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The darkly enchanting YA fantasy debut that blends gothic mystery, supernatural intrigue, and forbidden romance at a haunted academy.

Eden Blackspell never wanted to return to crumbling Thunder Hall, her late father's ancestral home in the wilds of Dartmoor. Called back for the reading of his will, she stumbles on a chilling sight: the moth-covered corpse of a girl by Hollows Lake—only for it to vanish without a trace. Was it a nightmare, or is something sinister lurking?

Next day, Eden learns she's inherited a fortune to secure her future and pay for her mother's care. But there's a catch: she must spend her final school year at the mysterious Wyndhouse Academy. Here, nothing is as it seems. Students possess uncanny abilities, and the dead girl from the woods was one of them—now officially missing.

As Eden unravels the academy's secrets, she's drawn into the orbit of her enigmatic neighbors, the Holmesworths. Their sons, Wolf and Ace, are as dangerous as they are captivating, and Eden finds herself tangled in lies, forbidden feelings, and perilous truths. When more students disappear, Eden must decide who to trust—before she becomes the next victim. With darkness closing in and the line between friend and foe always shifting, the answer may be more elusive than she imagined...

What really happened by the lake? And who will be next to vanish?

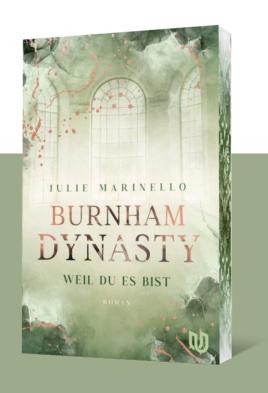


Celine Leonora was born in a small town in the middle of nowhere, from where she could dream herself into any book world. She has lived in Berlin since 2017 and works as a graphic designer and illustrator. On her TikTok channel @afterhourbookclub, she has been talking since 2022 about the books that have enriched her life. When she isn't writing or talking about books, she illustrates her favorite book characters or goes swimming to clear her head.



Celine Leonora 448 pages • 13,8 × 21,9 cm Age: 14+ ISBN 978-3-69086-000-0 11/2025

Love and intrigue: A forbidden love and a deadly secret—where trust can cost everything. The captivating start to the Burnham Dynasty series



Julie Marinello 480 pages ■ 13,6 × 20,5 cm Age: 14+ ISBN 978-3-69086-001-7 11/2025 Cathy Jones wants nothing to do with privilege and power. A scholarship student and outsider at London's elite Velmont College, she dreams of exposing injustice—not sipping lattes with rich kids. After a traumatic incident, her mother sends her to her estranged father, the reserved stable master on the legendary Burnham Estate in southern England.

The Burnhams embody aristocratic perfection: dazzling parties, a sprawling manor, and secrets behind gilded doors. As the stable master's daughter, Cathy is coolly received. She quickly clashes with Josh Burnham, the Earl's charismatic grandson, who suspects her of leaking to the tabloids—everything she despises about the upper class.

When a shocking murder rocks the family and her father becomes a suspect, Cathy must team up with Josh. As they navigate lies, affairs, and betrayals, unexpected attraction sparks. But every answer breeds new questions: Who can she trust when everyone hides something—and how far will Josh go to protect his own?

As Cathy nears the dynasty's dark heart, she faces a choice: expose the truth or be consumed by it. Book one ends breathlessly—some secrets are worth dying for, and the Burnhams will do anything to keep theirs.



Julie Marinello is the pseudonym of a well-known author. She lives in Munich. After studying journalism and completing actor training, she decided to follow her heart and devote herself to what she loves most: telling captivating stories. She has long had a special fascination for grand manor houses and the British aristocracy.