



# Allegra Fairweather

*Janni Nell*

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Allegra Fairweather here. Paranormal investigator. Got problems with specters? Shapeshifters? I'm the woman to call. Just don't call me a Ghostbuster. The last guy who did that ended up flat on his back with my boot at his throat.

With my 99.5% success rate, solving the mystery of a bleeding rose that has sprung up on the shores of Loch Furness should have been an easy gig. But already I've heard the shriek of the local banshee, discovered two bodies (and then *lost* two bodies), and had a near-death encounter with a three-hundred-year-old ghost. And perhaps most dangerous of all, the hot pub owner who hired me now wants to show me exactly what's under his kilt.

Luckily, I'm ably assisted by my very own guardian angel. I'm grateful for his help—but he's also drop-dead gorgeous. A bit distracting when I've got a mystery to solve, and the clock is ticking...

71,000 words

## Allegra Fairweather Details

Date : Published June 14th 2010 by Carina Press (first published May 26th 2010)

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Author : Janni Nell

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Genre : Fantasy, Paranormal, Mystery, Urban Fantasy, Angels, Romance, Paranormal Romance, Fiction

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# From Reader Review Allegra Fairweather for online ebook

## Diane says

Allegra is a paranormal investigator. The unfolding mystery is confusing. Allegra takes a case in Scotland and spends lots of time bumbling around, interviewing people, hearing banshees scream, having her big toe tingle when something paranormal is close (it's her only talent).

Paranormal elements are introduced and not explained. I didn't know where it was going. Allegra doesn't seem to know what she's doing. She's had a guardian angel protecting her since childhood. She still calls him by the Casper, which she named him as a child. He pops in to save her and stays to protect her from danger. He's trying to get into heaven and is sworn to protect one human in order to make up for his pillaging and plundering when he was human. He's not allowed to help her and he's not allowed to have a relationship or sex with anyone.

In spite of this, there is a sexual tension between them, mostly from Allegra. He seems to control himself, but Allegra gets jealous, thinks about him all the time, and is always asking him to help her with the case even though it's forbidden. It's just his immortal soul and heaven at stake after all. I found it all annoying, considering the consequences and I didn't find anything about the story to endear me or make me care.

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## Shelleyrae at Book'd Out says

I really liked the sound of the premise for Allegra Fairweather: Paranormal Investigator. A heroine with attitude, a hot guy or two and a variety of otherworld creatures. As a fan of Paranormal Romance/Urban Fantasy genres it's an appealing combination.

Allegra, as she mentions a bit too often, is a paranormal investigator and she investigates, well, the paranormal. In this case, Allegra is almost over run with phenomena, a Deddflower harbinging mass destruction, a wailing Banshee, a vengeful ghost, mysterious chanting in the woods and something lurking in the loch. It's not exactly suprising then that Allegra is a little directionless, and as a consequence so is the plot. There are false leads, red herrings and asides that Nell tends to reveal rather than have Allegra investigate. I wanted Allegra to be more active in her investigation, which we don't see until nearing the climax. The mystery behind the appearance of the Deddflower, the reason Allegra comes to Scotland in the first place, is never really resolved either though the mystery of Lady Justina is nicely concluded.

I do find Allegra likeable, a little sassy with an individual voice. We learn a little about her personal background but I would have liked to know more about her seven years of paranormal investigation. Allegra's relationship with Casper is an interesting one and Douglas's interest in her creates some nice tension between the three. There is no HEA so Nell has potential to exploit the relationship in further installments.

I think Allegra Fairweather: Paranormal Investigator has promising protagonists for a paranormal romance series with a tighter storyline.

\*Read for review from NetGalley.com

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## **Wendy Soliman says**

Fun, laugh aloud stuff. I love the idea of a guardian angel who lives on Cloud 9 until he's needed. I want one! A few plot loops that I couldn't get past, otherwise great escapism.

More of the same, please.

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## **Nina says**

I think I found another kick ass series that I am going to follow. However the downfall is that it's a e-book, so when I had to stop reading, I was sad I couldn't take it with me on the train. But besides that I loved it.

