

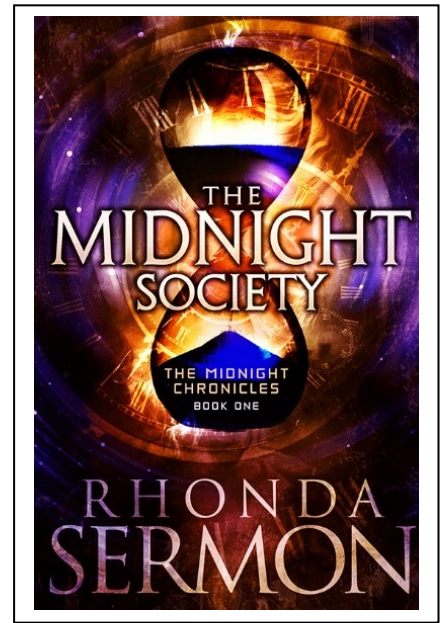
Media Kit

Young Adult Fantasy Author

Rhonda Sermon

This Media Kit is available to download. Please visit www.RhondaSermon.com

The Thrilling First Installment in WA Author Rhonda Sermon's Award Winning Young Adult Urban Fantasy Trilogy is available now.



Rhonda Sermon is an Amazon Bestselling Author. Her award winning debut YA Urban Fantasy novel, *The Midnight Society* was released worldwide on 31 May 2016 and became an instant best seller on Amazon. The first book in *The Midnight Society Chronicles Series* follows fifteen-year-old Cate as she discovers a secretive and brutal world filled with magic and time travel. The *Midnight Society* is an elite group who travel through time and battle the powerful dark forces intent of manipulating history. When Cate accidentally brings a dead cheerleader back to life, her connection to them is revealed. A reluctant Cate is forced into their world which is dominated by a centuries-old battle between two mortal enemies which.

The Midnight Society was a finalist in the Young Adult category and overall runner up in *The Strongest Start 2012 Contest* hosted by *TheNextBigWriter.com*. Rhonda is one of very few independent Australian authors whose novel is available worldwide through all major online retailers. *The Midnight Society* is available in ebook, paperback and hardcover and is distributed Ingram International and Amazon.

Introduction

Rhonda grew up in the picturesque, if not slightly windy and rainy west Australian country town of Albany. At seventeen she moved to the thriving metropolis of Perth and completed her commerce degree at the University of Western Australia while they were still completely free. Rhonda entered the glamorous world of accounting. With her chartered accounting certificate under her arm she set off to travel the world as climb the corporate ladder. All of which went pretty smoothly. After 17 years in the corporate world she announced out of the blue one night to her husband she was going swap her spreadsheets for prose and write a book. She was determined to write a book which teens and their parents would all enjoy reading. A book filled with action, adventure, magic and also history. The history take needed to be fresh and interesting.

Seven years on and four manuscripts later she has achieved that with the international release of her debut young adult urban fantasy novel *The Midnight Society*. In a fabulously strategic decision, (or possibly just lucky), she chose to write young adult fantasy. Her two children are now exactly the right age to read her debut YA urban fantasy novel *The Midnight Society*.

Rhonda is one of the growing number of authors choosing to self publish their work. All that business experience came in very useful. Her debut novel is available internationally in paperback, hardcover and ebook format. The second book in *The Midnight Chronicles Series* - *The Midnight Elites* will be released in Late 2016.

Appearances

Rhonda is available for speaking engagements, interviews, and appearances. Think television, radio, your local book club, school, library and community events. Schools, book clubs and library talks are a favourite of hers. If your newspaper or magazine is looking for a witty article laced with just a smidch of satire, Rhonda is your go to person. She is an excellent resource if you would like to interview an author on the innovative and challenging self publishing route compared to traditional publishing. She also writes book reviews. For obvious reasons her favourite books to review are young adult books. She reads tonnes of these in the name of research and staying current with the market.

Author Bio

The Short Version

Rhonda lives in Perth, Western Australia with her husband and two children. Her two ragdoll cats can often be found helpfully walking over her keyboard, chasing her mouse or generally complaining loudly about the lack of priority their needs are being given. On the good days, she adores writing, on the challenging days, it's still awesome. Her debut novel *The Midnight Society* was a finalist in the Young Adult category and overall runner up in The Strongest Start 2012 Contest hosted by TheNextBigWriter.com

The Long Version (Which I suggest you read with a drink and snack.)

