



# Black Magic Woman

*Christine Warren*

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## **Black Magic Woman** Christine Warren

Daphanie Carter is thrilled that her sister Danice finally found her Prince Charming—even though he's not quite, well, *human*. Daphanie is trying to keep an open mind. Which is why she jumps at the chance to enter the hidden world of The Others when a friendly imp invites her to a non-human nightclub. Daphanie's curious to see how the Other half lives—and parties—but soon, one handsome stranger has her bewitched, bothered, and beside herself...

Enter Asher Grayson. As a Guardian, it's his job to protect humans who get mixed up in the affairs of Others. When he spots Daphanie in a club, going head to head with a notorious witch doctor, he steps in to cool things off. Now the heat is on. Daphanie becomes the target of strange magical attacks, and Asher's got to undo the voodoo before it's too, too late. But soon he starts to wonder if this beautiful, beguiling mortal has put a spell on him—because every little thing she does is magic...

## **Black Magic Woman Details**

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# From Reader Review Black Magic Woman for online ebook

## Laura the Highland Hussy says

<http://www.demonloversbooksandmore.co...>

2.5 flames

At the beginning of this book is an author's note and when I read it, I felt as if Ms. Warren had read my review of Prince Charming Doesn't Live Here and this note was addressed to me personally. Which made me instantly think that this book would rock my socks...and yet, I had the same exact problems with this book I had with Prince Charming.

My complaint is that the author tells us that these heroines are strong and intelligent women, but we never see it. Here, Daphanie is at her sister Danice's wedding (heroine from Prince Charming), when she sees a little red hand groping the table for a soda. Ducking under the table, she finds a little red imp (remember Quigley from Prince Charming? He left Mac and Danice in Fairie and bailed) Daphanie thinks it's a great idea to have him take her to an Other club. Her big mouth gets her into trouble and she blames everyone else. Dude, if you're in a club with Others, it's like riding the bus-eyes down, don't make eye contact. Put your bag on the seat next to you so no one will sit with you, and keep your mouth shut. Ignorance is not an excuse. That should be the motto of this and the last book-"the Carter sisters-Ignorance is not an excuse."

Asher, a Guardian (think like an angel, but without any religious affiliation) steps in to prevent the ignorant human from tangling with a witch doctor. She is at first grateful, until she sees that he's telling her to keep quiet, quit insulting the witch doctor and listen to him. Well, no one tells Daphanie what to do, even if she's in a bar full of Others. Asher has to step in and claim her as his new charge to keep the Witch Doctor from cursing her. He gets her out back, and she's all "Hey buddy don't think you can fight my battles, I'm a strong woman whose mama raised her with manners...blah blah blah..." Seriously?

Asher is stuck with her, but he's 500+ years old, and while he's falling for her, she's mortal, he's not. He can't make her immortal like a vampire, so how will this work? I'd love to tell you, but they never address it again. At one point, Daphanie is getting powers like enhanced senses of smell and hearing, but like the mortal/immortal relationship, it never comes up again.

I love a good alpha male, I truly don't mind if they are cliched, but Asher could have been AnyAlphaMale. That's my new name for him-he was very flat and 2 dimensional. He growled, he grunted, he was hot, he was protective. And that's about it. Generic alpha hero...oh, but he didn't do anything heroic. He was a Guardian. A type of Other thought to be myth by the, well, myths. And his powers were such that he made everyone shiver in fear. There were no tales at all of the Guardians ever losing a ward. Once his wings unfurled, he was such an intimidating sight, but that's all we ever saw of him-intimidation. Not once was he able to save Daphanie. At the very end, it was a group effort, which was fun to see the other characters, and although this is book 11 it's really one of the early ones that is before the Veil is lifted. so at this point in the novel, many of our previous heroes/heroines haven't met yet. And the Others are still hiding from humans. But my point is that Asher didn't do it. He's this big bad Guardian who strikes fear into the heart of Others everywhere, and I never saw any reason for that. There was no final battle where he wins, or super cool power that ended everything. He stumbled along not knowing how to help her, or even if the Witch Doctor was powerful, or a charlatan. It felt so flawed.