Allegra Fairweather, isn't that name so fun and it fits the girl so good, is a twenty five year old girl who has a unusual job. Yep that's right, she's a paranormal investigator, that tries to solve problems most people run far away from. Her step dad, a senator and mother decided not to expose the job from her daughter, just to be sure that it doesn't cause problems for the senator. Her birth dad is out of the picture, and Allegra feels like she's al alone. Well except that she has a guardian angel, Casper. And whenever danger shows up, he shows up as well. Allegra is a strong female character, I mean with a job like that you got to be, but she also has a sensitive side which we also get to know throughout the story.

When she finds herself across the ocean to solve a mysterious job, the problems become more bigger than she thought they first where. I have to admit that the mystery was really good, but it was quite easy to find out who the badass was. Nevertheless there was so much going on that I didn't know how Allegra on her own would handle everything and solve the problems, this made me want to read on and on. .

The dialogue between the characters is witty and fun. I especially loved the dialogue between Casper and Allegra, it made me laugh out loud a few times. Why must there always be a forbidden love in such stories? They make me sad.

I hope that Janni Nell decides to make this e-book into a regular paper book, because a hardcover of this I would buy in a heart beat. Are you addicted to the paranormal world and would love to be a paranormal investigator like Allegra, this book is so up your alley. The ending is as amazing as the beginning and I cannot wait to see what comes next on the journey of Allegra. Janni Nell you got me hooked!

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## **Nicole says**

Publisher: Carina Press

Publish Date: 5/26/10

How I got this book: NetGalley

Allegra Faitweather is the first book by debut author Janni Nell. Allegra gets a call to head over to Scotland to help solve the case of the bleeding rose. The rose usually means that some kind of large disaster is coming, and Allegra wants to try to stop whatever that disaster may be.

Fighting against the unknown, she encounters a shrieking banshee that calls out the deaths of two of the town folk. Then, an old ghost looking to take the heart of a warrior so that he and his lover can finally rest in peace attacks her. She loses two dead bodies that are mysteriously bitten to death, and then replaced with fish. She also encounters brownies, a few witches, and the selkies from the loch.

Along for the ride is Allegra's guardian angel, whom she lovingly nicknamed Casper. Since Allegra is constantly finding herself in a bind, Casper is always there to pull her out of trouble and save her life at the last possible minute. But when Douglas, the pub owner with a huge crush, gets a glimpse at Casper, the two start a pissing match over Allegra's affections.

When Allegra finally figures out the cause of the bleeding rose, will she be able to help save all those involved, or will this mystery stump even her?

I was not super impressed by this book. I thought that the case itself was somewhat convoluted and it wasn't able to hold my interest. It just seemed to me that there was almost TOO much going on where the case was concerned. Was it the mysterious being from the loch, was it the coven of witches, the really old ghost trying to steal people's hearts? There was so much other paranormal activity going on as well, that it seemed to me as if the case didn't really start until about a quarter of the way into the book.

I did love that Nell pulled in some different mythical creatures though. A lot of the paranormal books out right now tend to feature vampires, mammal shape shifters, demons, witches, and the occasional angel. I was impressed that these more mainstream creatures didn't get any face time. I don't think I've ever read a book that had selkie's in it before, and I loved that. It was something totally different than what is currently out there and popular right now and that alone was a point that impressed me.

I did enjoy the main characters Allegra and Casper. I thought it was great that although Casper was her guardian angel and able to adapt to the times, he still got car sick every time he tried to ride with Allegra. Little details like that can really make a character totally loveable to me, and Casper was definitely a shining star in the book. I enjoyed Allegra as well, she was strong, set in her ways, and seemed to genuinely love her job, despite of what people say to her. The two of them were great interacting together, and if the series continues, I would love to see how Nell progresses their relationship.

I also want to give three cheers to this cover. Carina Press has done an incredible job with their covers so far, and this is one of my favorites. I love the colors and the way that Allegra is kept somewhat mysterious, yet beautifully featured. Bravo for that!

All in all I give Allegra Faitweather: Paranormal Investigator 2 out of 5 bleeding roses!

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## **Brenda says**

Let me tell you right up front that I think this book is only available in e-book edition. I enjoyed this one, but it was really nothing more than a fun, easy read; a good way to pass a couple of afternoons. What I liked best, I think was the setting. I would love to travel to Scotland. Forget the handsome men in kilts, I'm jealous of Allegra just for the scenery. And it was very much a part of the story, so that's good.

