



Divine By Blood

P.C. Cast

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Morrigan Christine Parker finds that turning 18 carries a heavy weight when you're the only daughter of Rhiannon MacCallan, disgraced high priestess to the goddess Epona, in Cast's down-home follow-up to 2006's *Divine by Choice*. After Rhiannon betrayed Epona, the goddess bestowed her favor on Rhiannon's look-alike, Shannon Parker. Rhiannon promised her allegiance to the evil god Pryderi, but recanted after Morrigan's birth, giving the child over to Epona's protection and the care of Shannon's parents. Now Morrigan comes of age and learns more about her heritage from her adoptive grandparents and the wind-borne whispers of Pryderi and Epona. While visiting the Alabaster Caverns State Park and exploring her power over rocks and crystals, Morrigan is unexpectedly transported to the mystical realm of Partholon, where she must find Shannon and fulfill her destiny.

Divine By Blood Details

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Author : P.C. Cast

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From Reader Review Divine By Blood for online ebook

Amanda Bien Aime says

The good:

- Even though there were several sections in the middle where I almost gave up on Divine by Blood, I eventually managed to finish this book.
- The last few pages were cute and made me smile, though I must admit that the miracle didn't exactly mesh with the pervious mythology explored in the series.

The bad:

- Morrigan, Divine by Blood's main character, is extremely annoying and spoiled, especially after she arrives in Partholon. I can only read about a pampered priestess for so many pages before I want something substantial to happen. However, when the "something substantial" does get around to happening it is basically a rehash of Shannon's adventures from the first book with only a few original details thrown in to prevent self-plagiarism.
- It feels as if the author is creating the rules of this world as she goes along. After the first book, gods and goddesses are added then subtracted to Partholon's mythology (Pryderi, Adsagsona) and magic becomes much more prominent. I never liked the sudden discovery that trees and rocks could "talk." Such a large issue should either had been addressed in the first book or never included in the series at all.
- The dialogue is often unrealistic and even though almost two decades passed since the second book in the series, the unnecessary cultural references (Buffy the Vampire Slayer, House, etc.) stick Divine by Blood in the same very specific time frame as the previous books.
- Much like in Divine by Choice, the author freely and for very little reason kills one copy of several mirror images. Not only does this prevent character development and plot conflict, but it simply doesn't make sense. If you kill off one man but let his double live to have children, how could there be mirror images in the next generation? With the rate Ms. Cast disposes of these doubles there wouldn't be a single mirror image left after a handful of generations. I know this is light fantasy and not supposed to be taken seriously, but how difficult could it be to incorporate a little common sense? For example, if one double is killed the other dies of a heart attack or in a freak accident.
- The climax feels sudden and rushed. The side story that leads to the climax was barely given any pages, especially in the latter section of the book. It's as if the author decided while reading over a draft to add an action-packed scene to reach her ending, but she was either too lazy or too pressed for time to edit the entire book to fit her changes.

The verdict:

- Some books should never develop into a series, and unfortunately this is one of those cases. Though the first book in the Patholon series was a light escape, the qualities of the subsequent books have discouraged me from ever again picking up a novel by P.C. Cast.

Savanna Stevenson says

The book was intersting but i love when the book went back and forth between the two worlds...but after a while I wanted to know more about what Shannon was going through when she lost her daughter to childbirth...even though i know the book wasn't all about shannon and it was about morrigan it would have

been interesting to know more about what was going on.

Emily says

18 years after the events of *Divine by Choice*, Morrigan and Myrna have grown into lovely young ladies. Shannon is displeased that Myrna shows no signs of being the new goddess incarnate, Epona's Chosen. Morrigan, however, living with Shannon's parents in Oklahoma, and having no knowledge that her mother was Rhiannon instead of Shannon, finds that she can talk to stones. They call her the Light Bringer and want her to come harness her destiny in Parholon. Unfortunately, the Dark God Pryderi also wants Morrigan for his own and joins his whispers to those of Epona, the goddess Adsagsona, and Rhiannon in Morrigan's mind. Not knowing which voices to trust and being unfamiliar with the ways of Parthalon, Morrigan must make her own choices and decide for herself what her destiny will be.

