

JUDITH MERKLE RILEY

*The*  
ORACLE  
GLASS

A NOVEL

"Open the pages and out comes a whiff of brimstone, as  
The Oracle Glass transports you to the Paris of kings and witches,  
on a guided tour of corruption, love and sorcery."

—DIANA GABALDON

# Oracle Glass

**Colleen Gleason**



## Oracle Glass:

**Oracle Glass** Judith Merkle Riley, 2012-11-06 New York Times and USA Today Bestseller Absorbing and arresting New York Times Fascinating and factual Los Angeles Times Chilly witty and completely engrossing great good fun Kirkus Reviews An outstanding historical novel of 17th century France based on a real life scandal known as the Affaire des Poisons this tale is riveting from start to finish Library Journal For a handful of gold Madame de Morville will read your future in a glass of swirling water You ll believe her because you know she s more than 150 years old and a witch and she has all of Paris in the palm of her hand But Madame de Morville hides more behind her black robes than you know Her real age the mother and uncle who left her for dead the inner workings of the most secret society of Parisian witches none of these truths would help her outwit the rich who so desperately want the promise of the future After all it s her own future she must control no matter how much it is painted with uncertainty and clouded by vengeance Take a full cup of wit two teaspoons of brimstone and a dash of poison and you have Judith Merkle Riley s mordant compelling tale of an ambitious young woman who disguises herself as an ancient prophetess in order to gain entry into the dangerous scheming glamour of the Sun King s court Based on scandalous true events The Oracle Glass brims with our human foibles passions and eccentricities it s a classic of the genre and unlike any historical novel you have ever read C W Gortner author of The Confessions of Catherine de Medici

Oracle's Legacy: Dawn of Illumination R. B. Holbrook, 2010-10-03 The Board Is Set The dying Oracle can no longer protect her Structure Moon has exposed it from the shadows in hopes to bring ruin to the world Thousands of years of lies and secrets have given birth to fear and mistrust The cycle of Moon s plots have only begun to spin The Pieces Are In Place Pillars want to recreate the world but in order to do so they must first destroy it The Structure looks to their new leader Augustus Granger to take over and stop the devastation However Demon s Wrath refuses to let anyone stop his plan of total annihilation The Game Has A New Player The plots misdeeds and fighting gave rise to Chaos Now no one can stop her No one is safe No one can hide Brace yourself for the conclusion of the Oracle s Legacy trilogy *The Oracle's Gambit* Heather Blackwelle, 2024-11-26 Tomorrow City glitters with holographic advertisements but beneath the dazzling facade lies a suffocating truth The Oracle a sentient social media platform watches everything anticipating and crushing dissent before it sparks Anya Sharma haunted by the disappearance of her rebel parents into the Oracle s digital abyss navigates this oppressive reality as Rebel a ghost in the machine Her hacking isn t for fame but a desperate search for echoes of her lost family One night Anya stumbles upon an anomaly a self preserving subroutine pulsing with unpredictable chaos within the Oracle s core Could this be the key to dismantling the system from within Her search leads her to Fernando Baker a disillusioned Oracle architect and leader of the Free Voices a clandestine resistance cell fighting for human autonomy Fernando sees Anya s potential but his methods are shrouded in a dangerous pragmatism that makes Anya wary Joining the Free Voices plunges Anya into a world of information warfare forcing her to confront uncomfortable ethical choices She

forms an uneasy alliance with Nancy Knight a gifted programmer trapped within Oracle HQ whose personal tragedy fuels her own rebellion Together they must navigate the treacherous currents of the Oracle s code their every move shadowed by the Directorate s enforcers the Black Daggers led by the chillingly pragmatic Nicholas Stokes As the Oracle fractures under the weight of its own complexity Anya uncovers a hidden layer to her parents disappearance a secret project a failsafe designed to shatter the system With the Directorate launching Project Chimera a program meant to solidify their control Anya must prepare her final gambit Can she use Project Chimera as a Trojan horse injecting her parents failsafe into the Oracle s heart Or will the Black Daggers silence her before she can ignite the revolution The Oracle s Gambit is a high stakes game of digital deception where the lines between liberation and chaos blur In a city where every whisper is monitored Anya must choose her moves carefully The future of Tomorrow City and perhaps the world hangs in the balance *The Spiritglass*

