

About the Author



Sandy Lender

Sandy Lender began writing stories as soon as she learned to string words together on the page. As a child, she entertained the folks in her great grandmother's apartment building in Southern Illinois with tales of squeaky spiders and mice picking berries, and then won contests and awards with short stories and writing projects as she moved through the elementary and high school systems all over the St. Louis area.

It was apparent that a career in journalism was her calling, and she found herself proofreading, editing, and (finally) writing for trade publications after she graduated from Truman State University in Missouri. Now she serves in the publishing and public relations fields during the day and writes fiction at night, keeping house in Southwest Florida where her love of sea turtles and all things related to the ocean waters keeps her imagination growing.

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SORCERERS, DRAGONS, MONSTERS, MAGICK...

Not even the gods noticed when Chariss was born with the mark of The Protector. Now she and her wizard guardian seek shelter from a mad sorcerer in a household not just full of secrets and false hope, but watched by the god who will unwittingly reveal her role in an impending war.

When an orphan sets aside a lifetime of running and fear to accept the responsibilities of guarding an arrogant deity, can she face the trials in the prophecies she uncovers? Will Nigel Taiman of her latest refuge dare to use his dragon heritage to bind her to his estate or to help her in her duty?

"Choices Meant for Gods is without a doubt the freshest most engaging high fantasy novel to come out in years and breathes new life into a tired genre. The characters leap off the page and the plot is lightning quick and deftly written with many layers that tease the mind and imagination. Choices Meant for Gods is not a mere novel; it is a gorgeous piece of written art. I can hardly wait for the second book!"

Jamieson Wolf, *Linear Reflections*
Author of *Hope Falls*, *Electric Pink*,
Electric Blue, and *Garden City*

"In Choices Meant for Gods, Sandy Lender takes her readers of fantasy fiction by the hand and leads them through an exciting world filled with sorcerers, gods, goddesses, dragons, and other mythical creatures. Through the use of interesting characters and clever dialogue ("Try not to think, Nicolas. You look so much more handsome when you're bewildered."), she weaves a spell of magic and fantasy. The only problem for the reader may occur at the end of the book when they find themselves wanting more and discover they will have to wait for book two!"

Gary R. Hoffman, Author for Short Story
Anthologies including *Seven By Seven*
and *Never Safe*

"Lender masterfully weaves multi-dimensional characters and an intriguing plot into her addicting fantasy world. Choices Meant For Gods will keep readers turning pages and leave them savoring the epic tale long after they've finished reading it."