Allegra is a fun character, even though she seemed to have a bit of a hard time figuring anything out. If she

really does have a 99.5% success rate, I don't know how she did it. She kind of bumbles around and figures things out only with luck. But still, she's fairly tough (although it does help that she has a guardian angel to get her out of all kinds of scrapes), and definitely likable.

There was a little bit of romance here, but not too much. It didn't overshadow the story, at least. It seems that this is the start of a series. Book two is already written and has been acquired by the publisher. So that's good news for those who liked this first one, but I'm afraid of the direction it'll take. I didn't think her romantic interest in her guardian angel was all that great, but I think it'll become more and more the focus. We'll see, it could be done well. I would recommend this to fans of paranormal romance, especially if you're not as interested in the romance. If you're looking for a hot and heavy bodice-ripper type novel, this isn't it.

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### **Shirley Wells says**

I loved this story. Allegra is a wonderful heroine and her guardian angel is gorgeous. Set in Scotland, this is a great mystery that keeps the surprises coming.

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### **Jessica says**

My first thought after finishing this book? Allegra kicks some behind! She's funny. She's quick on her feet. She's a paranormal investigator for goodness sake! What more could you ask for? Allegra makes this book and I just loved every minute of her journey.

Allegra Fairweather: Paranormal Investigator is the type of book that is never dull. An extremely well written mystery/thriller, it gives you just enough to keep you following along without every revealing too much. I admit, when I opened to the first chapter I was worried some harrowing romance might ensue. I should have known better. Allegra is a woman with a mission! Men aren't part of that mission. Well except maybe Casper, but he's off limits.

My favorite part about this story was definitely the twists! With the paranormal slant thrown in, you're never quite sure where the plot is going and it makes for a really enjoyable read. I'm always disappointed when I figure out the ending of the book before I even get there. With this book there was no chance of that! In fact when I got to last few chapters my mouth actually fell open. WHAT? I didn't even think of that! (No spoilers here, but I promise it's great!)

If I had one complaint, it would be that I wanted to know so much more about Allegra as a person. Janni Nell does a great job of giving you bits and pieces of her past life throughout the story, but I craved more! I can only hope that there will be more Allegra Fairweather books to come and I can learn more about her in those. Oh, and Casper. I definitely wouldn't mind more Casper.

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### **Ahrcadia the Duck Tamer says**

Allegra Fairweather is a paranormal investigator who has traveled to Scotland to see a paranormal rose that seems to be causing trouble in a small loch village. What else would a paranormal investigator be doing?

Well, she is in Scotland, and discovers that--oh mi gosh!--her employer is HOT. I think Douglas is kind of slimy, and shorter than her! It doesn't work for him like it does for Henry from Blood Ties.

So Allegra starts investigating this whole rose thing and hears a banshee wailing, then people turn up dead, and of course she has to investigate that, too, and wow, it all ends up being part of the same dastardly scheme plotted by...Well, I can't tell you, because it would spoil the mystery.

Here's the part you won't expect--Allegra and her sexy guardian angel don't walk into the mist holding hands. You heard me. No HEA! What's up with that? I didn't even love the book, but now I have to get the next one as soon as it comes out because I have to find out if she gets the sexy angel! Ugh!

Bit of a slow starter, but it picked up about a quarter of the way through. I also took off a star because the ending seemed a bit too hurried and convenient. I really like the second half of the book, though. (Besides the ending.)

Allegra was a likable, if a bit unemotional, character, and Casper was a smokin' hot sidekick, but I would've liked to see Allegra acting more competent. She talks about being able to take care of herself and being tough, but she never proves it with actions. Casper is always swooping in to rescue her, and what does she do? Get pissed that he didn't come sooner, of course. Psht.

Some of the coincidences in the story were a bit... too coincidental, and that threw me off too much to actually get involved in the plot for more than five minutes, but I really liked the characters. I don't know what it was about them, but they did their absolute best to draw me into a story that wasn't all that interesting.

In conclusion, Nell is good at characters, bad at plots, and has forced me into adding the next book to my TBR, if there is another coming. I assume that there is, though, based on the ending.

