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INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED WANDMAKER CREATES A BOLD NEW FANTASY ADVENTURE;

*THE CALEDON CRYSTAL* BY ANNETTE M MUSTA, THE NEW MUST-READ FANTASY SERIES, FOLLOWS IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ROWLING, PAOLINI, AND TOLKIEN.

Renowned Wandmaker and writer, Annette M Musta, has burst onto the fantasy scene with her first novel, the thrilling fantasy adventure *THE CALEDON CRYSTAL*. Set in a modern world of magic, *THE CALEDON CRYSTAL* is an epic battle between good and evil that threatens to take over our own non-magical world.

Emrys Aureus is the Keeper of the Crystal – a precious jewel that holds Time captured within its facets. Whoever has the Crystal will control Time. For six thousand years the Salien, the magical people of North America, have protected the Crystal and Time itself from their enemy, Caerth Malus. The Crystal has been handed down from Keeper to Keeper in an unbroken chain. Now the Crystal is missing and Emrys must find it before the Caerth Malus or one of his terrifying henchmen, the Lemures, claim it for their own dark purposes.

Joining Em on her time travelling quest are her two closest friends, Phoenix Shamalan, a poor kid from the wrong side of the tracks, and Kaitlin Tyler, one of the wealthiest girls in the world. Both Phoenix and Kaitlin harbor their own family secrets and must face their own fears if they are to succeed. As they hopscotch through time and exotic locations, they are chased by a menacing phantom of untold power.

Filled with fascinating characters, swordfights, battles, beasts, and magic, *THE CALEDON CRYSTAL* brings together the best of the fantasy genre. Ms. Musta adds a new dimension to some old favorites while creating a rich new magical world.

“I have loved fantasy all of my life,” Ms. Musta says. “In *THE CALEDON CRYSTAL*, I have drawn together all of the favorite parts of the fantasies I read as a child, mixed them up, added the spice of the Crystal and Time travel, and served them up in an enthralling new way.”

In an unusual twist, the hero is a young woman. “Women tend to be underrepresented in fantasy, they are usually the love interest, the muse, or the smart sidekick,” Ms. Musta explains. “I wanted a strong character that men and women, girls and boys could relate to.”

Em is certainly not your typical girl. “She has been raised to be a leader. She has trained her whole life to become a powerful Wizard, one who could take on the darkest, vilest of villains,” Ms. Musta says. “Em must decide what kind of world she wants to live in and then make it happen. That is true power.”

*THE CALEDON CRYSTAL* diverges from the formulaic “David and Goliath” approach of most fantasy literature where the hero is David.

“Em is David in a way - she is young and must shoulder an incredible burden,” Ms. Musta explains. “But the Salien are definitely Goliath. They are a superpower involved in a multi-front and, at times, shadowy war. Some of their opponents are other superpowers and others are small bands of fighters with their own agenda.”

Ms. Musta wanted to explore how a superpower conducts a war. What sacrifices are the Salien, and especially Em, willing to make? What moral and ethical codes are they willing to break to defeat the evil that threatens to overtake them? How will their actions affect the world in which they live? What will Em do if she gains absolute power? How will it change her?

“This is the central question of the series - Can you defeat evil without releasing a new evil into the world? Can a sophisticated society fight absolute evil without losing a part of their souls to the darkness?” Ms. Musta says. “These ideas are only briefly introduced in THE CALEDON CRYSTAL but they will be a dominant theme in the War of the Crystal series.”

Ms. Musta knows fantasy. For the past eight years she has channeled her creative energy into her online business, The Wand Shop. She is known internationally as “The Wandmaker” for her intricately handcrafted Wizard Wands. Ms. Musta laughs, “Yes, I am a Wandmaker. I always wanted a wand but they aren’t easy to find. So I taught myself how to make wands. Now I have several wands that are my own. And I have made thousands of wands for wizards and humans all around the world.”

Positive response to THE CALEDON CRYSTAL has been building and is about to explode with the launch of an innovative viral marketing campaign that will lead intrepid “Questors” on their own real life quest for a replica Caledon Crystal.

Annette M Musta is erudite and energetic. She is available for interviews.