Rhonda was born and raised in a small country town in Western Australia surrounded by the most beautiful beaches in the world, although sadly the weather provided more rainy days than sunny.

After high school she headed to the city and after four years studying at University, which was completely free back then, she studied a little more and set off with her Chartered Accountant Certificate under her arm to travel the world doing all things financial, which she found fun and interesting. Please don't hold that against her. To this day she remains pretty much all travelled out, which many people find incomprehensible.

One evening, shortly after the arrival of her second child she announced to her very understanding and supportive husband, her decision to swap spreadsheets and numbers for chapters and prose. This was followed by the bold and impossibly naive statement she was going to write a book. And just like that she was hooked.

At an age well over 21 she found something she was passionate about and truly loved. That first novel still sits on her computer – cringe worthy to the trained eye, but a reminder of not only how far she has come, but also to never be afraid to try something new.

Working from home can be very distracting, with the television, free WiFi, two very entertaining ragdoll cats and a multitude of things to clean and organize. That is Rhonda's excuse for writing in coffee shops. When she isn't writing, her time is spent playing taxi to her children, making school lunches and planning what to cook for dinner. An unfortunate accident in her first Tae Kwon Do class which resulted in six weeks immobile in plaster, followed by six months of rehabilitation now has her committed to watching her children in their Tae Kwon Do classes to research new fight moves for her characters.

On the good days, she adores writing, on the challenging days, it's still awesome.

Her debut novel *The Midnight Society* was a finalist in the Young Adult category and overall runner up in The Strongest Start 2012 Contest hosted by TheNextBigWriter.com.

Rhonda now lives in Perth, Western Australia with her husband and two children. Her two ragdoll cats can often be found helpfully walking over her keyboard, chasing her mouse or generally complaining loudly about the lack of priority their needs are given.

AUTHOR PHOTO



Photos are available in high and low resolution as well as colour and black and white. Please email Rhonda on Rhonda (at) RhondaSermon (dot) com for copies.

Interview Resources

Seven Fun Facts about Rhonda Sermon—Because no one has more than seven actually fun facts to share.

1. Rhonda failed English in her last year of high school. She was an excellent student other than that.
2. Rhonda completed her entire Commerce degree at University without turning on a computer. Truly. There was no email when she started work and laptops were the size of an enormous suitcase. LOTUS 1-2-3 ring a bell with anyone? (Google it)
3. Rhonda spent her summer holidays during university teaching swimming lesson at the beach, often in the rain, dressed in a full length wetsuit each morning. She worked in a cafe every afternoon and waitressed at the local Chinese restaurant every night. To this day she doesn't know which dish has the crunchy noodles and which has the soft noodles.
4. Rhonda spent so much time travelling the through her twenties she remains all travelled out today. Something no one can really comprehend.
5. Rhonda sings very loudly in the car and tends to get a bit carried away with her chair dancing. A true child of the eighties she grew up loving Duran Duran, Madonna and Kylie Minogue. Her music taste never matured. She now listens to a lot of Taylor Swift, One Direction and Five Seconds of Summer while she writes.
6. Rhonda decided to take Tae Kwon Do lessons as research for her book. She tore her achilles tendon in her first lesson and spent six weeks in plaster and was required to have her foot higher than her heart for at least twelve hours a day for that entire six weeks. Which is much harder than it sounds. She also had to crawl everywhere at the insistence of her surgeon. There was a method to his madness. It made for a much quicker rehabilitation. Her tae kwon do career ended before it started. Both her children on the other hand are now black tip martial artists, and are well on their way to earning their black belts. Silver lining there.
7. Rhonda lost over half her body weight two years ago after the doctor explained she was very unhealthy on the inside and unlikely to live to a very old age. Fifty kilograms down and she's healthier and happier than ever before now. You will often find her writing in very stylish active wear now. Just because she can!