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## **Jennifer says**

Allegra Fairweather: Paranormal Investigator is a paranormal mystery set in Scotland. Allegra takes jobs all over the world investigating paranormal phenomena. She's very good at her job, despite the fact that she doesn't seem to have any paranormal ability of her own beyond gut instinct and a toe that tingles when she senses supernatural activity.

Allegra has a guardian angel that she calls Casper. He only shows up when she's in mortal danger, which seems to be a good chunk of the time. He can't help her on cases, but acts as a non-participating sounding board regularly. They have a delicious sexual tension thing going, complete with an understanding that they cannot become involved physically without ruining Casper's chances of getting into heaven. Lusty thoughts and valid obstacle makes the two characters exude sexual energy throughout the book.

While this book is set in Scotland, Allegra is an American. Dinnae (meaning don't) and occasional references to bonnie (pretty) women are the only large language differences shown in the book. Those who don't know Scottish culture won't find themselves lost with description or dialogue.

The mystery is great and really keeps you guessing. Unfortunately, I did have to spend a lot of time in the beginning of the book trying to guess what the mystery was even about. Allegra was called to Scotland to

look at ominous flower, the crime doesn't come until much later. I would have liked if the crime had come earlier, but the complaint is minor.

The paranormal species featured in this book (beyond the banshees and ghosts mentioned in the synopsis) is one that isn't seen all too often. The revelation of the species will ruin the surprise, but suffice it to say, they are interesting, well written and true to form.

The book sets up nicely for a series, leaving lots of room for potential storylines with Allegra's line of work. With characters like Allegra and Casper who play off each other nicely and a satisfying mystery, I'm eager to see what happens next.

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### **Vannessa says**

I wasn't quite sure what to expect from this book, but I did quite enjoy it for a quick, light read.

Allegra is a paranormal investigator and when she hears about the appearance of the Denfield Rose in Scotland and immediately flies over to this tiny village near the Lochs. Soon after her arrival, the whole village hears the wails of a banshee and they all know that there will be a death soon enough and how right they were, only the body disappears to be replaced by a pile of fish. I thought this was hilarious!

Allegra speaks to several different people from the village and other villages close by, but she is still nowhere near working out what's going on. The only clue she has is a tingling big toe any time she's physically near to something supernatural and that only happens twice, so she returns to both places. One of these places reveals something I hadn't worked out and the rest of the investigation speeds up quite dramatically to an excellent finish.

I liked Allegra as a character for the most part, but wasn't keen on her lust for her guardian angel - he's been looking after her since she was about 7/8 so felt a bit weird to me to be developing these feelings for him, especially when he is banned from being romantically involved with any woman. I didn't think much of her investigative skills though. Had it not been for some of the villagers revealing things to her, she would never have solved this mystery.

I do have the next 2 books in the series on my Kindle so will be reading them at some point. I would like to see if she gets any better at solving paranormal mysteries!

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### **NovelReaction says**

Allegra Fairweather is the investigator to call when something supernatural is going on. In Allegra Fairweather: Paranormal Investigator by Janni Nell, Allegra is invited to Scotland to see the rare Dedfield Rose, said to only bloom when death is going to happen soon. Soon after Allegra arrives a mauled dead body appears near the Rose and Allegra must figure out how the person was killed and stop the killer before they strike again.

To further complicate matters, Allegra finds herself attracted to Douglas MacGregor, the pub owner who called her to investigate the rose but unable to act on that attraction because her sexy guardian angel Caspar



has appeared (Allegra gave him that name when he first saved her life when she was a child). Caspar cannot act on any attraction with a mortal or he will be doomed to be a guardian angel for an additional 1,000 years. Of course, being in Scotland leads Allegra to other paranormal events and she must figure out how they are all connected.

Nell's novel is an entertaining read. In a genre that abounds with vampires and shape-shifters it is nice to see an author use other mythical creatures including guardian angels, banshees and cursed ghosts in her created world. I love the guardian angel, his mystery, his obvious concern for Allegra and his inability to ride inside a car without getting car sick. The novel is told from the first person point of view of Allegra, which gives the novel a witty monologue to the events as they unfolded. Nell does a great job in making believable characters in a slightly unbelievable setting

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### **Eleni Konstantine says**

Thoroughly enjoyed this book. I enjoyed Allegra's voice. She's tough but vulnerable, and she tries her hardest for her clients. Loved the inclusion of Casper, the friendly guardian angel, and their dilemma. Will be going onto book 2 :)

