her legendary mate against the armies of Eld. But the most powerful—and dangerous—Verse of her Song had yet to be sung.

As the final battle draws nigh and evil tightens its grip upon her soul—will Ellysetta secure the world for Light or plunge it into Darkness for all eternity? As she and Rain fight for each other, side by side, will they find a way to complete their truemate bond and defeat the evil High Mage of Eld before it's too la or must they make the ultimate sacrifice to save their world?

C.L. Wilson Short Stories and Novellas

Never Fear the Tarot

13Thirty Books \sim October 9, 2016

ISBN (13): 978-0997791204 MSRP: \$18.99

13Thirty Books asked twenty-six authors to agree to write stories based on the Tarot, with the cards determining which stories the authors would write. Over the course of several months we reached out to some of the best genre authors and proposed our idea. Once we had our authors, we took a tarot deck and a list of all twenty-six names. We would read the author's name, shuffle the deck, and draw a card. That tarot card and its traits were all the authors had to go on. The card was removed, the deck was reshuffled, and the next name was read off. This anthology contains twenty-six stories based on the twenty-two cards of the Major Arcana and the four cards of the Minor Arcana. Award-winning and New York Times bestselling authors combine their talents to deal out twenty-six dark tales influenced by the Tarot.

The anthology features C.L. Wilson's first return to the Fading Lands since the conclusion of the Tairen Soul series, a short story about Shannisorran vel Celay. Based on the Ace of Swords, the short story, *A Good Day to Die*, finds Shan setting out on what he intends to be his last battle as he leads his men into the hive of a powerful Drogon Blood Lord.





One Enchanted Season (Holiday Anthology)

Self-published ~ December 5, 2013

ISBN (13): 9978-1-494-38182-0 MSRP: \$12.99

Step into a world where the nights are long, snowflakes sparkle like fairy lights, and the hearth fires burn as brightly as the passion of new-found love as three bestselling and critically acclaimed authors of paranormal romance weave stories inspired by classic holiday songs.

In C.L. Wilson's *Upon a Midnight*, an angel helps a troubled woman heal the wounds of her past so her soul can relearn how to sing.

Erica Ridley delivers magic with *Let It Snow*, in which a treasure hunter breaches an enchanted castle only to become trapped inside with a cursed princess and a suspicious tree.

And in *Snowman*, Elissa Wilds weaves a tale of love that bridges two very different worlds, when a snowy stranger appears at an isolated mountain cabin seeking much more than a shelter from the storm.

Mammoth Book of Futuristic Romance

Running Press ~ January 1, 2013 ISBN (13): 978-0-7624-4601-8 MSRP: \$13.95

An anthology of futuristic romance shorts, featuring *The Noah*, by C.L. Wilson.

Scientist Eve Cartwright and her sisters are the last humans alive on a planet destroyed by apocalyptic war. Determined to reseed their planet with life once their world becomes habitable again, Eve and her sisters tend and keep the carefully preserved collection of plant, animal, and human life rescued from their world before war destroyed it.

Eve lives the simple life of duty and stewardship laid out for her before she was born: monitor the planet, guard the precious cache of her world's genetic material, raise the next generation of guardians to do the same. Then a ship crashes in the nearby desert and brings Eve face to face with a mysterious stranger – the first man Eve has ever met.





Frequently Asked Questions

How did you get started writing?

I have been writing all my life...well, at least ever since I could manage rudimentary spelling and sentence construction. My first "work" was a story I wrote when I was six—an episode of the old TV Sitcom, Hogan's Heroes, which I wrote because I was in love with Hogan. After that, I wrote short stories: the Tales of Tiffany and Timothy Turtle, a Dr. Suessian rhyming tale that I hand-illustrated; a little story about what the mice were doing at Christmas while everyone else was dreaming of sugar plums; one very dramatic tear-jerker story about poor blind orphan named Wendy (which made my sister Lisette cry every time she read it).

In my teenage years, after discovering fantasy novels (Tolkien, Tanith Lee and Anne McCaffrey) and romance (Harlequin, Silhouette, Kathleen Woodiwiss), I started writing novels—both fantasy and romance. I also joined the staff of my high school newspaper, the North Springs HS *Oracle*, where I wrote features and editorials and eventually became an assistant editor. (I could never, incidentally, write hard news, because there was no room for creativity. It was all facts, facts, facts, with no room for improvisation—and where was the fun in that?! LOL.) I won a number of journalism awards (Best of the High School Press awards, the Betsy P. Graham Award awarded by GSU for achievements by young women in communications), and the recognition cemented my decision to pursue writing but I decided what I really wanted to be was a novelist, not a journalist.

I got my degree in creative writing, discovered RWA, and the rest was all hard work, honing craft, and perseverance.

What's your typical work schedule?

I do my best writing between the hours of 3am and 7am (or noon, if I can stay undisturbed for that long!). I used to be a "night owl" writer and my best work was from 10pm to 3am, but once I had a day job—and then children—pulling late night writing sessions quickly proved unwise. I did allow life (career, marriage, motherhood) sidetrack me for years, but once I realized I would never "find" writing time unless I "made" writing time, I started getting up early so I could spend a few hours each day writing before I had to take the kids to school and myself to work. Lord of the Fading Lands and Lady of Light and Shadows were





written entirely between the hours of 3-7am and on weekends.

Upon accepting my second publishing contract, I quit my day job so I could focus more on my writing.

Why do you like to write fantasy?

That's an easy one: creative freedom. With fantasy and paranormal, you can literally let your imagination run wild. If you can imagine it, you can build a world around it, and I thoroughly enjoy world-building!

Who are your favorite authors?

There are far too many to name. On the fantasy sci-fi front: Tolkien, Anne McCaffrey, Terry Goodkind, Anne Bishop, Jennifer Roberson, Sharon Shinn, Tanith Lee, J.K. Rowling. On the romance front: Christine Feehan, Lisa Kleypas, Loretta Chase, Thea Harrison, Ilona Andrews, Kresley Cole, Karen Rose, Patricia Briggs.

Where do you come up with your ideas?

Everywhere! Literally, everywhere. Everything I see, hear, read: all becomes grist for the mill. Plus I meet at least once a year with a small group of friends for a week of brainstorming and plotting, and the ideas that come out of that are amazing.

Why do you write romance?

I love the emotional power of romance. Well-written romance novels can draw a reader in and connect with her on a very direct emotional level in a way few other forms of fiction do—or can. When readers pick up a romance, they are assured that (1) the good guys win, (2) true love triumphs over all, and (3) there is a happy ending.

One of the most moving stories I've ever heard about why women write and read romance came from bestselling romance author, Lisa Kleypas, who was the keynote speaker at the 2007 RWA National Conference RITA Award ceremonies. Lisa's house was wiped out in a flash flood – completely destroyed. Her mother's





house, in the same town, was also devastated. They were left with nothing. They went to the local Wal-Mart together to buy the barest essentials (the absolute have-to-haves, such as toothbrush, clean underwear, a change of clothes) until they could get back in their homes to start cleanup. They each took a cart and when they met up again at the register, both of them had gotten their essentials—plus one other item: a romance novel.

Because when faced with complete devastation and the loss of everything they owned, both Lisa and her mother considered the joy and happiness to be found between the covers of a romance novel not only something worthy, but something *essential*.

The power of love is transcendent. And romance novels make that powerful emotion—that pure, uplifting joy—accessible to readers around the world.

That's why I write romance.