So we have a woman who is so idiotic and unlikeable, I wanted to stop reading at 65 pages in, and a Guardian who keeps leaving his charge, but then declares "I won't let anything happen to you" *as he leaves her alone*, and that's it. Our heroine and hero, ladies and gentlemen.

About halfway through the book, the voodoo plot thickens and becomes quite interesting and I thought YES! this is gonna get good! For a while it was really intense. And then it ended. No really. The ending was abrupt. The bad guy may or may not have been killed, and Daphanie may or may not be getting super powers that are never addressed, and Asher was almost the vessel for a voodoo queen to animate herself in, and then it ends. Oh, but there's an epilogue (it was cute, and Warren's signature humor and wit was in the epilogue, but it had nothing to do with the main plot, or what had happened, or what *would* happen).

I love this series, I really do-the current plot (the ones that are new, not re-writes) are going in a really cool direction-the lupine virus that some scientists have engineered to turn them insane-way cool. But we don't see any of that since this book takes place years before that happens. I'd rather just leave the Fixed series as ebook erotic shorts-they read better that way, and I'd rather have some new books.

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## **Natalie says**

This is probably one of the best The Others books I've read in a while. I only read these to add a little fluff in between the more serious series I read. So, I don't really expect to get too into these books. Yes, I like them, but they have never been anything but a light read. I hardly ever remember or re-visit these types of books. So, I was very surprised to like this one.

### Characters....

I found the lead female, Daphanie to actually be interesting. I liked the fact that she's an artist but doesn't consider herself one. I liked reading about what she enjoys most of her craft. Overall, I found her to be very strong willed person. She came off as very kind hearted but not too naive as to let anyone walk over her. She admits her mistakes and takes the defeats gracefully.

I also really liked the male lead, Asher. He is basically your typical tall dark and brooding hero, but he was also sweet and very naive. For a man who has considered human women off limits in the relationship department, he was very nervous and unsure of himself when it came to Daphanie (until the clothes came off that is).

Their romance was a rocky road in the beginning. They both admit to themselves that they are attracted to the other, but don't think the other is attracted to them. So there ends up being a lot of weird tension between them which only leaves them both more confused. Asher, of course, makes the first move and eases that tension a little....but since they get interrupted, it then creates sexual tension. Overall, once they finally got together it was the quick and unbelievable "I love you and will never leave you" scenario....but what do you expect from these types of books?

### Plot....

Daphanie is in town for her sister's wedding and is shocked to learn of The Others as well. (Corinne is her sister and is marrying Mac the changeling from Prince Charming Doesn't Live Here) She is shocked and curious and in the end lets her curious nature win in going out to learn more about The Others. However, this leads to a little scuffle at a bar between her and a witch doctor. And of course! Asher saves the day and the pretty little lady. Well from here on out, strange things start to happen to Daphanie and Asher is trying to help her solve all of this while trying to keep her out of danger. So....it is basically the usual race against the clock to save the day so the hero and heroine can have their HEA.

Overall....

It was probably one of the better PR plots I have read. It was different....that basically explains why I was drawn to it. Instead of werewolves and vampires, the villain is a voodoo practitioner. Also, another plus for this book is that the characters are likable. So many times, at least one of the leads in the PR is an ass. So if you like a good light read, but don't want total fluff, this is a very good choice.

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### **Kat Klein says**

I wanted to like this one, Asher and Daphanie better than I liked Danice and Mac's story... and in some ways I did. The storyline was better. Daphanie struck me as a stronger female - although perhaps with no more brains for danger than her sister. And Asher was a great character.

