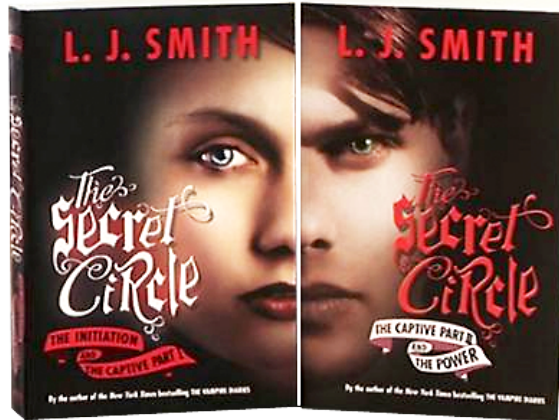


THE SECRET CIRCLE TRILOGY

Have You Felt the Magic?

By Staff Writer: Jessica Sherman



Cassie Blake sat quietly on a beach in Cape cod listening to the eternally full of herself Portia Bainbridge go on and on-as usual about her and her older brothers many accomplishments. She was counting the days one painful second at a time until she could get back home to her real friends. She had no idea she was about to come face to face with her destiny.

“They shouldn’t let people like that on the beach, He works on a *fishing* boat,” Portia said, her nostrils flared as if she smelled something bad. “I saw him this morning on the fish pier, unloading. I don’t even think he’s changed his *clothes*. How utterly scuzzy and vomitous.” He didn’t look all that scuzzy to Cassie. He had dark red hair, and he was tall, and even at this distance she could see that he was smiling.” There was a dog at his heels. “We never talk to guys from the fishing boats. We don’t even look at them,” Portia said. One by one Cassie watched the girls on the beach as they looked away from the guy with disgust plain on their faces. Cassie saw nothing disgusting about him. He wasn’t bothering anyone. “Look *down*,” Portia whispered. Without thought, Cassie obeyed but she couldn’t help wanting to rebel. She knew it was nasty and cruel and she was ashamed of being a part of it. It was just so unfair she thought.

“A wet nose thrust under her hand. Cassie gasped in surprise and laughed. Petting the dog she couldn’t help but glance up at the owner. His eyes were blue-gray like the sea at its most mysterious. His face was odd; not conventionally handsome, but arresting and intriguing, with high cheek bones and a determined mouth. “*Cassie*,” came Portia’s fuming hiss. Cassie felt herself turn red, and she tore her eyes away from the guy’s face. Portia was looking apologetic. The boy called the dog to his side and Cassie thought again it isn’t fair. The boy’s voice startled her. “*Life* isn’t fair,” he said. Shocked, her eyes flew up to his face. His own eyes were as dark as the sea in a storm. She saw that clearly, and for a moment she was almost frightened, as if she had glimpsed something forbidden, something beyond her comprehension. But powerful.” – The Initiation

In a matter of days Cassie is moved against her will to her mother's hometown of New Salem to stay with her ailing grandmother that she'd never met. With thoughts of the mysterious boy from the beach never far from her mind Cassie tries to fit in but at her new school she's teased and tormented by what she believes is a gang. The Club consisted of kids that seemed to terrify even the adults in town. When the beautiful and kind Diana steps in to save Cassie from Faye's bullying she's shocked to discover that Diana too, is a member of The Club. With Diana's help Cassie finds that The Club is split by those that follow Diana and those that follow Faye. As Cassie gets closer to The Club she realizes that she's still very much an outsider. But when tragedy stops The Club from initiating their newest member Cassie is initiated instead, opening a whole new world to her. Discovering that The Club is really a powerful coven of witches directly descended from the real Salem witches is just the first of Cassie's initiation surprises. As Cassie daydreams of the boy from the beach he appears before her in the flesh. Her hopes are destroyed when she realizes that he, *Adam*, would never be hers because he was already taken, by *Diana*.

Determined to hide her feelings for Adam from every one Cassie sets her sights on another Club member. The cold blooded Nick with dark eyes and good looks seemed a safe bet. With no interest in anything but cars Cassie hoped to put her attention on Nick to block out her love for Adam. What Cassie didn't count on was the fire that burned beneath the surface. There was more to Nick than she'd ever expected. Cassie is soon faced with Faye and the secret she holds over her. Faye, determined to lead the Club pushes Cassie to her limits, testing her friendship, her strength and her loyalty.

As Cassie navigates her way through her feelings death begins to stalk New Salem as the Club begins to explore one of the Master Tools. The ancient tools used by the original coven hold an enormous amount of power. Deciding what to do with the Master Tools tears the club apart and draws a darker line between Diana and Faye. As Cassie gets caught in the middle, The Club unwittingly unleashes an old evil. Taking on a new face the darkness threatens to destroy the whole town and the coven with it. With the Club divided it's up to Cassie to find her strength and draw on the power that's hers alone to lead the coven into the fight of their lives.

Can you feel the magic? Find it in THE SECRET CIRCLE TRILOGY:

THE INITIATION

THE CAPTIVE

THE POWER