M. B. Weston, Author of *A Prophecy Forgotten*



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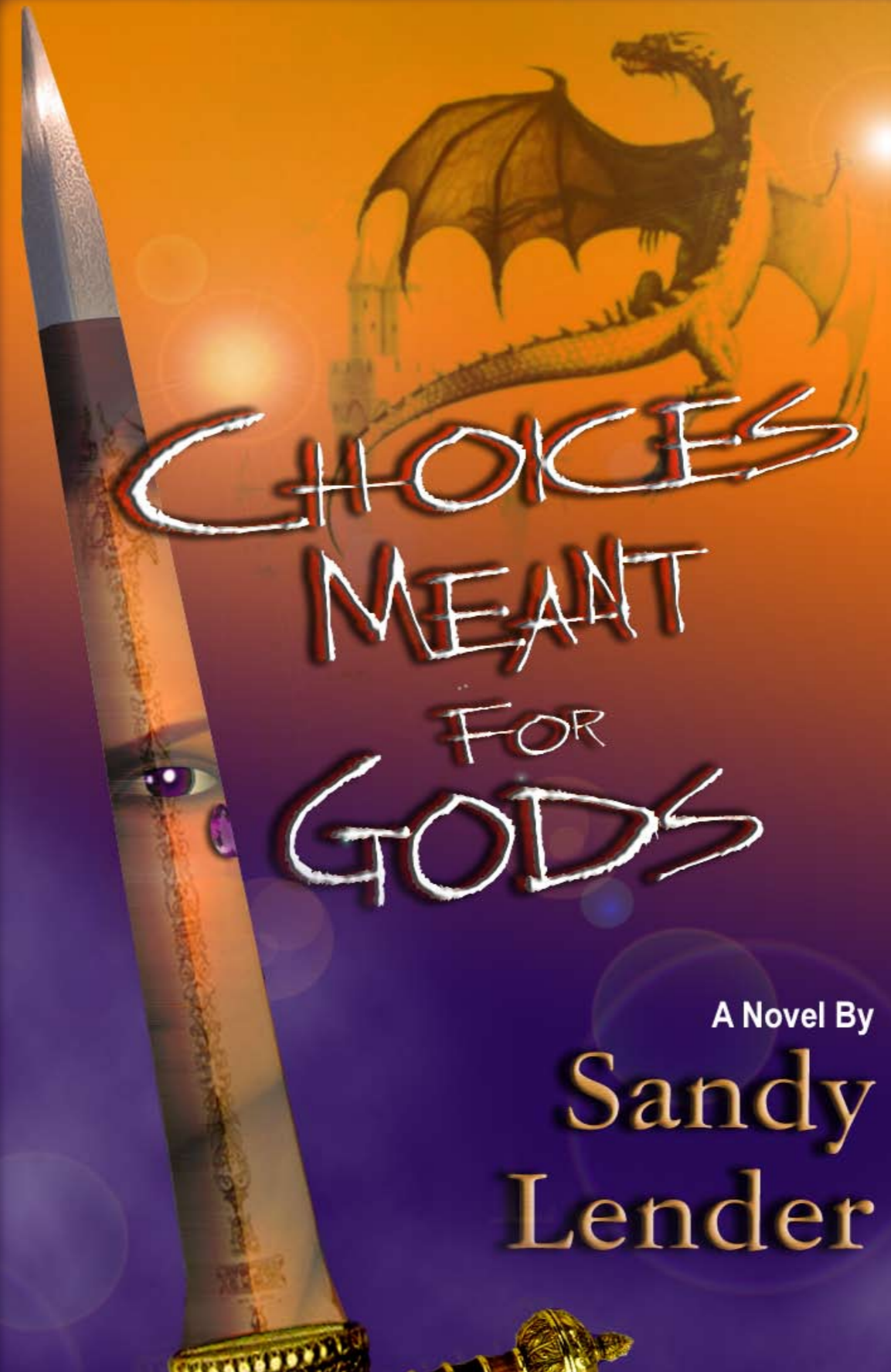
CHOICES MEANT FOR GODS



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Excerpt...

Chariss ran the few paces to the obedient girl and stood between her and the bend in the road. She stood with her feet shoulder-width apart and her arms raised to cock the bow before her. Hrazon had pushed his way through the people blocking the doorway now and heard the roar of something large down the lane. He looked at his girl standing there posed like a warrior. Her thin arms bulged with muscle and tension as she stood, waiting, watching, with the bow poised taut against her strength. They all held their breath, wondering what was happening.

A ryfel appeared out of nowhere. It hadn't rounded the bend. It hadn't run up to her. It just materialized before her as if in the training arena. Nigel shuddered when he recognized the beast, and called back into the house, "Henry! My sword!"

He moved back into the entryway to intercept the weapon, and locked eyes with Kora for just a moment. "Go back into the house," he ordered her.

Henry brought his own sword as well, and now the two ran out into the yard where the first beast lay writhing in the throes of death, an arrow protruding from its eye.

It stank.

Rohne had left the horses and buggy in the stable and now ran toward them with a guard of Ungol around him. "Get back in the house!" He shouted. "Get back, all of you!"

Hrazon was involved in weaving a spell and Henry and Nigel were running toward their deaths.

"No! Get back in the house!" The Master ran toward Chariss, but, to everyone's surprise, reached down to grab up Kaylin and run toward the house himself. "Get back in the house!"

The song of another arrow shot through the air and a second ryfel fell from the sky. Rohne had Kaylin under one arm and now grabbed hold of Nigel with his other hand as he ran past the man. Nigel had no choice but to let the god's power lift him back to the porch.

"She needs help!"