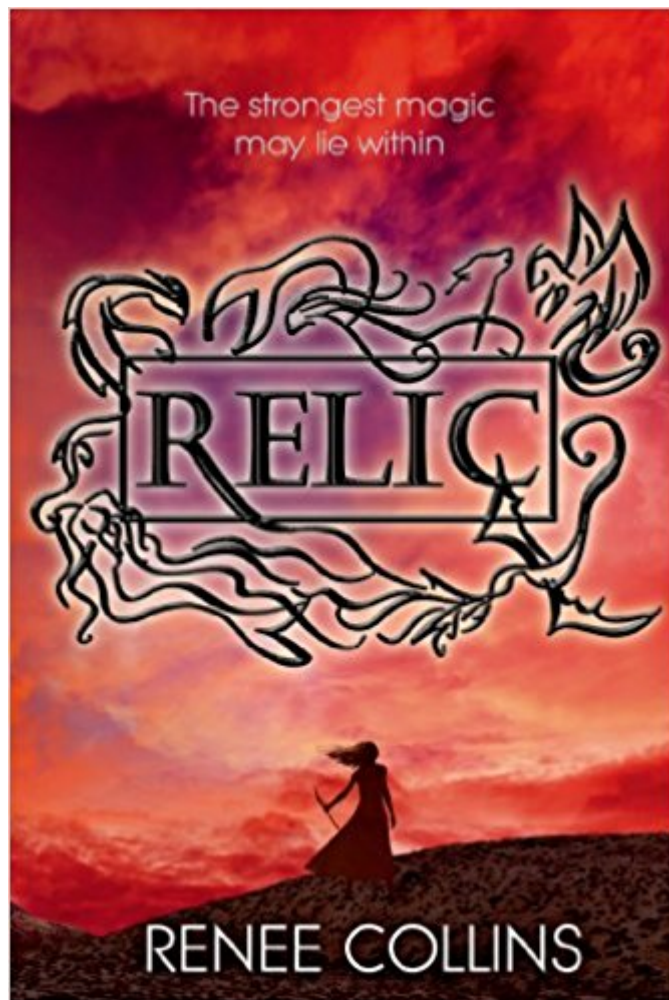


The book was found

Relic (A Relic Novel)



Synopsis

After a raging fire consumes her town and kills her parents, Maggie Davis is on her own to protect her younger sister and survive the best she can in the Colorado town of Burning Mesa. In Maggie's world, the bones of long-extinct magical creatures such as dragons and sirens are mined and traded for their residual magical elements, and harnessing these relics' powers allows the user to wield fire, turn invisible, or heal even the worst of injuries. Working in a local saloon, Maggie befriends the spirited showgirl Adelaide and falls for the roguish cowboy Landon. But when she proves to have a particular skill at harnessing the relics' powers, Maggie is whisked away to the glamorous hacienda of Álvaro Castilla, the wealthy young relic baron who runs Burning Mesa. Though his intentions aren't always clear, Álvaro trains Maggie in the world of relic magic. But when the mysterious fires reappear in their neighboring towns, Maggie must discover who is channeling relic magic for evil before it's too late. Relic by Renee Collins is a thrilling adventure set in a wholly unique world, and a spell-binding story of love, trust, and the power of good.

Book Information

Series: A Relic Novel (Book 1)

Paperback: 400 pages

Publisher: Entangled: Teen (August 27, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1622660145

ISBN-13: 978-1622660148

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 28.7 x 8.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 53 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #823,846 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #107 in [Books > Teens >](#)

[Literature & Fiction > Westerns](#) #235 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction >](#)

[Historical Fiction > United States > Westerns](#) #1446 in [Books > Teens > Romance > Fantasy](#)

Age Range: 12 - 18 years

Grade Level: 7 - 12

Customer Reviews

Gr 8 Up—A fantasy-filled alternative U.S. history title set in the Colorado Territory in 1867.

Sixteen-year-old Maggie's parents never returned from a trip to town, and her older brother just died in a fire from which she and her younger sister barely escaped with the help of an Apache teen.

Maggie and Ella end up in a small town populated by prospectors. Relic prospectors. Fossilized unicorn horns, the bones of kraken, bits from griffins and werewolves, and trolls are buried in the mesas all around. People who are rich enough to own relics (like hacienda boss ÁlfÁrvar Castilla) or talented enough to harness their magic (like Moon John and Maggie) can gain advantages such as fire-starting or invisibility. Highly dangerous shadow relics are forbidden by law, but that doesn't mean they aren't available on the black market. Maggie takes a job as a waitress in a saloon and makes friends with Adelaide, a fancy dancer and occasional prostitute. She meets Landon, a cowboy who steals her heart, and she wonders about the fate of the Apache who saved her life. The writing can be predictable (hearts "burst," eyes "plead," feet "are rooted," and emotions "choked back"), but the story has enough inventive action and romance to keep teens interested. The ending offers a reveal that practically guarantees a sequel. Offer this one to older fans of Patricia C. Wrede's *Thirteenth Child* (Scholastic, 2009), another fantasy-filled alternative U.S. history. Fans of Westerns will enjoy the frontier atmosphere, if they don't mind the occasional appearance of ghost coyotes and magical goblin belts. —Maggie Knapp, Trinity Valley School, Fort Worth, TX