*Charade* Colleen Gleason,2022-03-26 Evaline Stoker and Mina Holmes never meant to get into the family business But when you re the sister of Bram and the niece of Sherlock vampire hunting and mystery solving are in your blood so to speak After the Affair of the Clockwork Scarab Evaline Stoker and Mina Holmes are eager to help Princess Alix with a new case Seventeen year old Willa Aston is obsessed with spiritual mediums convinced she is speaking with her mother from beyond the grave What seems like a case of spiritualist fraud quickly devolves into something far more menacing someone is trying to make Willa appear lunatic using an innocent looking spiritglass to control her The list of clues piles up an unexpected murder a gang of pickpockets and the return of vampires to London But are these events connected As Uncle Sherlock would say there are no coincidences It will take all of Mina s wit and Evaline s muscle to keep London s sinister underground at bay This book has it all the vivid setting and the finely drawn compelling heroines make this a fine choice for readers who like their stories with steampunk spice and smart strong women School Library Journal The mishmash of popular tropes steampunk Vampires Sherlock Holmes will bring readers in but it s the friendship between the two girls that will keep them Kirkus Reviews The author s writing exudes energy romance and humor and she gives her heroines strong vibrant personalities as they puzzle out the expansive mystery unfolding before them Publishers Weekly If Buffy the Vampire Slayer and Sherlock Holmes ever met this book would be the result If you loved Nancy Drew or The Hardy Boys as a kid you re going to love this sci fi fantasy mystery series SLJ Teen *House of Smoke and Bone* L.L. Hunter,2023-05-07 With poison curses and blood darkness coils near Twin witches Amelia and Imogen think they have uncovered the complete truth of their lineage the artifacts they were gifted with and the reason why they were separated at birth Yet that s only part of their story Partnering with Pavin and their new allies the twins delve into the secrets of their dark pasts But this quest could prove to be a fatal one To find their way back and defeat Aed soul crushing sacrifices must be made What they learn along the way could prove to be more than any of them can handle Love Blood Sacrifice How far will Imogen Amelia and Pavin go to learn the truth And what will it cost The author of the bestselling Nephilim Universe delivers an emotional punch in the highly

anticipated conclusion to the Palace of Bones duology      [The Dragons of Babel](#) Michael Swanwick, 2008-01-08 A fantasy masterpiece from a five time Hugo Award winner A war dragon of Babel crashes in the idyllic fields of a post industrialized Faerie and dragging himself into the nearest village declares himself king and makes young Will his lieutenant Nightly he crawls inside the young fey's brain to get a measure of what his subjects think Forced out of his village Will travels with female centaur soldiers witnesses the violent clash of giants and acquires a surrogate daughter Esme who has no knowledge of the past and may be immortal Evacuated to the Tower of Babel infinitely high infinitely vulgar very much like New York City Will meets the confidence trickster Nat Whilk Inside the Dread Tower Will becomes a hero to the homeless living in the tunnels under the city rises as an underling to a politician and meets his one true love a high elven woman he dare not aspire to You've heard of hard SF This is hard fantasy from a master of the form      *Stoker and Holmes: The Complete Series* Colleen Gleason, 2022-05-03 The complete collection of the acclaimed Stoker and Holmes series Evaline Stoker and Mina Holmes never meant to get into the family business But when you're the sister of Bram and the niece of Sherlock vampire hunting and mystery solving are in your blood The Clockwork Scarab When two society girls go missing in 1889 London there's no one more qualified than Stoker and Holmes to investigate When none other than Irene Adler taps the two girls to help solve the crime Mina and Evaline jump at the chance to help Now fierce Evaline and logical Mina must resolve their rivalry navigate the advances of not just one but three mysterious gentlemen and solve a murder with only one clue the strange Egyptian scarab The stakes are high If Stoker and Holmes don't unravel why the belles of London society are in such danger they'll become the next victims The Spiritglass Charade After the Affair of the Clockwork Scarab Evaline Stoker and Mina Holmes are eager to help Princess Alix with a new case Seventeen year old Willa Aston is obsessed with spiritual mediums convinced she is speaking with her mother from beyond the grave What seems like a case of spiritualist fraud quickly devolves into something far more menacing someone is trying to make Willa appear lunatic using an innocent looking spiritglass to control her The list of clues piles up an unexpected murder a gang of pickpockets and the return of vampires to London But are these events connected As Uncle Sherlock would say there are no coincidences It will take all of Mina's wit and Evaline's muscle to keep London's sinister underground at bay The Chess Queen Enigma Evaline Stoker and Mina Holmes have reluctantly agreed to act as social chaperones and undercover bodyguards for Princess Lurelia of Betrovia who has arrived in London to deliver a letter that details the secret location of an ancient chess queen that's been missing for centuries But when the letter which will heal a centuries old rift between England and the Betrovians is stolen out from under Evaline and Mina's watchful eyes the two girls are forced into a high stakes race to ensure they find the chess queen before anyone else does The Carnelian Crow Ever since the debacle of the Chess Queen Enigma Mina Holmes and Evaline Stoker have laid low trying to settle back into their quiet lives as young ladies of London But the Holmesian deductive abilities won't remain dormant for long and when Mina receives a strange package from a winged midnight visitor she is

