



Rebecca Moesta
Young Adult Guest

Rebecca Moesta (pronounced MESS-tuh) wanted to be an author since her early teens, but it wasn't until 1991 that she began writing in earnest. Her solo novels include *Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Little Things* (2002) and three novels in the *Junior Jedi Knights* series. With her husband, Kevin J. Anderson, she wrote the *Crystal Doors* trilogy, the movie novelization of *The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen* under the pseudonym K.J. Anderson (2003); a movie novelization of *Supernova* (2000); a novelization of the popular *StarCraft* computer game *StarCraft: Shadow of the*

Xel'Naga, under the pseudonym Gabriel Mesta (2001); and a *Star Trek* graphic novel, *The Gorn Crisis* (2001). The team, currently working on a Young Adult science fiction series, has also written two young adult *Titan A.E.* novels, *Titan A.E.: Cale's Story* and *Titan A.E.: Akima's Story* (2000), two high-tech *Star Wars* Pop-up Books, and a series of fourteen bestselling young adult *Star Wars* novels, the *Young Jedi Knights*. Their *Crystal Doors* fantasy trilogy was published by Little, Brown, and they are currently working together on *Star Challengers*, a series of books to promote space and science education, in conjunction with the Challenger Learning Centers.

Moesta has written several short stories, both on her own and with her husband, ghost-written a novel and co-written three science fiction and fantasy books under pseudonyms. In addition to her many fiction credits, she has had photographs, computer art, and nonfiction articles published in numerous magazines.

Born to American parents in Heidelberg, Germany, and raised in Southern California, Moesta has traveled extensively. She has one son, who is in college. She is also CEO of WordFire, Inc., the company that she and Kevin J. Anderson jointly own. In addition to her own writing, she serves as final reader and copyeditor on her husband's manuscripts. Visit Rebecca at <http://rebeccamoesta.com/>



Vanessa Cardui
Poet/Songwriter

Vanessa Cardui is a lifelong poet and songwriter, as well as a performer, recording artist, and producer. She has been active in the Calgary music scene since 2004 and has contributed to a number of local projects. Vanessa's own original rock band, *Heroincredible*, has performed to great acclaim at several well-attended science-fiction and fantasy conventions, including the Calgary Comic and Entertainment Expo in 2011. The *Dragon-Slayer*, *Heroincredible's* rollicking drinking song about the knight life, inspires laughter and spirited tankard-swinging on YouTube and around Canadian firesides alike.

Vanessa has written hundreds of songs in a variety of genres, including rock, folk, filk, and choral music, and has a special love of historical and mythological subject matter. In 2011 she released her first solo album, *Thought Experiment*, which has been hailed for its refined lyrics and emotional honesty. Cory McCrindle of *Grayowl Point* writes, "Thought Experiment features a lot of depth and drama, and will appeal to the more literate among us. [Vanessa Cardui's] voice is rich and her songwriting cerebral. She connects with you, I feel, because she has bared her soul and allowed you to experience her trials and tribulations from a safe distance. However, in doing so, we risk venturing so close to the glowing candle that we might get burned." Her next album is slated for release in Spring 2012. Visit Vanessa at <http://vanessacardui.ca/>

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Kevin J. Anderson Science Fiction Guest

Kevin J. Anderson is the author of nearly 100 novels, 48 of which have appeared on national or international bestseller lists; he has over 20 million books in print in thirty languages. He has won or been nominated for the Nebula Award, Bram Stoker Award, the SFX Reader's Choice Award, and New York Times Notable Book. By any measure, he is one of the most popular writers currently working in the genre.

Anderson has coauthored eleven books in the Dune saga with Brian Herbert, including the most recent, *The Winds of Dune*. Herbert and Anderson are co-producers on a major new film of Dune from Paramount. Anderson's popular epic SF series, *The Saga of Seven Suns*, is his most ambitious work; all seven volumes were just released in paperback and topped international bestseller lists. He is currently at work on a sweeping fantasy trilogy, *Terra Incognita*, about sailing ships, sea monsters, and the crusades. The first novel, *The Edge of the World*, was released in June 2009.

