



2246 Sixth Street
Berkeley, California 94710-2219
510.845.8000 phone
510.845.8001 fax

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kat Sanborn
ksanborn@cleispress.com

The Beautiful and the Damned

You don't have to wait for a dark and stormy night to enjoy RED VELVET AND ABSINTHE's exploration of love and lust. Who can resist when seduced by otherworldly partners who, by their sheer fantastical nature, evoke passion and desire far beyond that which any normal human being can inspire?

Although the great Gothic writers such as Bram Stoker, Edgar Allan Poe, and Daphne du Maurier are long dead, these contemporary authors keep the spirit alive and well by interpreting it in new and exciting ways. RED VELVET AND ABSINTHE offers readers a collection of unique and original stories that conjure up the atmospheric and romantic spirit of the masters (and mistresses) of dark words, but take things a bit further by adding to the brew a generous dosage of eroticism. Reading this collection of paranormal romance, you'll feel a shiver in your spine, a sudden breathlessness, a tingle on the back of your neck...or, if you're very lucky, perhaps a little lower down...

"Whatever the setting or the time period or the elements chosen, all these stories embrace the emotional and sensory richness integral to the gothic tale. We don't just read words on a page. We feel the red velvet. We taste the absinthe. We smell the flower and sweat. We hear the whispers and cries. And we experience the thrilling danger, the looming apprehension and the exquisite passion. That is the core of gothic literature and this collection delivers."
—Kelley Armstrong, from the Foreword

"Scintillating and suspenseful, this homage to Gothic fiction is a winner! *Red Velvet and Absinthe* scores with both sexy and scary thrills."
—Caridad Piñeiro, New York Times bestselling author of *The Lost*

"Scorching hot and deliciously sinful, Mitzi Szereto's collection of stories of dark and preternatural hungers will have you panting for more."
—Adrian Phoenix, critically acclaimed author of *The Maker's Song* series

"Run a hot bath, pour a glass of red wine, and slip into this enticing collection of sexy tales."
—Dianne Sylvan, author of the *Shadow World* novels

About the Editor:

Mitzi Szereto is an author and anthology editor of erotic and multi-genre fiction and non-fiction. She has her own blog "Errant Ramblings: Mitzi Szereto's Weblog" (mitziszzereto.com/blog), and a Web TV channel "Mitzi TV" (mitziszzereto.com/tv), which covers the "quirky" side of London. Her books include *Pride and Prejudice: Hidden Lusts*, *In Sleeping Beauty's Bed: Erotic Fairy Tales*, *Getting Even: Revenge Stories*, *The New Black Lace Book of Women's Sexual Fantasies*, *Wicked: Sexy Tales of Legendary Lovers*, *Silk Sheets: Collected Stories*, and the *Erotic Travel Tales* anthologies. She has pioneered erotic writing workshops in the UK and Europe as well as lectured in creative writing at several British universities. A popular social media personality, Wikipedia lists her as the "Queen of Facebook." Originally from the USA, she lives in Greater London.

Red Velvet and Absinthe: Paranormal Erotic Romance

Edited by Mitzi Szereto, Foreword by Kelley Armstrong

\$14.95, trade paperback original

240 pages, 5 1/2" x 8"

ISBN: 978-1-57344-716-4

September 2011

Contact Kat Sanborn, ksanborn@cleispress.com and 510/845-8000