

Windland's War begins.

The Heron

Beth
Tashery
Shannon

THE HERON

Fiction

Publication date: Nov. 30, 2017

Price: \$20.00; \$12.00; \$4.99

Size: 5.5 x 8.5

280 Pages

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Casebound: 978-1-937356-43-9

Trade: 978-1-937356-44-6

ebook: 978-1-937356-45-3

Available from: Ingram Content Group, Amazon, Barnes and Noble; and most online retailers

www.BearCatPress.com/

When the dying Heron refuses to name a successor, the witch of Upthegrove fears the end of the world she knows. An earthquake opens an old treasure trove revealing ritual objects guarded by a wooden changeling that looks like caravan rider, Windland. Domene Ward Jihan is building a military complex that will change the province beyond recognition, but fears supernatural forces will be summoned against him and seeks Windland's help. As his distrust of Windland grows, Jihan compels another to spy for him: Simura, Windland's Domene wife.

Beth Tashery Shannon is a ninth generation Kentuckian, descended from Betsy Shanks Jones, pioneer survivor of the Bourbon County "Shanks massacre," and kin to both General Robert E. Lee and emancipationist preacher Carter Tarrant who narrowly escaped being lynched in Woodford County. She holds graduate degrees in Creative Writing from the University of Kentucky, ancient Egyptian art from the University of Chicago, and British literature—W. B. Yeats—from the University of Kentucky. She worked with the Egypt Exploration Society's excavations at Amarna and helps out at Old Friends Thoroughbred Retirement in Georgetown, Kentucky. Her publications include prose poems in *Chicago Review* and *Pushcart Prize* III and IX, three other novels, and nonfiction in *Amarna Reports IV*, *Approaches to Teaching the Works of Oscar Wilde*, and the Old Friends Blog, oldfriendsblog.wordpress.com.



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