Morrigan's dilemma was quite compelling; it was difficult even for the reader to tell which voices Morrigan should be trusting. It was disappointing that Shannon did not figure as much in this story, but her tale has been told. The introduction of the cave people, the Sidetha, was unexpected, but also interesting. A good wrap-up for the trilogy, although I guess there are two more books set in Partholon, I don't believe they feature the same characters.

Traci says

This book is okay. It was decent enough that I could get through it by reading in my free time, but not good enough for me to want to recommend it to a friend, either.

I'm not sure if it's because I read a lot of this author's stuff, but I'm finding that the protagonists are all the same. I know that's not something specific to this book, but after a while, I'd like to read something a little different. It was the same white, middle-class, I-love-lavender Oklahoma girl who "just feels different" but doesn't really have any problems other than she's "misunderstood." Her friends even seemed like carbon copies of the "House of Night" friends. (Or maybe the House of Night friends are carbon copies of these; either way, the result is that I felt like I was reading the same book.)

There wasn't enough conflict, just the same white, middle-class, I-love-lavender Oklahoma girl finding out that everything she thought she knew was a total lie and having to fit in a new place. Not by trying to make friends, of course, but by dropping in and upsetting the status quo on her very first day. And then surprise, there's a lackluster "confrontation" with a "dark god" and then... nothing happens.

And that's about it. There weren't as many grammatical errors or typos in this novel as the last I read by this author, which made me happy, but I just don't see anything unique and original about this novel, either.

Ana says

Unfortunately, the main character is a spoiled "princess" who was told she was special since she was a kid and this spoiled any enjoyment I could have drawn from this light read. I'm also a bit appalled at the ease these people change partners in the different worlds just because. I do understand that they are basically different versions of the same men and women, but ultimately they ARE different people that live in

different worlds. Really hard to believe in any depth of emotion.
At least I purchased this book at a sale at my local library and the money went to charity.

Gina says

A wonderful continuation of this wonderful and unique story!!!! I thoroughly enjoyed the ride with all these fascinated charterers that I got so invested in and loved. I didn't know where the ending was going, but was pleasantly surprised!!! Great series!!!

Brittany says

I had decided to reread some of my favorite series from P.C. Cast. In this book we get Morrigan's story. She is the daughter of Rhiannon the disgraced Chosen. I enjoyed the glimpse of Shannon's life now. I enjoyed it a great deal.

Lori Whitwam says

The third in the Partholon series by P.C. Cast. I gave the first one a four, the second a three, and this one a two. In this one, the "two Rhiannons," one in Partholon, one in Oklahoma, have both had daughters (on the same day, naturally). Morrigan grows up in Oklahoma, raised by Shannon's parents. At age 18, they tell her her heritage, and that it was the "real" Rhiannon, not Shannon, who had been her mother. Rhiannon had renounced the dark powers as she died giving birth to Morrigan, but the grandparents always warned Morrigan to be careful which voices she listened to. She ends up in Partholon, as the Light Bringer... but she's not the unselfish, strong leader that Shannon is (as the Beloved of Epona).

I just couldn't like her. Spoiled, temperamental, power-hungry teenager, not a strong and deeply interesting character. Barely any of Shannon's story, and her daughter. Things happened too neatly, too "patly," though I did sort of like the way they resolved the two mirror-images of the men meant for Morrigan in Oklahoma and Partholon, though even that may have been a little too neat.

There are two more books, not technically part of the series, taking place a couple of hundred years later than these. I think I'll give the first one a try, and see if the lead character is someone as interesting as Shannon was.

Char says

For my full review please visit my blog: [From the Shadows I Review](#)

This book isn't as bad as the previous effort in the series, although I'm not sure it's actually possible for a book to be that bad. Saying that though this book was screaming "edit me!" the whole time I was reading it. There are some pretty simple spelling and grammar issues (I think you mean 'very pleased' not 'well pleased'.) unless of course P.C. Cast wanted to come across as a chav (I'm not sure if there are chavs

anywhere but Britain though.) I think this 'trilogy' (why would you add more books to a trilogy?) should have stayed locked away.