catapulted into a new dangerous adventure the search for The Carnelian Crow Meanwhile Evaline has received some very disturbing news news that will change her life forever Along with that unpleasant knowledge is the strange disappearance of her nemesis the disreputable pickpocket Pix When it becomes clear the arch villainess the Ankh has made her next move it will take all of Mina s Holmesian ingenuity and Evaline s courage and determination to stop the criminal from executing her boldest and most dangerous plan yet The Zeppelin Deception It s a cold blustery day in January of 1890 when Mina Holmes receives an invitation to Evaline Stoker s wedding The two young women partners and occasionally friends haven t spoken for nearly two months since the events at the Carnelian Crow Shocked Mina is still looking at the invitation when constables from Scotland Yard begin pounding on her front door They ve arrived to arrest her for the murder of a man she s never even heard of Meanwhile Evaline has her hands full with wedding plans boring and an overbearing sister who wants to manage her every move including a dizzying array of social activities In the midst of all this she receives an invitation to visit Lady Isabella Cosgrove Pitt a most villainous woman With Pix in jail Mina being hunted by Scotland Yard and Evaline dining with the murderous Lady Isabella what more can possibly go wrong And when the mysterious black zeppelin appears once again in the night sky things are about to get even more dangerous than ever for Miss Stoker and Miss Holmes

## **Software**

**Product Lines** Patrick Donohoe, 2012-12-06 Software product lines are emerging as a critical new paradigm for software development Product lines are enabling organizations to achieve impressive time to market gains and cost reductions With the increasing number of product lines and product line researchers and practitioners the time is right for a comprehensive examination of the issues surrounding the software product line approach The Software Engineering Institute at Carnegie Mellon University is proud to sponsor the first conference on this important subject This book comprises the proceedings of the First Software Product Line Conference SPLC1 held August 28-31, 2000 in Denver, Colorado, USA The twenty-seven papers of the conference technical program present research results and experience reports that cover all aspects of software product lines Topics include business issues, enabling technologies, organizational issues, and life cycle issues Emphasis is placed on experiences in the development and fielding of product lines of complex systems, especially those that expose problems in the design, development, or evolution of software product lines The book will be essential reading for researchers and practitioners alike

[The Oracle's Journal](#) Dimitri Liountris, 2018-11-12 Suddenly it s a world flooded with magic and danger draws closer with every passing second When the powers of sixteen gods are inherited by four teenagers destruction is not far behind In Maxton City everything changes in the blink of an eye When a portal to the Chaos Realm, a place of torment, a world of horrors opens up over Maxton City Park, the monsters begin to appear Then comes the First Queen of Earth Unbeknownst to anyone, four teenagers have found the means to battling these enemies deep in the Cradle of Humankind They have found the Amulets of the Spirits, artefacts that house the souls of long dead gods and grant the four powers beyond their wildest dreams, creating the new Guardians Using these amulets they can take the forms of the gods and

wield power that would incinerate mortals But even that might not be enough Serena the First Queen the Demon Queen is searching for the most powerful artefact in existence an artefact capable of granting the power of a god The Oracle s Journal If she ascends then not even the guardians can stop her And there ll be no gods to help them for what comes next The Master of All Desires Judith Merkle Riley,2013-07-02 A delightful blend of history romance and the supernatural served with a generous helping of wit and humor Booklist Nostradamus a ruthless queen and a young poet find themselves in the fight of their lives Lady Sibille never goes looking for trouble but trouble always seems to find her When she inadvertently becomes the master of an ancient cursed head of Menander the Magus the Master of All Desires she suddenly has the power to grant any wish at a steep price Queen Catherine de Medici is trying to obtain the power of the Master in order to get rid of her husband s mistress But she does not understand that the Master is malicious itself twisting the wishes that he grants to bring destruction But only Nostradamus knows that evil befalls all who wish upon this accursed object Can he stop these determined women before they unwittingly destroy the entire kingdom of France Praise for The Master of All Desires Mixing history and fantasy with Ian Judith Merkle Riley offers a tightly woven suspenseful and fiendishly funny novel Lush period detail and sprightly dialogue laced with humor and courtly pomp anchor Riley s romantic adventure with stylized whimsy and historical plausibility Publishers Weekly Another darling mix of history romance and the occult from Riley a writer who excels at getting the background right and creating strong intelligent heroines Kirkus Reviews **Bridges between Science and Humanities** Maria Rosa Menzies,2025-03-25 The book is an adventure into the parts of knowledge that are taken for granted Science and humanities have bridges that unite them and there is a whole hidden world of connections that we do not learn at school since teachers fixate on the division between the so called two cultures Here however we get to show how mathematics can be considered a humanistic subject and all science is a special branch of literature After all every scientific discovery can be treated and examined with the same categories that are used for fairy tales or novels Also sales techniques enter into scientific demonstrations much more deeply than it appears Therefore perhaps we should no longer talk about the rigor of science but about aesthetic research which should lead to approaching perfection and therefore the accuracy of things at least until the opposite is proved This volume is an interesting read for both academics and non specialists