Fast Facts about Rhonda Sermon the Person

1. Rhonda is an Australian author. She has a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Western Australia and is a Chartered Accountant. She taught horse riding classes to children through high school and was a qualified aerobics instructor for a total of three classes at University. There was just too much lycra involved for her to take it seriously.
2. Rhonda has been a stay-at-home mum for the last nine years. The transition from her carefully scheduled days with everyone at the office doing exactly what she asked when she asked to having a schedule that may as well not exist it changes so much and no one doing anything that she asks, *ever* was a challenging one. It still is. With a tween and a teen in the house things are probably going to get worse before they get better. That's assuming that things will actually get better and order will be restored out of the chaos of getting everyone to school, then home, then to afterschool activities and the dreaded homework. She hated homework at school and can't believe she has to suffer through it again.
3. Rhonda feels passionately about building strong communities and volunteers her time to mentor small business owners within her local community. It puts her seventeen years of experience in the corporate world to good use and gets her out of her writing chair into the real world. It's also fun.
4. As a mother of two active children surrounded by technology in a world moving at an exponential pace supporting realistic expectations and goals for children and teens is important to her. Rhonda is passionate about promoting children embracing creative and wellness activities that will see them gain useful, practical and long term life skills. She has a special interest in encouraging creative pursuits to reduce stress and anxiety in young people.

The Two Whys and One How of Rhonda's Writing - (Short and sweet)

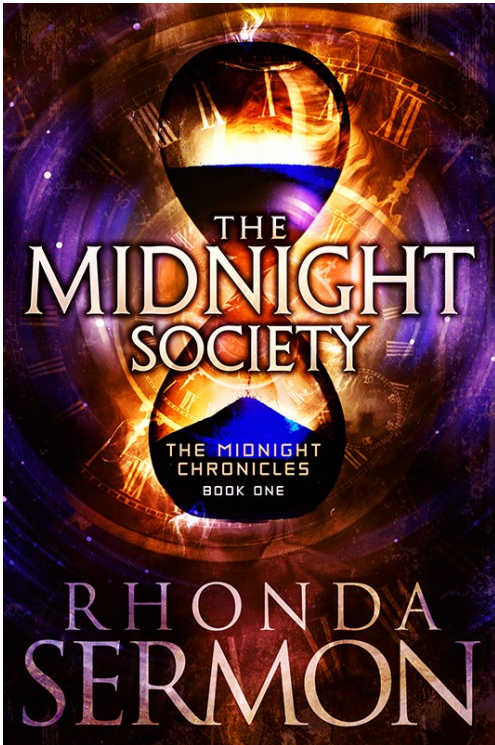
Why did Rhonda start writing? The company Rhonda worked for had just been acquired by a multinational. They wanted her to move overseas and take a big promotion. She had no desire to travel or move her family, and she had had her fill of big corporations in her early years of work. While she enjoyed finance, her husband loved his occupation and her kids were so young. A change was needed. She had always loved reading and the idea she might enjoy writing a book just popped into her head. She gave it a go and surprisingly loved it. It fitted perfectly with the chaos of her family life.

Why did Rhonda choose YA fantasy? Rhonda's first novels were actually women's fiction. There were inspired by all the hysteria surrounding the Twilight movies. Rhonda convinced a friend of hers who hadn't read a book in twenty years to try Twilight and she read it in a day and then came back and read the next three. Her friend's daughter had never been that interested in books, but she sat on the couch each day and read with her mother. Rhonda thought how fabulous it would be to be able to reignite someone's love of reading and also ignite a love of reading in their child for the first time. She decided that she wanted to write a story that teens and their parents could both enjoy. A story that had adventure, action and magic, but also explored the themes of family, friendships, first love, betrayal, sacrifice, loyalty, the devastation of war, fighting for the greater good in different ways. Most importantly it needed a cracking plot with unexpected plot twists from beginning to end. It was important that this was a book parents *and* teens could read and discuss together. Young Adult Urban Fantasy it was.

How did Rhonda get started with her writing? After Rhonda announced rather naively one night she was going to write a book. She did just that. It was dreadful. Until she started writing she thought show and tell was something her children did in school, passive voice was something a wimp used and point of view – well she always had one - but had never been required to commit to maintaining it for an entire conversation. She joined a fabulous online writing group. TheNextBiggestWriter.com . She wrote, reviewed other peoples work and researched writing. Over and over again. She also read well over a hundred YA novels. She wrote some more and some more and finally after writing at least a million words The Midnight Society was complete.