I still didn't find a character I could relate to and as this was the final part of a trilogy I find that diabolical. Morrigan was incredibly stupid throughout the novel. I found her entire storyline to be obvious so either I am exceptionally clever and need to be monitored by fellow geniuses or this story was badly written. I think it might be the latter (unfortunately.) None of the other characters stood out for me, they were dull fading into the back of my mind the second I closed the book. Also just because this amused me, I was reading the front of the book where the copyright info is and it mentioned that none of the characters are based on real people. I thought fair enough but then on the next page P.C. Cast says that the characters are based on friends and family. I wish they'd make up their bloomin' minds, they're giving me a headache.

Overall I'm wondering why I wasted my money on these. The only thing going for this book is the fact that Morrigan isn't as annoying as Shannon, who thankfully doesn't appear in this one much. The story was predictable, the ending was rushed, the characters unbelievable, I could go on all night but I won't, I have better things to do with my time.

???Cielito Lindo says

Beautiful book! It's a tragic thing that this series has come to an end, but it was beautiful from the beginning to end.

With this book in particular, however, I can say that there were only two things that I missed or didn't particularly like.

One: I can't say much without spoilers, but I will say there was too much of a certain thing for me and the fact that it happened in the span of about three chapters hurt just a little more.

Two: I missed the initial perspective of the first two books. For some reason, I am more partial to that one.

This does not change that, P.C. Cast I ABSOLUTELY LOOOOOOOOVED the book!!!! Proof of this is evident in the fact that I am still really happy and shedding tears!

Trust love, honor, loyalty. Trust hope.

Darcy says

This time around we find that even with Clint's sacrifice Rhiannon managed to survive. With the help of the evil spirit that has been chasing her she breaks free and finds herself about ready to give birth. At the last

minute Rhiannon finally does the right thing and rejects the evil to save her daughter at the expense of herself. With her dying words she asks the Native American men to take her daughter to Richard Parker her pseudo father. Back in the Partholon Shannon is giving birth to her own daughter and all is well with them.

Fast forward 18 years and the daughters are now grown women. Shannon's daughter, Myrna, is plowing her own path by marrying a human man, the result being she will not follow in her mother's path as the Chosen. While Rhiannon daughter, Morrigan has always felt like she didn't belong in OK. During a chance trip with friends at a cave Morrigan discovers some of what she was missing. As she explains to her Grandparents they decide to come 100% clean with her about her heritage. The result is Morrigan freaking out and running for the only safe place she knows, the cave. Here her life takes a turn she never expected as she is transported to the Partholon.

While in the Partholon Morrigan discovers many new things about herself, her family, and both worlds that she lives in. With the darkness still chasing her, having never really given up she must face the same battle that Rhiannon and Shannon have, while still remaining true to herself and what she believes in.

This was a great way to wrap up the fate of 2 women and their families that have been so closely woven together in whatever world they were in.

Lisa says

This was by far the best of the three books. I couldn't put it down!
A page turner from start to finish. A very emotional book, I laughed,
I cried. I didn't want this book to end.

I think there could be so much more to be told. I hope one day P.C. Cast
will come back and revisit the characters and tell us what happens with
Rhea and ClanFintan, with Keagan and Morrigan.

Fantastic series, I highly recommend it.

Jess F. (From Me to You ... Book Reviews) says

"3.5 out of 5 stars. It could be because this is the first book out of this series that I've read, even though Ms. Cast has stated that she's made each novel from this series able to stand alone if need-be, but if I hadn't liked the House of Night series so much I would have probably stopped this book without finishing it. I say that since the book is divided into parts and the prologue and the first part/section I had to force myself through it was so slow. But thankfully..."

Read more of my review here:

<http://frommetoyouvideophoto.blogspot.com/2010/04/this-paranoia-is-distressing-but-i.html>

Check out my THROWBACK THURSDAY BOOK REVIEW video here: <https://youtu.be/yfvkKt0mtUs>

Sarah-Jayne Briggs says

(This review may contain spoilers).

While I did enjoy this book and found it read better than the second in this series, I did find it somewhat harder to read at times due to a constant switching between first person POV and third.