As an innovative companion project to *Terra Incognita*, Anderson cowrote (with wife Rebecca Moesta) the lyrics for an ambitious rock CD based on *The Edge of the World*. Performed by the new supergroup Roswell Six for ProgRock Records, the CD is a groundbreaking project featuring performances by rock legends from Dream Theater, Asia, Saga, Kansas, Rocket Scientists, Shadow Gallery, and others.

His novel *Enemies & Allies* chronicles the first meeting of Batman and Superman in the 1950s during the Cold War; also for HarperCollins/DC, Anderson wrote *The Last Days of Krypton*, chronicling the end of Superman's planet.

He has written numerous Star Wars projects, including the Jedi Academy trilogy, *Darksaber*, the Young Jedi Knights series (with Moesta), and *Tales of the Jedi* comics from Dark Horse. Fans might also know him from his X-Files novels or Dean Koontz's *Frankenstein: Prodigal Son*. He has published comics with DC, Marvel, IDW, Wildstorm, Topps, and Dark Horse. Visit Kevin at www.wordfire.com or www.wordfirepress.com



Adrienne Kerr Publisher Guest—Penguin Canada

Adrienne Kerr is the Commissioning Editor of Commercial Fiction at Penguin Group (Canada) where she acquires mystery, suspense, sci-fi, fantasy, adventure, women's and historical novels. She works with bestselling authors Stuart McLean, Jack Whyte, Robert J. Sawyer, Suzanne Desrochers, and D.J. McIntosh, as well as Pauline Gedge, Sophie Hannah, and

Keith Ross Leckie. She is the Canadian Booksellers' Association Editor of the Year (2011) and was the Canadian Booksellers' Association Sales Representative of the Year (2009). She has also worked as a book buyer for a large North American retailer, and as an independent bookseller. She lives in Toronto.



Anthony Bidulka Mystery Guest

Anthony Bidulka's mystery series tells the story of a half-Ukrainian, half-Irish, Saskatchewan, ex-farm boy, ex-cop, gay, world-travelling, wine-swilling, wise-cracking Canadian prairie private eye living a big life in a small city.

The Russell Quant series is a multi-award nominee including for the Crime Writers of Canada Arthur Ellis Award, ReLit Award, and Saskatchewan Book Award. The second book in the series, *Flight of Aquavit*, was awarded the Lambda Literary Award for Best Men's Mystery. In 2011, the American

Library Association GLBT Round Table announced its inaugural list of the Best Reads, and in the mystery category, made up of only nine titles, two were Russell Quant books.

Anthony Bidulka has enjoyed time well-spent and misspent in the worlds of academia, accounting, footwear, food services and farming. In 1999, Anthony Bidulka, BA, BEd, BComm, CA, left a decade-long career as a chartered accountant to pursue writing.

The Russell Quant books: *Amuse Bouche* (2003), *Flight of Aquavit* (2004), *Tapas on the Ramblas* (2005), *Stain of the Berry* (2006), *Sundowner Ubuntu* (2007), *Aloha, Candy Hearts* (2009), *Date With a Sheesha* (2010). Being released Spring 2012: *Dos Equis*. Visit Anthony at: www.anthonymbidulka.com



Kelley Armstrong Urban Fantasy Guest

Kelley Armstrong has been telling stories since before she could write. Her earliest written efforts were disastrous. If asked for a story about girls and dolls, hers would invariably feature undead girls and evil dolls, much to her teachers' dismay. All efforts to make her produce "normal" stories failed. Today, she continues to spin tales of ghosts and demons and werewolves, while safely locked away in her basement writing dungeon. She's the author of the New York Times bestselling "Women of the Otherworld" paranormal suspense series and "Darkest Powers" young adult

urban fantasy trilogy, as well as the Nadia Stafford crime series. Armstrong lives in southwestern Ontario with her husband, kids and far too many pets. Her website is www.KelleyArmstrong.com.

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