



## **Spirited Away**

*Cindy Miles*

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Knight Tristan de Barre and his men were murdered in 1292, their souls cursed to roam Dreadmoor Castle forever.

Forensic archeologist Andi Monroe is excavating the site and studying the legend of a medieval knight who disappeared. But although she's usually rational, Andi could swear she's met the handsome knight's ghost.

Until she finds a way to lift the curse, though, love doesn't stand a ghost of a chance.

## **Spirited Away Details**

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Author : Cindy Miles

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## From Reader Review Spirited Away for online ebook

### Karen says

A very easy 'holiday read.' Though as usual with an American author, some things about England and it's customs, she got jarringly wrong. Cream in your tea anyone?! Not in England! Milk or lemon usually! And the well-trained butler calling the heroine 'Lady' he would have called her Miss, especially as she was supposed to be employed by his employer, and therefore an equal to him - and not above him in station. And yes, the english language and american language do have their differences.

However, aside from those and a few other little stand out niggly errors, it was a lovely fantasy romance. It was her first novel, so hopefully she may have ironed out these niggles in her second and subsequent books. As long as you are willing to suspend disbelief, it kept me turning the pages to the satisfactory end. Very enjoyable, and for pure escapism - I will read her others.

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### Jae says

Archaeologist Andrea "Andi" Monroe is excited when she's given the opportunity to excavate at the infamous Dreadmoor Castle, where the legend of the medieval knight, Dragonhawk, has long fascinated historians. Dragonhawk and fourteen of his knights vanished from the castle in the thirteenth century, never to be seen nor heard from again. That is, not seen nor heard except by those familiar with the castle.

Unknown to the outside world, Tristan de Barre and his men still haunt the castle where they were betrayed and killed. Andi knows nothing of the haunting; she's simply thrilled to uncover the bones and artifacts that were revealed when a large tree was uprooted.

While living and working at the castle, Andi eventually meets the aloof Lord of Dreadmoor, a man who never gets close enough to even shake her hand. She finds his behavior odd, but it isn't until she stumbles and nearly passes through him that she realizes the truth--he's a ghost. Andi is convinced the secret to the curse that has held the knights here can be found, if only she looks hard enough. In the meantime, the more time she spends with Tristan, the more attracted she becomes. Too bad he's dead. For Tristan's part, he is quickly becoming enamored of the smart and determined Andrea, even though he knows they have no future together.

When Andi's mentor, Kirk, begins behaving in an odd manner, demanding to see the cache of swords she uncovered, she is taken aback. However, she chalks it up to the stress he's under. Even when some of Tristan's knights swear that Kirk is Erik, the man who murdered and cursed them, Andi doesn't believe it. Instead, she focuses on lifting the curse that will free the man she's come to love, no matter the cost to herself.

As far as paranormal romances go, this was stellar. Characters were delightful, from Tristan and Andrea to the knights and Tristan's stuffy butler. There was mystery and intrigue surrounding the romance, which added depth to the story.

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### Booknut says

**Warning: this book contains high levels of swoonworthy accents.**

### **Leya says**

I found the book fast paced, humorous, and emotional at times. I loved the medieval curse on the knights and I'm hoping that I'll see some of the others with their own books. The hero and heroine were very likable for their part, their needing and chemistry was entertaining but I found that I needed a little more, and I understood the frustration that both had for the lack of physical contact. My favorite character was the butler Jameson, with a close second the young knight Jason.

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### **Susan says**

I would have enjoyed this book if I hadn't read Lyn Kurland's Stardust of Yesterday. I haven't checked the publication dates, but I believe Kurland's came first. Every step of this book was copied from Stardust. From the medieval knight being killed in his own castle and a spell placed over him to never be able to leave, to the ancient butler whose family has always worked for the ghostly lord. The garrison of ghosts, the woman getting angry at the lord and running to a large city and getting mugged by hirelings of the bad guy...I was reading a bad version of Stardust...