After losing their family in a freak fire, 16-year-old Maggie and her younger sister are looking for a home in the dusty western town of Burning Mesa, whose chief industry is mining the bones (relics) of ancient magical creatures, such as sirens, kracken, and sphinx. Maggie is hired by the local hacienda owner and discovers that he is linked to the fires, which are being blamed on the Apaches, fires that continue to threaten the lives of innocent people. Collins's fantasy is a creative riff on the classic western, complete with dance-hall girls, evil overseers, and well-dressed gentlemen from the East. The turns of phrase and dialogue also contribute nicely to the horse-opera feel. Native Americans are represented respectfully for the most part, with the exception of a few stereotypes, such as wise Indian. The audience for this book is wider than you might suspect; mildly steamy scenes should make this of interest to high-schoolers in search of gentle reads that nonetheless have a strong love story. Grades 7-9. --Cindy Welch

I love just about everything that *Entangled Teen* brings out, which is why despite my lack of interest in cowboy/wild west themed novels, I chose to read *Relic*. Within the first couple of pages, the story of Maggie Davis, drew me in. Right from the start, I saw the strength of this young girl and how determined she was to take care of her family. Once I began the first sentence, I was glued to my iPad. I just couldn't bring myself to take a break. The concept of the magical relics really intrigued me. I was captivated by their origination from extinct creatures. There were non-stop twists that kept

me filled with suspense throughout the entire book. Renee did a beautiful job of adding so many different elements, yet not one overpowered the other. Renee Collins has created a spellbinding, magical world that you'll never want to leave! Relic was hands down, my favorite YA read of the year. Perhaps even in general. I would recommend it to anyone who enjoys young adult books with strong female leads, historical fantasy, magic, and the wild west!

This is absolutely one of my favorite books of the year. For me, the best aspect of the book is the incredible world Collins has created. In the tradition of books like *A Daughter of Smoke and Bone* the world you're transported to is magical and yet completely believable. I loved the re-imagining of the old west, I loved the setting of western Colorado. The world is as rich as the characters that inhabit it. Every character in the book is multi-faceted and interesting. I found myself rooting for just about every character in the book, and even having empathy for the villain. Maggie is not perfect but she is brave and strong, by the end of the book I loved her like a sister. I hope that we are able to hear more about this group of people. Every YA series right now is at least a trilogy, this one should be too!

RELIC is a fantastic debut by Renee Collins. I'd had my eyes set on this book ever since I first read about it on a book blog, long before it had any cover art or marketing. It was one of the most original sounding YA books I'd ever heard of. I wasn't disappointed at all! The romantic in me swooned over the cowboy love interest, and the story lover in me swooned over the brilliant way Collins blended fantasy with the Old West. This would make a GREAT movie. I saw it in my head like one the entire time I was reading, everything was so vivid. So, dear Hollywood, please discover this book. I can't wait for the sequel.

Western flavor with relic magic thrown in. Young adult, but I am way past that age group, and I loved it. Nice finish, no cliffhanger, but nice segway for the next book.

This is a great YA book with a wonderful, strong heroine in a unique and intriguing world. It has one of the best magic systems I've ever read. Relic also deals with some very interesting issues of self-determination and self-control that are realistic while still being inspiring and approachable.

Relic is a very powerful story. Maggie and her sister, Ella, are the only ones to escape the burning of Haydenville. Maggie is a survivor. She will protect and care for her little sister, but her powerful

connection to the ancient Relics becomes the driving force in her life. When the most powerful man in the county, Alvar Castilla, offers her his protection, Maggie takes his help. She knows there are strings attached. Will she be willing to pay the price? What is his true intention? Maggie is a multi-dimensional character. As the story unfolds, you see her grow into a strong, powerful woman. She fights for what is just and right. Life may knock her down but it won't defeat her. The western setting adds to the dark beauty of the story. Renee Collins handles difficult topics with a deft yet realistic touch. She creates a world that may be dark but also has love and redemption. This book will appeal to all ages with its perfect mix of romance, suspense and magic. A great story by a very talented author. I received a copy of this book from the Publisher in exchange for an honest review.

The western/magic combo was initially a harder storyline for me to believe, but then I got so wrapped up into the story I couldn't put it down. A fun read, I loved the strong heroine role. Very unpredictable plot. Loved it!

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