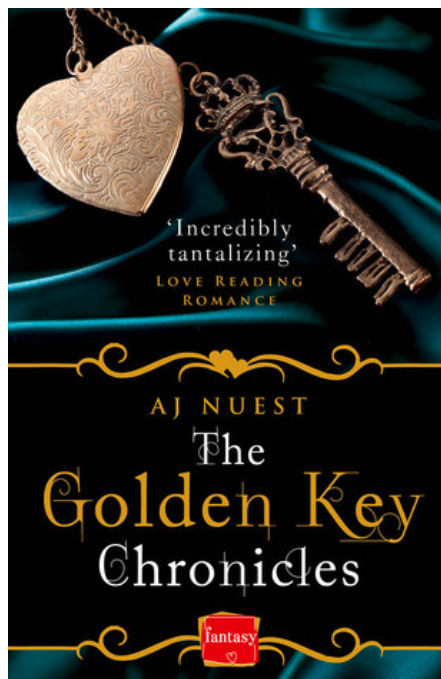




The Golden Key Chronicles

A.J. Nuest

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A.J. NUEST

The Golden Key Chronicles A.J. NUEST

The key would unlock his future and the safety of his kingdom,
but he never imagined the sorceress would unlock his heart...

When antiques restorer, Rowena Lindstrom, purchases an armoire containing a hidden key and a “magic” mirror, she believes the handsome warrior prince waiting on the other side is some sort of elaborate joke. Yet she cannot deny their connection seems bound by more than just the key and, as her love for Prince Caedmon grows, she agrees to join him in his realm. Prophecy intervenes in a way neither of them could have expected. Lost and alone in the Austiere Kingdom, Rowena struggles to find her place, and though she fights the heated advances of the dangerous Prince Caedmon, the attraction between them brings challenges much deeper than her troubled heart can recall.

After two torturous years held captive in the dungeons of Seviere’s Keep, Prince Caedmon returns home with more than just lash marks lacing his back. He now retains the secret behind the key, and is the only one who understands its grim connection to his beloved Rowena. Yet their enemies to the north are merely one of many obstacles determined to see them fail and, to escape the clutches of the evil Wizard Gaelleod, Rowena and Caedmon flee to the future—the one place Caedmon’s worst fears are confirmed. Though Rowena’s memories have returned, everything he loves stands to be ripped from his grasp.

Join Caedmon and Rowena as they embark on an epic journey bound by fate, and struggle to unravel the significance behind an age-old prophecy in *The Golden Key Chronicles*.

The Golden Key Chronicles Details

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Author : A.J. NUEST

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Genre : Fantasy, Romance

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From Reader Review The Golden Key Chronicles for online ebook

Bobbi says

This series was a fun and exciting read. One that I definitely didn't want to put down; nor did I want to see it end.

Rowena's Key – Unbeknownst to Rowena an antiques restorer, that she would find hidden treasure inside her ancestral armoire that could change her life and history, as she knows it. I myself would have been more nervous to find someone on the other side of a mirror that I could talk to and could talk to me. Rowena's roller coaster ride throughout this story was amazing. Finding love when she thought all was lost. Caedmon's story felt real and as if I was watching it happen. All and all this was a hot, fun, and exciting ride through time.

Candra's Freedom – Rowena's memories of who she was taken away after giving the key to Caedmon and he has been taken away from her. She is alone, lost, and confused until she finds her purpose in this new and strange land. She befriends a falcon that helps her in her battles to prove she is worth more than just what they expect of her and women in general. Rowena has so much determination and spunk.

Caedmon's Curse – With Caedmon's return Rowena is even more confused and unsure of everything she is feeling. She is so determined to stay her course to get out of the kingdom to be free and find her true self. Caedmon is determined to win back her love and their life together. Caedmon carries a burden from his two-year imprisonment that weighs heavy on him and he is unsure if he should tell Rowena the truth behind the key. He does everything he can think of to keep her safe when all she wants is to be free.

Braedric's Bane – Caedmon and Rowena find their love for each other has with stood time even without her past memories. Meeting the Dreggs is a scary site. When they finally get her memories back and then travel through the mirror once again, what they find out is not good. They must go back, keep these things from becoming a reality, and save their kingdom from evil. The evil that is in Braedric and the Wizard Gaelleod is beyond wicked.