My problem is that I read so many books, that I forget which bad ones I've read and don't realize until I'm too far into the book to stop reading. It's like a train wreck. Hopefully, twice is enough and I will smarten up and not read this one again.

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### **Lisazj1 says**

This is 3.5 stars, just because it was so much fun to read!

Dragonhawk, Lord of Dreadmoor Tristan de Barre (see! Loooooved the name) might be a ghost, but that doesn't stop him from being swoon-worthy enough for Dr. Andrea Monroe to fall for. Or me either, for that matter, LOL. :)

I liked the characters very well, the dead as well as the living. The chemistry and interaction between Andrea & Tristan varies from light & flirty to swoony and pretty damn hot. All with absolutely no touching. Well, not really. But the man had no problem with his words. Nooooo.

There was a thing or two that made me snicker ('chunks of muscles' being the main culprit) but most was well done. The story was interesting enough to keep me engaged. Reading this made me smile a lot, grin at the characters, and get a bit heated at some of Tristan's wooing of his lady. I enjoyed it so much more than I expected. :)

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### **V G Kilgore says**

An archaeologist might be more inclined to fall for the ghost of a 13th Century knight than other women, follow his every barked command and enjoy being called "Wench". And may she enjoy a life with him being

so powerful and forceful.

It was sweet when she thanked him and his garrison for their bravery and strength back then that made the present possible. And a lot of the characters, such as Jameson, Heath, Kate and Jason were passing charming. The constraints of love for and with the non-corporeal was at times poignant.

The mystery was intricate, with all the guessing about identities of medieval skeletons and the spirit that only communicated with Andi, but still a little thin. As much as the reader could deduce, one wonders why Andi didn't sooner.

The dialogue was fun, atmosphere consistent and conclusion inevitable.

I found this book in my local library.

It was a quick, enjoyable read, especially for historical fiction aficionados.

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## **Sarai says**

Tristan de Barre is a ghost haunting Dreadmoor Castle. Andi is an archaeologist who has been sent to unearth some bones discovered on the property.

This book caught my attention because when I saw it out of the corner of my eye, I thought it had something to do with The Wizard of Oz and it was Dorothy and the Tin Man on the cover. Then I read the description and thought it could be cute, so I checked it out.

Essentially, it was cute, but I had some problems with it. Tristan can make himself visible and can appear to be sitting in a chair but can't open a door or catch something before it falls. He can also wear modern clothes and knows how to watch television and talk on the phone but still uses phrases from when he was alive hundreds of years ago. I don't know, there just seemed to be inconsistencies. Overall, I cannot say I would recommend it, unless you are a reader who adores ghost/mortal romances and can handle the parts that don't make sense.

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## **Pamela(AllHoney) says**

A fun read. Nothing to take serious. Just for pure enjoyment.

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## **Bronwyn Rykiert says**

What a fun story, love the idea of it and it worked.

Tristian de Barre and his men were murdered in 1292 and they were cursed by their murderer to roam their home Dreadmoor Keep for all eternity. That was until archaeologist Andi Monroe turned up to excavate a find where an ancient tree had recently fallen in a storm. She has been fascinated for years about the legend of Dragonhawk and his men who had disappeared without a trace. She had actually been there 12 years ago and had been saved by a ghost?, she wasn't sure what she had seen but she had held the memory of the gorgeous warrior she had seen all these years.

Tristian was falling in love with this beautiful mortal and was finding it hard to handle his feelings as he could not keep away from her. Should he share his story with her, will she be able to help him and his men?

He has his trusty man servant Jameison, whose family has looked after him and his men all these centuries and now he has Andi, was she sent here for a reason?

I loved Tristian and I love Andi.

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### **Rachel- Goodbye Borders says**

3.5\* (rounded up for GR)

This was an enjoyable read. Tristan and his knights were murdered (and cursed) in 1292. Fast forward to present day. Andi, a forensic archaeologist, is tasked with excavating a skeleton and weaponry buried underneath a tree that goes uprooted by a storm. What ensues next is a nice mystery. If you like your romance clean, with some paranormal, I would recommend this one.