ABOUT THE MIDNIGHT SOCIETY

The Cover



Synopsis

**THE DAY CATE ACCIDENTALLY BROUGHT A DEAD CHEERLEADER BACK TO LIFE
EVERYTHING CHANGED...**

Fifteen-year-old Cate is seeing things. A ridiculously charismatic boy just appeared out of thin air, disarmed a bomb at a busy bus stop and then vanished again. Everyone around her was oblivious because they were frozen like statues the entire time.

Cate has stumbled into an invisible war in a realm filled with dark magic and time travel. She is now being stalked by not one, but two dangerous wizards.

When her brother disappears, a terrified Cate is forced into the brutal world where she must risk her life to search for him. There she is faced with the most unimaginable decision.

This YA Urban Fantasy is an action-packed, swoony, page turner with an intricately plotted story set in an amazing new world.

The Writing

The Midnight Society is the first book in The Midnight Chronicles Series which follows fifteen-year-old Cate as she discovers a secretive world filled with magic and time travel. The Midnight Society travel through time and battle the powerful dark forces intent of manipulating history.

Not only does Rhonda's book offer abundant action and suspense, but it also tackles the themes as family, friendships, first love, betrayal, sacrifice, loyalty, the devastation of war, fighting for the greater good, and promises to leave readers thinking hard about what truly matters in life. Rhonda has created believable and engaging characters. There are interesting and unexpected plot twists from beginning to end. Nothing and no one is as they seem. Readers will be hungry for more.

PRAISE FOR THE MIDNIGHT SOCIETY

Amazing Debut for Young Adults

Sermon does a wonderful job of exploring the complexities of time travel and how along with some magic it can alter reality. For Cate that means waking up to find that the life she remembers never happened for anyone else.

Cate is a spunky character, and I love that she's strong enough, physically and emotionally, to take care of herself. She definitely has her weaknesses and her limitations, but she's willing to doing everything she must to take care of the ones she loves - **Angela Fristoe USA Today Bestselling Author**

Great start to the series

I love time related storylines even if most of them end up with unexplainable logic gaps. With this being more urban fantasy than sci-fi, the author was able to create her own rules that created a unique and fun storyline! I really enjoyed the characters and their interactions kept me on my toes, especially when it came to the romance aspects. Having basically two parallel storylines that eventually converge was very well done. I was intrigued from the moment the future storyline was introduced and I was really glad he author was able to pull everything together into a satisfying ending! I'm eager to read the next instalment of the series. **Delsheree D. Gladden USA today Bestselling Author**

Read this delightfully original debut novel that is packed full of great characters and lots of action

This book follows Cate, a normal teenager--so she thinks. Right away in the first chapter, strange events and people surround her. Before long she's on a whirlwind, trying to figure out who's real and who's surfing through time, who's on her side and who isn't. In some places, Cate isn't even sure what side she's on. Read this delightfully original debut novel that is packed full of great characters and lots of action. **Linda Ulleseit - Author**

WHAT READERS ARE SAYING ABOUT THE MIDNIGHT SOCIETY

“Captivating”

“Amazingly well written.”

“The best way I’ve EVER seen time travel handled”

“My new favourite fantasy novel.”

“What a page turner!!”

“Absolutely loved Cate’s story and desperately want her hair!”

“This was an amazing book! Well written, plot was excellent and not predictable. Recommended for all!”

“Fantastic book for teens - exciting, funny and well written. It comes highly recommended.”

“I read this book before letting my 13 year old son read it and loved it. Couldn't wait to get back to it each night. Great storytelling and realistic characters, plus a style that draws you in straight away. My son loved it just as much and asked when the next book is coming out because he wants to read it right away.”

“This book is absolutely amazing, once I started reading it I couldn't put it down!! It's very captivating. It's one of the best books I have read in a long time and I can't wait to read more books from Rhonda Sermon! I highly recommend purchasing this book - You won't regret it!!”