The problem I had was in the HEA. It was addressed in this story, just like in the prior ones - But not resolved. As a Guardian Asher is essentially immortal. Daphanie however is not. I don't need my HEAs to last forever, but I have a real problem when they last long enough for one to age, and eventually die, and the other to be left missing them.

That's not my idea of a HEA.

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### **Deva says**

Full review at <http://urbanparanormal.blogspot.com>

1) Some character descriptions were missing for me while others were painfully clear. 2) The story itself was good although I'm not a fan of voodoo. No reason why, it just isn't my thing. 3) Thankfully, we get to see some shape shifter and vamps. 4) But I just fail to understand why they're jumping through hoops to help a woman they didn't know existed the day before. Well, she was under Guard by Asher, but still, the accommodations made for her were ridiculous. They treated her like family from second 1. 5) No closure. We don't know what happened with Asher and Daphanie's new found relationship seeing as how he can't die and she's human.

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### **Lauren says**

#### **Black Magic Woman**

2 Stars

The voodoo plot has potential, but the heroine is TSTL and the hero's sexiness is not enough to compensate for the weak romance.

Daphanie (what kind of name is that anyway? Daphne wasn't exotic enough?) has got to be one of the most idiotic and ignorant heroines ever. In possession of the knowledge that Others with magic powers exist, she doesn't hesitate to provoke and insult a complete stranger who is obviously not completely human.

Daphanie and Asher's romance is incomprehensible. What does a 500 year old Guardian see in a woman

who takes stubbornness to a completely new level? Considering that he is not a shifter, the falling in love in less than a week trope is out of place and illogical.

The only aspects of the story that made reading it worthwhile were Asher's laugh-out-loud funny conversations with Graham and Rafe, and the creepy Voodoo resurrection storyline. Unfortunately, neither of these is sufficient to warrant a higher rating.

In sum, if I weren't interested in some of the secondary characters that get their own stories in later books, I would probably call it quits on the rest of the series as the last couple were not up to snuff! Alas my series OCD will probably come in at some point and I'll continue.

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## **Sandy says**

"Black Magic Woman" is the latest installment of Christine Warren's supernatural series *The Others*. This novel concerns Daphanie Carter, Danice Carter's sister, and Asher Grayson, a Guardian. Before I get into describing what happens to our main characters, it would be wise to context the author's note to the reader prior to reading the book. Most series are published in chronological order when there is reoccurring characters or a common story arc that transverses consecutive books. For Warren's series, there was a set of 6 original stories that were release as e-books with a reoccurring theme. When the author began publishing the novels in print format, the decision was made to add material to the original 6 stories as well as publish additional new stories for those familiar with the older versions. The strange part of this decision is the original 6 re-mastered stories were slated for publication not inside the story's chronological order. So Christine Warren has released in the beginning of this novel's readers note, the correct chronological order of all the stories (original, re-mastered, and unreleased). She apologizes for the confusion and says she is a reformed author and that all the novels from this point on will contain events that take place in the same order in which the books are published. I personally was glad for her readers note but have always felt the decision to publish in this manner has taken something away from her series. Bouncing around chronologically each time you read a new book is confusing, like the author is on a different thought process or you made a mistake the last time you read a book.

As for "Black Magic Woman" we find ourselves at Danice and Mac's reception with Danice's sister feeling slightly upset with being left out of her sister's new world. Looking to educate herself, she sees the uninvited imp, Quigley, as the perfect opportunity to get some knowledge about *The Others*. In this time line the only Others Daphanie is aware of is Missy and Graham, Raphael, and Dmitri and Reggi. The Others are still unknown to the human world. So she goes to an Others' bar called Lurk with Quigley to check out all the different things in her world. While she is there, she bumps into a witch doctor and spills a drink on him. This results into quite an altercation of verbal quips. Luckily for her, before things get out of hand, Asher Grayson offers her protection. Asher is a Guardian. Guardians protect humans from Others. They are immortal and have wings when they chose to show them. The witch doctor Charles D'Abo tries to place a curse on Daphanie, but Asher stops him. Once they both leave the bar, it is clear that things between these two will never be the same again. Daphanie is under Asher's protection and he takes his duties very seriously. How much danger is Daphanie in? Time proves that there was more to meet the eye when it comes to the possession of Daphanie's heart, body and soul.