I found it easy to care about Morrigan and how she felt like she didn't fit in, even though those kinds of feelings are a common trope in young adult books. I did enjoy seeing her relationship with her grandparents and even though she had a mother who made some really bad choices, it was good to see Rhiannon redeem herself at the birth of her daughter.

There was quite a bit of telling rather than showing going on, especially when it came to Morrigan's friends, who seemed indistinguishable from each other, and Shannon's relationship with her daughter.

It was good to see that Morrigan's life upon entering Partholon didn't automatically become perfect. Even though her awakening did seem very similar to Shannon's in book one, she had conflicts Shannon didn't have to deal with, considering the master and mistress and how they reacted to her.

Speaking of other characters' reactions... while it was good to see Morrigan and Kegan get to know each other, it was also a bit irritating to see Kegan's constant references to Myrna. I was disappointed that there were no chances for conflict between the two mirror images in Morrigan and Myrna. While Kegan and Kai both noticed their identical appearances, I felt they were both at different extremes. And after Kai's interaction with Morrigan, along with the details of his relationship with Shayla, I didn't really like him very much.

I was a bit disappointed in how the goddesses acted and even though there were certain things revealed at the end, those revelations didn't really endear them to me.

I would have liked to see the entire book focus on either Morrigan and her experiences in the world her mother had been born into or have it focus entirely on Shannon and her loss and gain in Myrna and Morrigan. While I did enjoy reading this book as part of a world I found engaging the first time I read about it, I thought this was a bit too jerky in POVs.

Andrena says

I liked this series alot... The first and second Divine books were much better then this one im not exactly sure but i think i just missed shannon in this one..

Adriana says

The third entry into Partholon takes the story away from Shannon and focuses on Rihannon's daughter, Morrigan. It's time for the Oklahoma raised Chosen to head over to Partholon and embrace her destiny. Morrigan is an excellent heir to Shannnon's story. Though at times melodramatic, even for a teenager, her

story is full of what any reader wants: intrigue, action, redemption, love, and a world that gets more real as the story progresses.

Old characters are back and given a chance to shine, while new characters give Morrigan's story the chance to stand on its own.

One thing I particularly liked was how Rihannon's part of the story is fully fleshed out. The previous book gave the reader an understanding of how and why she turned out as she did, and that forced one to feel some empathy for her. This book closes the circle of Rihannon's life by giving her a chance at redemption and making her an integral part of her daughter's final choice.

The one detail that kept me from giving this book a full five stars is how blood thirsty the author got at the end. Was everything that happened towards the end really necessary? Perhaps. The author fixes some of it at the very end, but it became a bit too much for this reader.

Brookanne says

I enjoyed this series, but I was disappointed with this book because it focuses more on the daughters than on the characters I really wanted to read about. I would have liked to read one more book about Shannon and Rhiannon and I think the stories of their daughters could have been a sequel series or some other sort of extension. That being said, Shannon is one of the funniest fantasy characters I have ever read about!

Anastasia ? says

kinda slow

Edit: *June 18, 2013*

The first 2 novels in the series were more entertaining

Kimchi says

I Love to be taken away to a place where the life breathes into you through its characters but this book did not do it for me. In the first book the goddess incarnate Shannon Parker had three sons and a daughter who was special. In this book Her only child for twenty years not who I thought she would be and I was upset that the author took all the important character out of her book.

Also It kinda makes the wonderful books that came before this one seem tainted like she couldn't remember what she had written in the first books. All the wonderful by play between mother and daughter, Father son dynamic is not seen, The memories from childhood nothing. Just a bunch of blank pages left to read about nothing.

I am really disappointed, the enjoyment I felt earlier is now a dissatisfaction. I also feel like the end had a strong build up that never came. Hey maybe I'm wrong but I doubt it. If I am tell me would love to hear someone else's info on this.

Criss says

This book, to me was not as good as the first two. It was still enjoyable and the authors writing style stayed the same so it was fairly fast paced but I guess I got addicted to Shannon/Rhea and ClanFinten and there was not nearly enough of them in it for me. As far as the story goes it was interesting and well written, but if you buy this book thinking you are going to read more into the lives of Shannon and ClanFinten you are going to be disappointed.
