PLOT SUMMARY



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THE HAUNTING OF SUNSHINE GIRL by Paige McKenzie with Alyssa Sheinmel; Weinstein Books; Trade Paperback Fiction; \$9.99; On Sale February 2016; 320 pages; Ages 11 and up; ISBN: 9781602863026

Shortly after her sixteenth birthday, Sunshine Griffith and her mother, Kat, move from sunny Austin, Texas, to the rain-drenched town of Ridgemont, Washington. Though Sunshine is adopted, she and her mother have always been close, sharing a special bond filled with laughter and inside jokes. But from the moment they arrive, Sunshine feels her world darken with an eeriness she cannot place. And even if Kat doesn't recognize it, Sunshine knows that something about their new house is just ... creepy.

On their first night in Ridgemont, Sunshine is awakened by the sound of footsteps coming from above, followed by a child's ghostly laughter. In the days that follow, things just get more frightening. But Kat seems oblivious to the terror, insisting that Sunshine's imagination is getting the best of her. Determined to prove her mother wrong, Sunshine begins taking photographs, desperate to catch evidence of the supernatural presence. At her new school Sunshine meets Nolan Foster, a cute—if slightly bookish—classmate. Nolan also has a passion for photography—and, more importantly, for ghosts. He offers to help Sunshine figure out exactly what's going on.

What they uncover is a story that's much bigger and runs deeper than they could have imagined. She can hardly believe it, but as the spirits haunting her house become stranger—and it becomes clear that Kat is in danger—Sunshine learns that everything she thought she knew about her past has been wrong.

THE AWAKENING OF SUNSHINE GIRL by Paige McKenzie with Alyssa Sheinmel; Weinstein Books; Hardcover Fiction; \$16.00; On Sale March 2016; 320 pages; Ages 11 and up; ISBN: 9781602862746

It's been a few months since Sunshine saved her mother from a demon and learned that she's part of an ancient race destined to protect and assist human spirits. But instead of becoming more controllable, her powers are spiraling out of her control. When a mentor arrives and offers to help teach Sunshine how to harness her Luiseach gifts, she agrees to travel to Mexico to start her training. But Mexico turns out to be even creepier than the home she left behind in Ridgemont, Washington, and Sunshine can't escape the chill of uneasy spirits nearby.

At least she's found a friend in Lucio, another young Luiseach at the training center. But when Lucio makes it clear he wants to be more than friends, Sunshine has to decide how she really feels about Nolan back home in Ridgemont. Did she ruin everything between them when she left? And will she ever see him again? Sunshine has so many questions but instead of helping, her mentor is challenging her at every turn, pushing her in ways that nearly break her. As her training and the stakes of each test rise, it becomes clear that Nolan is in danger and Sunshine is determined to help him. But if her destiny is to repair the rift that threatens the future of the Luiseach and the human race, can she also save the people she loves?