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Veil Of Secrets #3 (Kung Fu Princess)



Synopsis

The kung fu tournament in China occurs at the same time as the annual Feast of the Hungry Ghosts, proving to Cassidy that she's there for a reason. The competition in the tournament is fierce, but nothing as savage as the ceremony, where bands of angry ghosts come out to haunt the living. This year they're after Cassidy, demanding that she hand over a mysterious sixth coin she never knew existed. If she doesn't defeat the vengeful Hungry Ghosts, they will destroy all of the spirits of her ancestors; and Cassidy will never be born!

Book Information

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Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

It has been almost a year since Cassidy Chen received a mysterious box of gold coins, featuring ancient Chinese symbols upon them, for her fourteenth birthday. Since that day, much has happened, and Cassidy has used her kung fu skills to overcome many powerful beings. However, Cassidy is now down to the last of the five coins. She has already defeated the snake demon, the plague ghost, the trickster demon, and her dark half, all without hardly breaking a sweat. And, as she battled one after the other, she earned heightened abilities - the ability to heal quickly, see spirits, develop heightened senses, and embrace the mind of a warrior, one that is calm and at peace. But this last coin holds something much stronger than the four previous coins. For this last coin can mean either life or death for Cassidy, and will pit her against a man she has trusted for

years. A man she thought cared for her. As if that weren't bad enough, she will be battling this last demon on unfamiliar territory, for it will take place in Hong Kong, during the kung-fu competition that she has been placed into. Cassidy, along with her close friends James and Luis, as well as her sparring partner, Majesta, have been chosen to represent Master Lau's Wing Chun class in Hong Kong. However, Master Lau has something much different on his mind. All he appears to be thinking of is the upcoming Hungry Ghost Festival. Luis is excited to have the opportunity to experience such an unordinary celebration, when the spirits who have no loved ones are able to spend the day floating amongst the living, and attempt to eat the spirits of those who were loved in life, but Cassidy doesn't share his excitement. For on this particular day, Cassidy will be battling the last demon. A demon who plans on eating her ancestors spirits, leaving her to disappear. For if Cassidy's ancestors are gone, then it will be as if she hadn't ever existed. Now, with the help of James, as well as a blast from the past, Cassidy must concentrate on defeating the most dangerous demon yet, and fulfill her prophecy of kung fu princess, or risk failure, and cease to exist. From book one Pamela Walker has woven an intricate plot that takes the reader on a bumpy ride through battles, the spirit world, and everyday interactions that Cassidy must face, and overcome with both the demons of her life, and the people who call themselves her friends. Cassidy, as with the two previous novels - DAUGHTER OF LIGHT and IN GOLD AND JADE - is as strong-willed and brave as ever. While she finds herself often contemplating death, she attempts to keep the mind of a warrior, and think calm thoughts; thoughts that will help her through this trying time. While we learned much about ancient Chinese mythology in the first two installments, VEIL OF SECRETS takes readers on a tour of Hong Kong, where we have the opportunity to not only embrace some of the sights that Hong Kong has to offer, but get a better feel for the territory that Cassidy finds herself battling upon. Not only is this engrossing for those interested in travel, but it really presents a nice backdrop for the upcoming kung fu tournament, and life-threatening battle that Cassidy must succumb to. Since book one, Cassidy has matured so much, completing eighth grade, and coming to terms with both her destiny, and her ancestry; while, at the same time, staying levelheaded and managing to balance both a personal life, and her secret life as a warrior. This transformation is wonderful to witness, and makes Cassidy's personality leave an even great impact on the reader. A thrilling conclusion to a riveting trilogy!

Erika Sorocco
Freelance Reviewer

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