I enjoyed solving the mystery behind "Black Magic Woman" and the return of some of our "old" friends from previous stories lending a hand in solving the problem. As always, it takes me a minute to get my

bearing in the story where we are chronologically. Who is the head of the council? Who is married at the moment? Does humanity know of the others? Once you get that down, it makes me the other characters actions better and their motivations. Daphanie (which I hate to admit, I hated the name the entire book) is a strong character. She has sass and strength and tries to make light of bad situations. Asher is so bent on thinking he will be alone and humans are unworthy he never sees her worm into his heart. His role of protector is fiercely threatened when he is helpless to save her from the evil consuming her soul. Asher has never broken a promise but Daphanie trusts him. That trust keeps her fighting. So does the love of her friends. The Others are always about the community of friends and loyalty and they see Daphanie and even Asher as theirs to help and protect. I felt that it all unfolded quite nicely until the very last chapter. There were some unanswered questions concerning what happened to the bokor? Then the question of mortality and immortality still dangled in the air between our mated pair and was left unanswered. I guess it didn't matter. 3.5 to 4 stars.

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### **Melindeeloo says**

After finally wrapping her mind around the fact that vampires, werewolves, Fae and other species she thought were just fairy tales are actually real - and that her sister was marrying one - artist/blacksmith Daphanie Carter is excited by the discovery and enamored with the idea of exploring more of that hidden world. Unfortunately, her choice of a guide is poor and Daph quickly finds herself in a confrontation with a pompous voodoo practitioner. Fortunately, Daphanie also acquires her own protector, winged Guardian Asher (he's no angel:). But Asher's commitment to his job and supernatural powers, may not be enough to counter the magical attacks that are leaving Daphanie feeling not at all like herself.

With 'Magic' in the title I had hoped that Black Magic Woman was going to be the rework of Rafe and Tess's book (Fur For All), but instead old fans of Warren's 'Fixed' series will get something new as Daphanie, Danice's sister (Prince Charming Doesn't Live Here), discovers the world of the Others and ends up with her very own 'Other'.

Even though I had a few nits, I still thought that Black Magic Woman was pretty good. It probably helped that there was a healthy helping of appearances by the supporting characters that I am so fond of: Graham, Missy and Rafe. Even though the build-up of sensual tension between the starring pair wasn't as intense as in some of Warren's other books, I liked the love scenes between Asher and Daph - the first, a wild claiming by Asher of Daph's body and the second, a tender claiming of her soul - and it didn't hurt that I am a total sucker for a winged hero. My nits, 1) Daphanie starts out a bit too headstrong and then sort of fades as the story progresses, 2) I found that the bits from the 'human guide to the Others', which started each chapter, disrupted the flow of the story. So after a few chapters I skipped them.

Still, I did enjoy Black Magic Woman and am looking forward to what Warren does with the rewrite of Corrine's story - though it's hard to remember, the original Fixed stories were pretty darn short. Oh by the way, if you are confused about how the Other's stories mesh with Warren's old 'Fixed' series, she's included a timeline in the preface of the book.

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### **Karen says**

I hate to say it, but I am joining the reviewers who didn't care for Daphanie. It was very hard to like a 31 year old human woman who acted like she was in her terrible twos as she entered the world of Others. TSTL just about covers it. I like visiting again with previous characters and I did like Asher, a guardian. The last third of the book was good story telling about voodoo and curses and Daphanie a little more likeable. A little.