PURCHASE LINKS

The Midnight Society is available worldwide in ebook, paperback and hardback from your favourite online retailer. The ebook is exclusive to Amazon and Free on Kindle Unlimited. Purchase sites include:

Amazon : <https://amzn.com/B01EO2CBUG>

Barnes & Noble : <http://bit.ly/TMSbn>

Book Depository: <http://bit.ly/TMSBookdep>

It is also available from bookstores throughout Australian, United States, Canada and United Kingdom.

EXCERPTS FROM THE MIDNIGHT SOCIETY

Excerpt 1

“I brought a dead cheerleader back to life,” she blurted.

Naitanui’s luminous yellow eyes widened.

“I probably would have gone with ‘hello’ to break the ice. But that was definitely another option,” Austin said.

“Where am I?” Cate demanded.

“You’re outside the Break,” Austin said.

“You could have killed her.” Naitanui gave Austin a look Cate was all too familiar with. Her mother used it often. It came with an ‘I’ll deal with you later’ clause.

“But I didn’t. We found her. I couldn’t risk her vanishing.”

“Inside.” Naitanui stepped backwards through the cascading water.

“Huh?” Cate pulled back, digging her heels into the ground and crossing her arms. The water didn’t splash on Naitanui’s head. He had passed through the waterfall, leaving it undisturbed. Until Austin did some explaining, she wasn’t going to take a step further.

“Have it your way.” Austin bent and grabbed her behind the knees, then slung her over his shoulder.

“Put me down.” She pounded on his back with her fists. Unperturbed, he strode toward where Naitanui had disappeared. A shudder ran through her, and before she knew it, the waterfall was behind them. They’d walked straight through and arrived dry on the other side. She stretched to touch the water, and her fingers glided through nothing. Another shudder ran up her arm, yet it remained dry.

“It’s a glamour.” Austin set her down. “More magic.” He strolled farther into the cave, heading for an opening in the rock wall. The slightest hint of light filtered through the gap.

She looked from Austin to the waterfall, deliberating whether to run away or follow.

“You can’t go back to two thousand and fourteen without me. Come and learn about time travel.” Austin ducked through the archway. “You demanded I bring you here for answers, so man up and come get them.”

Little puffs of red dirt rose as she marched after him. *Time travel. What the hell?*

Excerpt 2

Cate landed spread-eagle on the ground. The damp grass sent shivers down her spine but soothed her burning cheek. She spat out the grass and dirt that somehow ended up in her mouth.

“It gets worse before it gets better.” Austin helped her up. “Watch your thoughts. Think before you, well...think.”

She tugged her arm a few times, trying to escape the death grip Austin had on her. “If you’re rifling through my brain with your little Time-Jedi tricks, stop it.” At this rate she wouldn’t have a brain to rifle through, it was taking such a beating.

“I can’t read your mind, happy?”

She was light years away from happy. “How do you travel through time like that?”

“It’s a combination of magic and science. Your body dematerialises—”

“No! You look like you’ve stepped from one room to another.” She smoothed her hair and removed a few blades of grass. “I look like I’ve been pulled through a tornado.”

He chuckled as he plucked random plant matter from her hair. His broad shoulders blocked the sun, which outlined him with its silver glow. As his hand ran through her hair, tingles shimmered over her scalp. “I’ve been surfing for longer than you’ve been alive. It takes practice.”

She swatted his arm away. “What, so now you’re a century old, immortal, magical time traveller who’s frozen forever at sixteen?”

“Whoa! Big leap there. I’m nineteen, but I’ve been timesurfing since before I could walk. My mum, who *is* an immortal, hid out in a different time each week until I was five. She had a relationship that went bad.”

“Your mother’s an immortal?”

“Keep up.”

Cate decided to ask the question she was dreading the answer to.

SOCIAL MEDIA

You can connect with Rhonda Sermon on Social Media here:

Website: www.RhondaSermon.com

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/rhondasermonauthor>

Instagram: <https://instagram.com/rhondasermonyaauthor>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/RhondaSermon>

Goodreads: <https://www.goodreads.com/RhondaSermon>

PAPERBACK AND HARDCOVER DISTRIBUTION ENQUIRIES

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Ingram will arrange for retailers to purchase The Midnight Society direct from their Melbourne operations.

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