

Wonders of the Invisible World

By Christopher Barzak

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The captivating Stonewall Honor-winning novel of love, family, and ghosts of the past

Aidan Lockwood lives in a sleepy farming town, day after unremarkable day. But when Jarrod, his former best friend, suddenly moves back home, Aidan begins to see clearly for the first time—not only to feelings that go beyond mere friendship, but to a world that is haunted by the stories of his past. Visions from this invisible world come to him unbidden: a great-grandfather on the field of battle; his own father, stumbling upon an unspeakable tragedy; and a mysterious young boy, whose whispered words may be at the heart of the curse that holds Aidan’s family in its grip.

Now, Aidan must find his way between the past and the present to protect those he loves, and to keep the invisible world at bay.

Stonewall Honor Winner


★ “The unpredictability of curses, magic, and love are inexorably entwined in this gracefully written story.” —*Publishers Weekly*, Starred

“The complexity of the pairing of real and the unreal . . . is striking, and rather haunting.” —Tor.com

“A wonder itself—a coming-of-age, coming-out, and crossing-into-the-mystic novel all rolled into one.” —Tom McNeal, National Book Award finalist for *Far Far Away*

“Brilliant storytelling that unearths new intersections of love and magic.” —Scott Westerfeld, bestselling author of *Uglies* and *Zeroes*

“If you don’t want a book with magic, mystery, lying parents, ancient curses, and true, true love (plus wonderful writing), then I’m not sure I care to know you. But if you do, then *Wonders of the Invisible World* is the book you’ve been waiting for.” —Karen Joy Fowler, author of *The Jane Austen Book Club*

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 9 Up—Aiden Lockwood is a 17-year-old farm boy drifting through his unremarkable life when Jarrod returns to their small town and long-buried memories begin to surface. Aiden is confused about why he cannot remember details from when he and Jarrod were best friends in middle school. Aiden slowly realizes that buried along with his memories were his unique abilities to see the future, the past, others' dreams, and more sinister visions, such as the moment of death. His mother is also a seer with abilities similar to Aiden's; she seems to know all but tells her son the bare minimum. Aiden's brother and father are blissfully unaware of anything beyond the material world. Through visions, the teen travels through time to see his paternal relatives and learns unsettling things about the Lockwood family history. The more Aiden finds out, the more he wants to know. When tragedy strikes, Aiden become more determined to find answers, so he and Jarrod embark on a journey for the truth to Lily Dale, NY (a famous town of Spiritualists). This story has plenty of appeal and potential and offers a twist on the typical paranormal romance—while a sincere, thoughtful LGBT relationship is important to Aiden's character development, it isn't the central focus of the book. Unfortunately, other key characters are not developed fully. The pacing of the narrative is also slightly off-kilter. VERDICT An additional purchase.—Tara Kehoe, New Jersey State Library Talking Book and Braille Center, Trenton

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—*Publishers Weekly*, Starred

“Part ghost story, part love story, this page-turner is a captivating exploration of the power of place, family, memory, and time itself.” —*Kirkus Reviews*

“Barzak expertly balances magical realism, historical flashbacks, and contemporary teen romance in Aiden’s journey of self-discovery.” —*Booklist*

“The complexity of the pairing of real and the unreal . . . is striking, and rather haunting.” —Tor.com

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About the Author

Christopher Barzak's fiction includes the award winning adult novel, *One for Sorrow*, which was recently made into the major motion picture, *Jamie Marks is Dead*, the Nebula Award finalist, *The Love We Share*

Without Knowing, and the short story collection *Before and Afterlives*, which won the Shirley Jackson Award. Christopher grew up in rural Ohio, has lived in a southern California beach town, the capital of Michigan, and has taught English outside of Tokyo, Japan. Currently he teaches fiction writing in the Northeast Ohio MFA program at Youngstown State University. Learn more about Chris at christopherbarzak.com

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Lee Rutledge:

This Wonders of the Invisible World book is not ordinary book, you have it then the world is in your hands. The benefit you obtain by reading this book is information inside this book incredible fresh, you will get facts which is getting deeper you actually read a lot of information you will get. That Wonders of the Invisible World without we comprehend teach the one who reading it become critical in contemplating and analyzing. Don't become worry Wonders of the Invisible World can bring if you are and not make your case space or bookshelves' become full because you can have it inside your lovely laptop even phone. This Wonders of the Invisible World having great arrangement in word in addition to layout, so you will not truly feel uninterested in reading.

Nathaniel Gonzalez:

A lot of people always spent their own free time to vacation or perhaps go to the outside with them household or their friend. Did you know? Many a lot of people spent they will free time just watching TV, or playing video games all day long. If you wish to try to find a new activity that's look different you can read a new book. It is really fun to suit your needs. If you enjoy the book that you simply read you can spent the whole day to reading a guide. The book Wonders of the Invisible World it is quite good to read. There are a lot of people who recommended this book. These people were enjoying reading this book. When you did not have enough space to deliver this book you can buy often the e-book. You can m0ore quickly to read this book from the smart phone. The price is not too expensive but this book features high quality.

Vicki Head:

Wonders of the Invisible World can be one of your basic books that are good idea. All of us recommend that straight away because this book has good vocabulary which could increase your knowledge in vocabulary, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nevertheless delivering the information. The article writer giving his/her effort to set every word into satisfaction arrangement in writing Wonders of the Invisible World but doesn't forget the main place, giving the reader the hottest in addition to based confirm resource information that maybe you can be certainly one of it. This great information can easily drawn you into fresh stage of crucial pondering.

Carol Rosborough:

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