



Threshold

By Caitlin R. Kiernan



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Chance Matthews has suffered enough tragedies. The latest—her grandfather’s death—has left her shaken, convinced that she will always be alone. What she needs now is time—time to recover, time to determine what her future will be.

What she doesn’t need is a strange girl with alabaster skin who knows things about Chance she can’t possibly know.

This girl speaks of being charged by an angel to battle monsters and claims she cannot do it alone. She says she needs Chance’s help.

Chance doesn’t believe in angels. Or monsters. But among the artifacts left by her geologist grandparents, there lies a fossil of a creature that couldn’t possibly have ever existed.

But it did.

And still does...

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Threshold By Caitlin R. Kiernan Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Silk (2001), Kiernan's first novel, established her as a leading exponent of the generation-X horror story. This ambitious sophomore effort is a bold step backward: a distinctively modern tale that invokes cosmic terrors redolent of past masters H.P. Lovecraft and Algernon Blackwood. Set in present-day Birmingham, Ala., the novel centers on Chance Matthews, a promising young paleontologist left bereft by the recent deaths of friends and family. Chance and ex-boyfriend Deke Silvey, a loser with latent psychic powers, wallow in self-destructive angst until they're sought out by Dancy Flammarion, a strange teenage girl who claims to be pursued by monsters. Details of Dancy's wild story inexplicably jibe with an anomaly Chance finds in the fossil record, and a pattern gradually emerges that points to an inconceivably ancient entity surviving from Earth's prehistory that is consciously shaping their lives and miseries to suit its inscrutable purposes. Kiernan rises to the challenge of evoking incomprehensible horrors by skillfully deploying symbols that suggest much more than they show. Her oblique and dreamy prose style slows the narrative to a torpid crawl in spots, but ultimately contributes to the thick atmosphere of dread that supports the novel's weird events and sustains its mood of inarticulable terror. A finale that veers unexpectedly from a seemingly inevitable display of supernatural fireworks to a subtly disarming denouement only underscores the intelligence behind this carefully crafted tale of awe-inspired nightmare.

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From Library Journal

Still trying to come to grips with the recent deaths of her grandparents and her best friend, paleontologist Chance Matthews encounters Dancy Flammarion, an albino girl who claims to see monsters. As Chance questions the mysteries of her tragic past, she begins to believe Dancy's outlandish stories and realizes that she must face a monster that is all too real and too deadly to defeat alone. The author of *Silk* creates an eerie and moving tale of ancient terror and modern-day angst that should appeal to mature young adults and adult fans of horror.

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From [Booklist](#)

To begin with, Chance is stoned in the April rain. Then her story jumps forward several months. Her grandfather has died, leaving her the house her great-grandfather built. Now without a family, and not knowing what she is going to do, she meets Dancy, a strange albino girl who claims to have been sent by an angel to battle monsters and who recites from a battered copy of *Beowulf*. Dancy needs Chance's help, because the monsters are somehow connected to a certain trilobite that Chance's grandmother had been studying just before she killed herself. Kiernan's prose is tough and characterized by nightmarish description. Her brand of horror is subtle, the kind that is hidden in the earth's ancient strata and never stays where it can be clearly seen. *Regina Schroeder*

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Arthur West:

Have you spare time to get a day? What do you do when you have considerably more or little spare time?

Sure, you can choose the suitable activity intended for spend your time. Any person spent their own spare time to take a wander, shopping, or went to the actual Mall. How about open or maybe read a book entitled Threshold? Maybe it is to become best activity for you. You understand beside you can spend your time with your favorite's book, you can smarter than before. Do you agree with it has the opinion or you have other opinion?

Linda Young:

A lot of people always spent their own free time to vacation or even go to the outside with them family or their friend. Do you realize? Many a lot of people spent they free time just watching TV, or maybe playing video games all day long. In order to try to find a new activity that is look different you can read a book. It is really fun in your case. If you enjoy the book which you read you can spent the entire day to reading a guide. The book Threshold it is extremely good to read. There are a lot of folks that recommended this book. These folks were enjoying reading this book. In case you did not have enough space to bring this book you can buy the actual e-book. You can m0ore effortlessly to read this book through your smart phone. The price is not to fund but this book provides high quality.

Jose Suh:

People live in this new moment of lifestyle always attempt to and must have the time or they will get wide range of stress from both way of life and work. So , once we ask do people have free time, we will say absolutely of course. People is human not a robot. Then we ask again, what kind of activity are you experiencing when the spare time coming to an individual of course your answer can unlimited right. Then do you ever try this one, reading books. It can be your alternative throughout spending your spare time, the particular book you have read is definitely Threshold.

Haley Berg:

Playing with family inside a park, coming to see the sea world or hanging out with friends is thing that usually you will have done when you have spare time, in that case why you don't try factor that really opposite from that. A single activity that make you not experience tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you already been ride on and with addition of information. Even you love Threshold, you may enjoy both. It is good combination right, you still would like to miss it? What kind of hangout type is it? Oh come on its mind hangout folks. What? Still don't understand it, oh come on its called reading friends.

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