I will use this book for the time-travel square for Ripped Bodice Bingo. (It fits, kind of- it IS shelved 13 times as time travel on GR).

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### **Carolyn F. says**

Andi is an archeologist contacted to help dig up some remains and medieval weapons at an estate in England. Tristan De Barre and a bunch of his friends were murdered by their foster father and cursed to be ghosts on his land. To never touch, eat, sleep, etc. He can manifest in front of people and as long as they don't touch him, they'd never know he was a ghost. Well, Andi finds out. Unrequited love thing going on. Very sweet romantic story. A little unbelievable ending. And way, way, way too much use of wench with your favorite medieval adjective in front of it. But overall, a cute, fluffy book.

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### **Paranormal Romance says**

Since a chance encounter with a ghostly knight in the younger years, the heroine has eagerly awaited the chance to explore the castle grounds that captivated her for so long. Now, she's got her chance. After a bad storm and an uprooted tree, bones were discovered at the base and the heroine is called in to excavate the site and document the findings. She is to be the only one on location which she thinks is odd but the castle owner is a reclusive man so it makes sense he doesn't want a lot of people wandering around his property. Little does she know that the master of the house is indeed a ghost. Not just any sort of ghost. He's got a consciousness and the ability to chance appearances to hide the suit of armor he was murdered in. But he still has no body and as such can't feel or touch. He knows it's dangerous to have this woman under foot as any encounter could lead to his secret being revealed but the hero is lonely. It's been 700 years since his murder and though he has his fellow knights and the aging butler who he watched grow from a small lad, he can't leave the grounds and so life or in his case death, has become a sad affair. The chance to speak with this enchanting woman is all too good to pass up. She is smart, beautiful and possesses a marvelous sense of humor. She tempts him life nothing else in his world can and it's painful to know he can never be the man she needs. The heroine is on one hand enraptured by the discovery of bones and swords under the tree but she is in equal measure captivated by the lord of the castle. He is a giant of a man and his accent is to die for. But he acts like she has the plague, not even offering to help her up from a fall. It doesn't take long for her to discover the truth and though the idea that this larger than life man could be a ghost is shocking, she is just as excited to know about the paranormal. Life at the castle is grand. She makes friends with the knights also

murdered with the hero, and she enjoys everything the property and the company have to offer. Including the growing affections between herself and the hero. But she is haunted by another spirit, one without true form and whom only she can hear. It leads her to clue after clue, trying to direct her towards something she's not quite sure what. But whatever it is, it will save the hero. Now, an old enemy has resurrected into the body of her mentor and father figure and with each passing step she gets closer and closer to solving the riddle. But that means she's closer to losing the hero and the idea is tearing her apart.

I was surprised by this book. I will honest and say I expected a throw any read. Something I could read on auto pilot and still get the gist of. But, I actually found I was enjoying myself. I appreciated the actual forbidden/ impossible love between the hero and heroine. It was not like other ghostly romance novel as the hero didn't suddenly have a corporal body and in fact, almost 90% of the book was the hero and heroine having zero psychical contact, instead, they focused heavily of the growing love and affections. I found the characters to be interesting but rather predictable. Though I didn't do mind it as I was enjoying the overall story. I felt the drama and the angst between the hero and heroine because of the restrictions of their romance but I could have stood for even more drama. There was humor and the butler in particular was a constant source of dry witty comments and that prickly affection he bestrode on everyone around him. All and all, I thought this was good showing. So far, what I've read from this author seems to be all middle of the rating scale sort of books. Nothing horrible but nothing spectacular either. I'm still waiting to be wowed by a ghostly romance and will see if this series can deliver.

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### **Kim says**

This is excellent! All the English history of the 12th century is wonderful and lots of handsome knights who are also ghosts.... the love story is funny and engaging.

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### **Debbi Skeen says**

I loved it! It was a page turner for me. feel good romance. If it makes you smile, read it! yes, ok, I'm a sap.

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