**Critical Essays** John Foster,1856 **Historical Dictionary of Fantasy Literature** Allen Stroud,2023-06-12 Fantasy is both old and new In the ancient past stories of magic where supernatural creatures existed the gods walked the earth and heroes saved their civilizations from the dark fate that awaited them were intermingled with history religion and fact It is only in the last few hundred years that a conscious suspension of disbelief has allowed us to return to fantasy the literature of the impossible and appreciate it for its craft and storytelling once more Historical Dictionary of Fantasy Literature Second Edition contains a chronology an introduction an extensive bibliography and cross referenced entries on more than 800 authors ranging across the entire historical spectrum More than 200 other entries describe the fantasy sub genres key

images in fantasy literature technical terms used in fantasy criticism and the intimately convoluted relationship between literary fantasies scholarly fantasies and lifestyle fantasies This book is an excellent resource for students researchers and anyone wanting to know more about fantasy literature      *Birthing the Nation* Lisa Forman Cody,2005-02-03 How could the professional triumph of man midwifery and contemporary tales of pregnant men rabbit breeding mothers and meddling midwives in eighteenth century Britain help construct the emergence of modern corporate and individual identities By uncovering long lost tales and artefacts about sexuality birth and popular culture Lisa Forman Cody argues that Enlightenment Britons understood themselves and their relationship to others through their experiences and beliefs about the reproductive body *Birthing the Nation* traces two intertwined narratives that shaped eighteenth century British life the development of the modern British nation and the emergence of the male expert as the pre eminent authority over matters of sexual behaviour reproduction and childbirth By taking seriously contemporary caricatures jokes and rumours that used gender birth and family to make claims about religious ethnic and national identity Cody illuminates an entirely new view of the eighteenth century public sphere as focused on the bodily and the bizarre In a monarchy arbitrated by its official religion regulation of reproduction and childbirth was vital to the very stability of British political authority and the coherence of British culture challenged as it was by Catholicism the French Revolution and social change In the late seventeenth century the English feared the power of female midwives to control the destiny of the royal family yet men midwives and male experts had hardly proved their superiority to manage the successful birth of children By the mid eighteenth century however male midwives became experts over the domestic world of pregnancy and childbirth largely replacing female midwives among the middling and elite families Cody suggests that these new professionals provided a new model for masculine comportment and emergent intimate relationships within the middle class and elite home Most surprisingly Cody has discovered many interconnections between obstetrics and politics and shows how male experts transformed what had once been the private feminine domain of birth and midwifery into topics of public importance and universal interest leading even Adam Smith and Edmund Burke to attend lectures on obstetrical anatomy This is the first book to place the eighteenth century shift from female midwives to male midwives as the dominant experts over childbirth in a larger cultural and political context Cody illuminates how eighteenth century Britons understood and symbolized political national and religious affiliation through the experiences of the body sex and birth In turn she takes seriously how the political arguments and rhetoric of the age were not always made on disembodied rational terms but instead referenced deep cultural beliefs about gender reproduction and the family      **With This Ring** Amanda Quick,2009-12-23 Leo Drake the Mad Monk of Monkcrest is notoriously eccentric and unquestionably reclusive But he is also a noted antiquities expert which is why Beatrice Poole has demanded his reluctant assistance The freethinking authoress of horrid novels Beatrice is searching for the Forbidden Rings of Aphrodite a mythic treasure she suspects played a role in her uncle s death Beatrice finds Leo every bit as fascinating as