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### **? Sassy ~ Amy ? says**

Daphanie (CW made a point to say her name is said like stephanie ~ WHO the hell CARES? and why?) has a run in with a voodoo priest while out on the "others" town after ditching her sisters wedding reception. A "guardian" Asher, who is supposed to have the ultimate powers to protect humans, takes her under his protection.

It was BORING, and a MAJOR fact of her mortality, seeing that Ashers Immortal & over 500 y/o, was never resolved. Also her lovely guardian could not protect her at all. (THAT was supposed to be his POWER?!?) Just a very stupid book I think. One of the worst in the series, and if you skip it, it would be no biggie. Probably saving you from a migraine!

Yet again, I have to mention that it was a non descriptive book until the 3 pages towards the end where it described her feelings about her work. By the time that came around, I could care less.

I dunno... I could give it a 2 stars, but I have actually read worse! Like really bad! I can't get too low! All that said, I am abandoning her. There are so many great PNR writers popping up, who would waist their time here.

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### **Briana says**

This was a good one although I favor some of her other books more like Born to Be Wild or Walk on the Wild side. I liked the characters and the plot was pretty interesting. She resists the urge to go in the obvious direction with the true culprit which I definitely liked. Asher and Daphanie's growth both as people and as a couple was nice to read and I liked that everything wasn't just all of a sudden perfect between them. They both had growing to do before that could happen. Good book.

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### **Michelle says**

Not really my favorite of the series, but not bad. Except for the obnoxious heroine who thinks she's all that even though she is pretty powerless throughout the book. And then she decides she's in love with Asher after they sleep together even though they've hardly even spoken. And really? Daphanie? How annoying. I just called her Daphne in my head. And they never resolved the issue of how they were going to make their relationship work seeing as how she is going to die eventually and he's 500 plus years old. A rather gaping plot hole in my opinion. Especially since they made such a big deal out of it earlier. Other than that the book was great. Just take out Daphanie and it would have been 5 stars.

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## Ann Lorz says

I usually love Warren's book but there was something about Daphanie Carter that set me off. I think it was the fact that after learning about the Others (days) she think she knows it all. Even when those within the Others community tell what's dangerous she acts like they don't know what they are talking about. She can take care of herself. At one point I thought they should have left her on her own. The book did get better and time went on but I was had to forget how stupid she was. Now Asher was a great character that made you want to read more. He's why I didn't give the book 2 stars.

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## Paulina says

I'm a glutton for punishment. This book focused on the sister of the heroine in the last book. Apparently stupidity runs in the family because Daphanie was even dumber than her sister. She was beyond TSTL. I was literally yelling at her the entire time I listened to the book. She was so completely obnoxious that I had no idea why the hero was even remotely attracted to her. I am pretty good at suspending disbelief, but even I couldn't buy that one. Seriously, Warren, why are the women in this series such morons?? I don't know that I can continue this series, and that's saying a lot.

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## Scooper Speaks says

**Favorite Lines: “In her mind, he seemed to grow in size, muscles ripping and easing until she could have sworn he stood at least three inches taller and broader than he had a minute ago. Then the pleats in his coat stretched again, this time actually splitting to accommodate the emergence of a set of beautifully feathered, enormous white wings.” (p. 43)**

*Black Magic Woman* is book 11 in Christine Warren's Others series. It introduces a new type of other (Guardians) and the sister of the heroine in book 10, *Prince Charming Doesn't Live Here*. I gotta admit I wasn't impressed or much taken with this story or its heroine.

Lately it seems like there are more stupid heroines in the romance and urban fantasy genres. These women put themselves in bad situations, then make the situations worse by declaring themselves to be strong women who don't take crap. Not taking crap translates into making asinine decisions that show just how completely out of control the heroine is in the situation. Everyone but the heroine realizes how deep in doo-doo the heroine is, but she just keeps on going until she is rescued. That is how I see Daphanie and it made it hard to connect or like her.