Helios, the Nine daughters, and Selene's story – This little short story helped shed some light on the little bit that you will hear throughout the series. This is a love story of all love stories. It was beautiful and creative.

I received a complimentary copy for an honest review.

Brittany Shivers says

This series is a fun and exciting read. I definitely didn't want to put it down. Nor did I want Rowena and Caedmon's story to end.

Rowena's Key – Rowena, an antiques restorer, finds a hidden key inside her ancestral armoire. It doesn't work on the armoire in a normal way. When a man appears inside the mirror she believes her friend to be playing a joke on her. After spending time talking to Caedmon she realizes she's talking to a man from the past. She throws caution to the wind and journeys to the unknown. Rowena and Caedmon's story through time and space will have you on the edge of your seat.

Candra's Freedom – Rowena's memories of who she was were taken away after giving the key to Caedmon

and he was whisked away from her. Rowena has no one and has to be on constant guard from those that mean her harm. She takes in a falcon that in turn helps her in the battles she takes part in to prove she is strong and capable. Rowena earns her place and the trust of the King's guards.

Caedmon's Curse – Caedmon returns to a much different Rowena. Rowena is unsure of her feelings for Caedmon and tries to avoid Caedmon as much as possible. She has battled to earn her freedom from the kingdom and refuses to let anything or anyone alter her plans. Caedmon is determined to win her back despite her determination to keep him away. Caedmon's imprisonment in enemy territory weighs heavily on him and the secrets he has.

Braedric's Bane – Rowena's love for Caedmon rekindles despite still being without her memories. When Rowena and Caedmon run into trouble and Caedmon is seriously injured the legendary Dreggs arrive and tell of a healing cave. Rowena and Caedmon resume their plans to fight their way into the enemies home to retrieve the armoire that had been given by a traitor. When Rowena regains her memories the only means of escape is to travel through the mirror once again this time taking Caedmon with her. When they learn some distressing news they know the only choice they have is to return to Caedmon's home. Without hesitation Rowena chooses life with Caedmon. They arrive back in time for Caedmon to take his rightful place on the throne and to save the kingdom from evil. The evil that is in Braedric, Caedmon's brother, and the Wizard that has been controlling him.

Helios, the Nine daughters, and Selene's story – This little short story makes an appearance in the series. It's a great love story.

Kirstie says

I thoroughly enjoyed every page of this awesome set of books. A combination of fantasy, romance, history and a touch of erotica. A story with a bit of everything.

Rowena is a respected antiques dealer who knows her stuff. An out of character spur of the moment purchase has her in a bit of a mess. While Rowena knows that the armoire is authentic, it's less than perfect condition makes her begin to regret the purchase.

Upon its arrival she tries opening the doors with no luck, and it isn't until late into her sleep that the door creaks open and a light streaming from inside the armoire wakes Rowena up.

Much to her surprise, the mirror inside display the inside of an old English castle and it's very handsome resident Caedmon. At first Rowena believes this all to be an elaborate hoax...but decides that her mundane life could use a kick so she plays along.

And it is all fun and games until Rowena discovers that the mirror is indeed magic and is a portal into a realm of Wizards and Kings and all things mythical.

Upon entering the new realm Rowena is stripped of all knowledge of her past and the gorgeous beau who lured her through the portal is now a total stranger.

The Golden Key Chronicles is a fantastical adventure. Rowena becomes a heroic warrior woman determined to find her freedom. Caedmon is a Prince with heart full of loyalty and honour who is determined to win back Rowena's heart and save the Kingdom from the evils that clutch at it.

This is a story that lovers of Historical adventures and Romance will enjoy. It is both captivating and alluring. A story you will not want to put down till the very end. Ms Nuest I hope one day to see this story on the big screen, it would be a movie I would most definitely pay to see!

A must read! Loved it to the very last page!

Winter Sophia Rose says

Charming, Delicious & Fascinating! A Beautiful Read! Be Prepared To Become Addicted To Some Terrific Books!

Gina Roberts says

If you love being transported to another world, this is definitely a series you need to read!

An ancient prince fighting the prejudices of his birth, a woman from the modern world pulled into a mystery she doesn't necessarily believe, a common destiny crossing not only distance but time....these are the foundation of a whirlwind ride that will leave you breathless.

Unlike many authors, A.J. Nuest's appropriate phrasing for the genre is not confined to dialogue. So many times, you see the characters speak in the colloquialisms and speech pattern appropriate to their time/world but the words outside the quotation marks break the spell by falling back on more common terminology and pattern. Miss Nuest maintains the spell throughout, totally submersing you in the story and world.

