



About Erica Cameron

After a lifelong obsession with books, Erica Cameron spent her college years getting credit for reading and learning how to make stories of her own. Erica graduated with a double major in psychology and creative writing from Florida State University. She's worked as a dance instructor, research assistant, pointe shoe fitter, pizza delivery girl, editorial assistant at a yachting magazine, bookseller, tutor, and English literature teacher at a residential rehabilitation center for teens. Now, she has written several series for young adults and is also an advocate for asexuality and emotional abuse awareness. She currently lives in Florida.

The first two books of *The Ryogan Chronicles* (*Entangled Teen*) were Junior Library Guild picks, and **Island of Exiles** also received a starred review from Kirkus and was a finalist for the Bi Book Awards. **Assassins: Discord** (Triton Books), the first book of the Assassins duology, was the winner of the Bi Book Award. Her upcoming works include a new science fiction trilogy, *The Pax Archives*, also from Entangled Teen. **Pax Novis**, the first of the series, released in 2019.



Erica is available for speaking engagements, interviews, and appearances and is also happy to speak to classrooms and other groups via telephone or Skype.



Website ByEricaCameron.com
E-mail Erica@ByEricaCameron.com
Tumblr ByEricaCameron.Tumblr.com
Twitter [@ByEricaCameron](https://twitter.com/ByEricaCameron)
Instagram [@ByEricaCameron](https://www.instagram.com/ByEricaCameron)
Facebook [/ByEricaCameron](https://www.facebook.com/ByEricaCameron)
Pinterest [/ByEricaCameron](https://www.pinterest.com/ByEricaCameron)
Goodreads [/EricaCameron](https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/Er_Cameron)

For additional information, contact:

Melissa Montovani, Entangled TEEN Publicist,
melissa@entangledpublishing.com

Amelia Vaughn, Riptide/Triton Publicist,
amelia.vaughn@riptidepublishing.com

Eric Smith, author's agent at P.S. Literary,
eric@psliterary.com



Speaking Engagements and Interviews

Erica Cameron is available for in-person or Skype visits with classes, book clubs, or any reading or writing group. She is especially passionate about engaging with young adult readers and fostering a love of stories in the next generation of readers. In the past, Erica has worked with teens at a live-in addiction and mental health clinic teaching English literature and managing the school's small library while encouraging the students to learn how to process their thoughts through writing. She can speak, present, and/or guide a discussion on several topics including various writing how-tos and the many paths to publication. In addition, Erica is willing to do a presentation on the impacts of emotional abuse, pulling examples from her work and others, as well as her personal experiences to illustrate how to spot and avoid emotionally abusive or manipulative relationships.



Sample Interview Questions for The Pax Archives

- There's a story that this series was born out of a Twitter conversation about FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS? Is that true? If so, how did you get from football to space opera?
- The Pax Archives is your fifth series and the fifth genre you've delved into. What drew you to science fiction?
- Even though PAX NOVIS takes place primarily on the ship itself, there are sections between chapters exposing readers to the wider universe. What made you choose to structure the book in this way?
- More questions coming soon.

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Amelia Vaughn, Riptide/Triton Publicist, amelia.vaughn@riptidepublishing.com

Eric Smith, author's agent at P.S. Literary, eric@psliterary.com

Erica Cameron, erica@byericacameron.com



Sample Interview Questions for the Assassins Series

- Throughout the two books, family plays a key role, but each character's experience of family is very different. Why did you make this choice?
- Themes of loyalty, trust, independence, family, and love are woven through both books in this series. Given the combative, dangerous nature of a thriller, was this easier or harder to accomplish than in your other books?
- In both books, you make a point of stating characters' identifying labels (bisexual, asexual, intersex, etc.). Why do you believe it's important for authors to do this?
- Assassinations and terrorism are integral to the series. Why create a world like this in a climate already filled with numerous examples of each?
- Blake is barely present for the events of DISCORD yet becomes the narrative voice for NEMESIS. What made Blake a compelling choice to tell this part of the story?
- There are still some unanswered questions at the end of NEMESIS. What do you see happening in this world in the future?



Sample Interview Questions for The Ryogan Chronicles

- From the beginning, The Ryogan Chronicles introduces readers to a lot of new words. How did you develop the languages for the series, and what made you incorporate so many?
- It's clear the society of Sagen sy Itagami isn't based on North American or European models. Where did you draw the inspiration from for the structure and culture of Shiara?
- Your research for this book included something called the Urban Death Project. How did that tie into the world building for this series?
- In addition to diverse sexual orientations, you also included a third gender with established pronouns and relationship dynamics like polyamory and other non-monogamous constructions. Why is this kind of representation important?
- How much pre-planning do you do for a story this sprawling and complex? Does this usually include mapmaking?
- What is it that draws you to writing within the speculative fiction genres?

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Sample Interview Questions for The Dream War Saga

- In most children's and young adult novels, parental figures are noticeably absent or ignorant. *SING SWEET NIGHTINGALE*, includes Mariella's parents Frank and Dana plus Hudson's adoptive grandfather Horace and all three play significant roles in the book. What prompted you to include them so heavily?
- Within the novel, the metaphysics of gemstones and crystals are integral to the survival of your characters. Why use New Age theories and crystals instead of another form of magic?
- The dynamic between Mariella and Orane savors strongly of an emotionally abusive and manipulative relationship. Why choose to depict this kind of relationship in a young adult novel?
- Mariella doesn't quite fit the normal young adult "strong female character" mold. What inspired her portrayal in *SING SWEET NIGHTINGALE*?
- Hudson has suffered more than a few losses in his life and still manages to keep from being completely cynical about the world. Can you talk about what drives his characterization?
- The narrators in your upcoming novel *DEADLY SWEET LIES* identify as lesbian and asexual. Asexuality is only beginning to garner attention, even within the LGBTQIAP+ community. Are you hoping to spread awareness by including it in a young adult novel?



Sample Interview Questions for the Laguna Tides Novels

- Both characters in *TAKEN BY CHANCE* deal with family secrets and grief. What do you hope readers will take away from the lessons Dare and Chance learn?
- How different is coauthoring a series versus writing it alone? Will we see more from you and Lani Woodland in the future?
- Especially at first glance, Chance appears to be practically perfect. Did you make a conscious choice in shaping her character this way?
- Addiction and recovery play a key role in Axl's life in *LOYALTY AND LIES*. How did your experiences working with teens in rehab inform his character?
- The tone and the issues of *LOYALTY* are both darker than those in *CHANCE*. Will the series continue across this spectrum?
- In *DEALING WITH DEVALO*, Brandon deals with an emotionally abusive parent. Why is it so important for this type of dynamic, specifically minus the physical aspect, to be portrayed in books and film?

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