

## **Cinda Williams Chima**

### Extended Biography

*New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author Cinda Williams Chima grew up with talking animals and kick-butt Barbies. She began writing poetry and stories in third grade and novels in junior high school. These days she writes fantasy fiction for teens of all ages.

Her Heir Chronicles contemporary fantasy series includes *The Warrior Heir* (2006), *The Wizard Heir* (2007), *The Dragon Heir* (2008), *The Enchanter Heir* (2013) and *The Sorcerer Heir* (2014).

Chima's high fantasy Seven Realms series launched with *The Demon King* (2009), followed by *The Exiled Queen* (September, 2010) *The Gray Wolf Throne* (2011) and *The Crimson Crown* (2012).

Both series have been *New York Times* bestsellers.

Chima's Shattered Realms high fantasy series is forthcoming from HarperCollins. The first novel, *Flamecaster*, is scheduled for a Spring, 2016 release.

Chima has also published short stories in several anthologies.

Chima honed her copy editing and keyboarding skills as an advertising salesperson and proofreader at the Akron Beacon Journal (1969 to 1981.)

Prior to becoming a novelist, Chima was a freelance contributor to the *Plain Dealer* (Cleveland) and other local and regional publications, focusing on health-related topics and personal essays about family life. For a time, she wrote a freelance nutrition column for the *Plain Dealer*.

Born in Springfield, OH in 1952, Chima graduated from Firestone High School in Akron, and The University of Akron in 1975 with a BA in Philosophy; in 1981 she earned a post-baccalaureate in Nutrition. She received her master's degree in nutrition from Case Western Reserve University in 1984.

Once credentialed in nutrition, Chima practiced as a clinical dietitian and filled several clinical management, teaching, and leadership roles at the Cleveland Clinic and the MetroHealth System in Cleveland, where she directed the Clinical Nutrition Department and established the Diabetes Self-Management Program.

In 2004, she left the MetroHealth System to accept a position as Assistant Professor of Nutrition at the University of Akron. She left the university in 2009 to write full time.

Chima's books have received starred reviews in *Kirkus* and VOYA, among others. They have been named Booksense and Indie Next picks, an International Reading Association Young Adult Choice, a New York Public Library Book for the Teen Age, to the *Kirkus* Best YA list, and the VOYA Editors' Choice, Best Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror, and Perfect Tens lists. Her books also appear on numerous state awards lists and won the Buckeye Teen Book Award in 2011.

Chima was a recipient of the 2008 Lit Award for Fiction from the Cleveland Lit and was named a *Cleveland Magazine* Interesting Person 2009. She lives in Ohio with her family, and is always working on her next novel.

Find Chima online at [www.cindachima.com](http://www.cindachima.com) or <http://cindachima.blogspot.com/>  
She is on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/cindawilliamschima](https://www.facebook.com/cindawilliamschima) and on Twitter @cindachima