On the other hand, I liked Asher. The clear explanation of his origins and job made it easy to understand his lust for Daphanie and his desire to remain unattached. He was protective and smart. (Or maybe it's just that he was as old as dirt.) He's just a great alpha male.

It could be I've gotten cynical lately, but when sex leads to instant love I had a problem. I enjoy love at first sight and the idea of the perfect mate. However, I don't like it when characters who are sexually attracted to each other have sex and are immediately in love. It detracts from the story for me.

I know this has been a pretty negative review of *Black Magic Woman*. Don't be discouraged. The entire story

was not a wash. The voodoo practiced and the threat to Daphanie was very real. I had a clue as to who the villain was, but why it was happening...I didn't know.

Would I recommend the book? No. While the story was well written, I think people who normally like the same books as I will dislike the book. I know there are tons of great reviews of *Black Magic Woman* floating around the Internet, but the book just didn't do it for me. I'll be donating mine to the library in hopes that someone else will enjoy it.

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### **Jessica (a GREAT read) says**

Christine Warren's *Black Magic Woman* continues moving into the world of the Others. Daphanie is Danice's sister--the woman from the previous book--who is now marrying her Prince, and Daphanie's mind is in a whirlwind! Her sister explained to her and her parents what her new husband to be is and that of the Others, and instead of being scared, Daphanie is more curious. She wants to know more about them. So when the imp, Quigley, shows up at the wedding grumbling, he offers to show her a nightclub where the Others frequent.

It's there that the problems begin. In what was simply an accident, Daphanie managed to tick off a very powerful witch doctor who practices voodoo. If it wasn't for Asher, a Guardian--complete with wings--she might not have survived the matter, because he was really that pissed for her spilling root beer on him after she was knocked into him by someone else.

Asher decides to simply keep an eye on her for awhile because the witch doctor looked ready to spit out curses--of the magical variety--and it's a good thing he does, because it becomes clear that something is after Daphanie. She has strange dreams that she is another woman and there's magical happenings going on. And naturally along the way, Daphanie and Asher fall in love.

I am getting used to the idea that the love happens early in these books being paranormal romance, this book has to end happily with the couple happily together, so the love's gotta start early. In this one, it happens early on, but not within the first two chapters like book 1. It's still a gradual sort of process, and that's what I like, I like seeing the love build instead of the instant attraction turning to physical passion and then to love.

This one was pretty exciting because for awhile we didn't know what was really wrong with Daphanie other than that she was cursed. And what was really wrong was pretty shocking and a little terrifying!

Daphanie was an enjoyable heroine. She was kind of like her sister Danice, in the sense that she was strong and independent. She didn't want to wait around to be saved, she wanted to do the saving herself. I liked seeing her be strong, and not necessarily swooning and being a sappy mess at Asher's feet. Sure, she was attracted to him, but she was also annoyed with him at times and his protective streak. Girl's got spunk!

Asher was a good hero too. I wouldn't call him an alpha male entirely, yet he does have some of those protective streaks in him. He's a Guardian and it just comes with the job apparently! But it's because he's a Guardian and that Daphanie is human that strains their relationship. He admits to these thoughts, but they are nearly forgotten by then end, so I am not sure what that will do to their happily ever after. Only time will tell!

I was happy to see some familiar faces in this one as well! While Danice is Daphanie's sister and was getting

married, we really didn't see her. We did see Missy, Graham, Corrine and Rafe. It's good to see familiar faces in a series that's so widespread and it's just fun! You may already know, but I am reading these books in the order Christine has them fashioned versus reading them in the order they were published. This way I can follow the storylines chronologically. I haven't confirmed it by reading all coverbacks yet, but I am fairly certain Rafe will be getting his turn at love! He is a force to be reckoned with and I cannot wait to see who is meant to be with him!

Overall Rating 3.5/5 stars--while I enjoyed this one, I felt like it lacked something else, more pow! But it was still an enjoyable read and I have got to remember to order the next half of the series

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