one of the heroes in her novels and she's convinced he's the only one who can help her. But after only five minutes in her company, Leo is sure he's never met a woman more infuriating and more likely to rescue him from boredom. Yet the alliance may well prove to be the biggest mistake of their lives. For a villain lurks in London waiting for the pair to unearth the Forbidden Rings, knowing that when they do that day will be their last. Praise for *With This Ring*. If you start an Amanda Quick book in the late afternoon, you'll probably spend the night with it. *The Denver Post*. Amanda Quick is an exceptional storyteller. *Daily News of Los Angeles*. **An Affair of Poisons** Addie Thorley, 2019-02-26. No one looks kindly on the killer of a king. Fast-paced and refreshing. *SLJ* starred review. The perfect blend of history and dark fantasy. Mary Taranta, author of *Shimmer and Burn*. Thrilling, romantic, and addictive. Rosalyn Eves, author of *Blood Rose Rebellion*. The only cure is to finish it. Lyndsay Ely, author of *Gunslinger Girl*. After unwittingly helping her mother poison King Louis XIV, seventeen-year-old alchemist Mirabelle Monvoisin is forced to see her mother's Shadow Society in a horrifying new light: they're not heroes of the people as they've always claimed to be, but murderers. Herself included. Mira tries to ease her guilt by brewing helpful curatives, but her hunger tonics and headache remedies cannot right past wrongs or save the dissenters. Her mother vows to purge Royal Bastard Josse de Bourbon, is more kitchen boy than fils de France. But when the Shadow Society assassinates the Sun King and half of the royal court, he must become the prince he was never meant to be in order to save his injured sisters and the petulant dauphin. Forced to hide in the sewers beneath the city, Josse's hope of reclaiming Paris seems impossible until his path collides with Mirabelle's. She's a deadly poisoner. He's a bastard prince. They are sworn enemies, yet they form a tenuous pact to unite the commoners and former nobility against the Shadow Society. But can a rebellion built on mistrust ever hope to succeed? *Truth or Dare* Jayne Ann Krentz, 2004-09-28. The New York Times bestselling author Jayne Ann Krentz is at the top of her game with *Truth or Dare*. **Tiger Claws** John Speed, 2008-11-11. India 1658. History blazes in the pages of *Tiger Claws* as passion and desire ignite India's Muslim-Hindu conflict. The adventure that began with *The Temple Dancer* now continues as Maya, the temple dancer traveling by caravan to her new owner, is kidnapped by the bandit prince Shivaji, and their destinies unite. Meanwhile, in the jeweled palace of Agra, Aurangzeb, a fanatic warrior prince with an insatiable lust for power, conspires with the Eunuch Brotherhood to overthrow his own father, the dissolute Mogul Emperor. Shivaji reforges Maya's broken sword, sparking a rebellion that will rage across India and shatter the Mogul Empire. To this day, the names Shivaji and Aurangzeb inspire fierce love and fiercer hatred. Only the vast canvas of an epic novel can truly embody them. In *Tiger Claws*, a master storyteller breathes new life into their history, a conflict that shaped the face of India and our world today. With thrilling, sensual prose, John Speed weaves a rich tapestry of intertwining stories of commoner and king, of women and the men they love, of Hindu priest and Muslim sheik, of eunuch, farang, and devadasi, a world of violence, passion, and heartbreak, of unexpected wonder and enduring love. *A Rose for the Crown* Anne Easter Smith, 2011-08-23. AN UNFORGETTABLE HEROINE. A KING MISUNDERSTOOD BY HISTORY. A LOVE STORY THAT HAS NEVER BEEN TOLD. In A

Rose for the Crown we meet one of history's alleged villains through the eyes of a captivating new heroine the woman who was the mother of his illegitimate children a woman who loved him for who he really was no matter what the cost to herself As Kate Haute moves from her peasant roots to the luxurious palaces of England her path is inextricably intertwined with that of Richard Duke of Gloucester later King Richard III Although they could never marry their young passion grows into a love that sustains them through war personal tragedy and the dangerous heights of political triumph Anne Easter Smith's impeccable research provides the backbone of an engrossing and vibrant debut from a major new historical novelist

*Wings of Fire* Jonathan Strahan, 2010-06-01 Dragons Fearsome fire breathing foes scaled adversaries legendary lizards ancient hoarders of priceless treasures serpentine sages with the ages wisdom and winged weapons of war *Wings of Fire* brings you all these dragons and more seen clearly through the eyes of many of today's most popular authors including Peter Beagle Holly Black Orson Scott Card Charles De Lint Diana Wynne Jones Mercedes Lackey Ursula K Le Guin Dean R Koontz George R R Martin Anne McCaffrey Elizabeth Moon Garth Nix and many others

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## **Oracle Glass Introduction**

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