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### **Nikki says**

Allegra Fairweather is a paranormal investigator, and although she has no special powers of her own save for a big toe that itches when something spooky is near, she still manages to rock a 99.5% success rate for solving cases (including one involving a female big foot with a shoe fetish!). Allegra is assisted by her guardian angel, Casper. Well, assisted isn't the best word, since he's not allowed to actually help her solve cases, but he is there to keep her alive when she finds herself in one life threatening situation after another. Casper (not his real name, Allegra made it up when she was little) is not your typical Michael Landon angel (does anyone remember that show?), he's more like a winged version of Leo from "Charmed," but without the white lights. He lived many centuries ago, when raping and pillaging was all the rage, and now guards women to atone for his sins. The catch- he cannot be romantically involved with them. No sex, no kissing, and probably so much as no impure thoughts at all.

When the Dedfield Rose, also called the Flower of Death, pops out of the ground in a small town in Scotland, Allegra hops a plane from her home in San Diego and crosses the Atlantic to lend a hand. After all, the rose only blooms when disaster is about to strike- and strike it does. On Allegra's first night in town, the wail of a banshee heralds the first death and the body of a local man (a heavy drinker) turns up on the shore near the rose, only to vanish before the cops arrive. Allegra sets out to solve the mystery of the Dedfield Rose's appearance, stop more deaths from occurring, and perhaps get in a little quality time with her guardian angel that, unfortunately, can never return her obvious affections without getting himself permanently banned from heaven.

Janni Nell writes beautifully, and had me hooked from the first sentence. Her dialogue flows as naturally as a good conversation should and her characters jump off the page and spring to life in your head. The story is engaging and about as unique as one can get these days, when just about everything has been written already. While reading, I was a little concerned that one of the paranormal mysteries she introduces towards the beginning was going to be left hanging in the wind, and I wondered why she even bothered to introduce it in

the first place, but by the end her motivations were clear and it made sense. The only thing that bothered me is that I figured out the answer to the mystery at about 49% of the way through during one specific scene that screamed "this is what you're looking for, Allegra! This is why your toe is itchy! Think, woman, think!" It took out paranormal investigator slightly longer to put the pieces together.

This book is straight-up paranormal mystery. While there is a slight attraction between Allegra and Douglas, the man who hired her to solve the mystery (more on Douglas' part), as well as an obvious attraction to Casper on Allegra's part, romance only makes up a few paragraphs of the book. With a very likable lead character, a back story with bits and pieces that leave me wanting to learn more, I've already added her next book to my Amazon Kindle wish list.

Note- This review originally appeared on my blog Pretty Opinionated

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### **Crazycatladylibrary says**

Allegra Fairweather isn't your run-of-the-mill ghostbuster. In fact, if you call her that to her face, you had better be prepared to protect yourself from serious bodily harm. Standing well over 6 feet tall with short, spiky, bright red hair and a big toe that tingles when something paranormal is near, Allegra and her drop-dead-gorgeous guardian angel Casper chase down supernatural bad guys and solve paranormal mysteries all over the world.

When Allegra gets a call to investigate the mysterious appearance of a Dedfield Rose, also known as the flower of death, near the shore of the small town of Loch Furness, Scotland, she hops on the next available flight to go investigate. Upon arrival, Allegra meets Douglas MacGregor, the town's innkeeper and the man who summoned her. Between periodically hearing a banshee's wail, finding (and then "misplacing") two dead men, fighting for her life against a 300-year old ghost and his imprudent human devotee, and trying to solve the mystery of the rose bush's existence, Allegra still manages to find a few spare moments to entertain Douglas' romantic overtures, alienate half the town's population, and hurt her guardian angel's feelings.

This book started off a bit slow, and it took a while for the authour to set up the scene, introduce the characters, and really get into the action part of the story, but once it took off, it was worth the wait! As a reader who often finds herself figuring out the ending halfway through a book, I was pleasantly surprised to learn that I would not be figuring anything out ahead of time with this one! I enjoyed reading it to the very last page. I sincerely hope that this will end up being a "Book 1" of a series, also, because I would very much like to get to know Allegra and Casper better! I give Allegra Fairweather: Paranormal Investigator 4 stars!

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