To further draw you in, she has developed not only the culture of the ancient kingdom in which her heroine is drawn, but fleshed out its religious beliefs and ingrained them in such a way that references--gratitude and swearing--flow naturally from the characters' lips and thoughts.

Overall, while you know you are stepping into a fictional world, you find yourself feeling as if you have passed through a portal into a real world that you just might find yourself reluctant to leave.

Shelley says

Thank you AJ for gifting me these Chronicles, although I have to say I am very disappointed, here I am, congratulating myself on obtaining the complete series. No, I wouldn't have to wait piece by piece for the story to unfold. I had all novellas to read in utter, unbroken continuity. Imagine my thoughts when I reach the end to find out - But wait!.....There's more! Where is my free set of steak knives?

Actually, it's fantastic news. I love Rowena's strength of character, I am sure she is the embodiment of many women's secret aspiration, and I love the brave, sexy and occasionally knuckle-headed Caedmon, most definitely a woman's personification of secret yearning. Their relationship is riveting, the world and supporting characters are captivating. This story is my secret dream, a new world, a handsome prince, some kick-arse fighting and a happy ending.

I can't wait for 'The Golden Key Legacy'

April Hollingworth says

Review Courtesy of April Hollingworth

Okay I found this book truly fascinating and completely brilliant. The characters are fantastic and the story weaves around you and draws you close, whispering its secrets to you, hooking you and not letting you go. Pure unadulterated bliss. Rowena is fierce, determined and someone you would love to know in person. Caedmon, is sexy, honest and way ahead of his times, with a heartbreak in him you just want to sooth even though it's made him into a man to be reckoned with. AJ Nuest is an author to remember, a story teller of exceptional talent. I love this book and can't wait to read more from her.

Opening Scene:

What in the name of Zeus ever possessed her to buy such a ghastly armoire?

The Review:

When antiques restorer, Rowena Lindstrom, purchases an armoire containing a hidden key and a "magic" mirror, she never would have imagined how much her life would change, well once she found out it wasn't some elaborate joke. After all finding a handsome warrior princes waiting on the other side is unheard of. Yet her connection with the prince is growing stronger and it's not all due to the key. Soon she agrees to join him in his realm. But when prophecy intervenes in an unexpected way, it leaves Rowena lost in his realm, and the Austiere Kingdom is not a place to be if you don't know your place in it. Prince Caedmon is determined to explore the attraction between them to the fullest, bringing further danger and challenges much deeper than her troubled heart can recall.

After two torturous years of being held captive in the dungeons of Seviere's Keep, Prince Caedmon returns with more than lash marks lacing his back. He finally knows the secret of the Golden Key, and is determined to protect his beloved Rowena. Their enemies to the north are not the only ones determined to see them fail, they need to flee the clutches of the evil Wizard Gaelleod, and the only place left to go is the future. Caedmon's worst fears are confirmed, though Rowena's memories have returned, unless they unravel the significance behind an age-old prophecy, everything he loves stands to be ripped from his grasp.

Notable Scene:

"Enough, Sorceress!" He lunged forward, the blade of his sword slicing the air when he aimed the silver pommel straight at the screen. "Let us be done with this trickery. Name your demands before I smash the glass and ensnare your bewitching guise for an eternity."

A low laugh tickled the back of her throat. Talk about living a role. Sheesh, take the drama down a notch. She stepped close and ran a hand around the edge of the frame. The signal had to be streaming live, what with his ability to interact with her, but there wasn't a wire or a microphone, heck not even a screw in sight. She stood back and crossed her arms, shifting her weight onto one hip. Okay, she would bite, as long as Ollie promised this whole escapade wouldn't end up on YouTube.

"Fine. You're extremely gorgeous and very talented. Seriously, you've got the whole English accent down perfect. And while I appreciate all the work that went into this little program, it's about two in morning and I have to get up early for work. Tell Ollie I said good show, props to the production crew and I'm nominating the wardrobe guy for an Oscar."

There. That should call the evening a wrap. She grabbed the edge of the door and swung it closed.

"You wear Rowena's Key."

She froze... and then tentatively eased the door back open.

FTC Advisory: A.J. Nuestr provided me with a copy of The Golden Key Chronicles by AJ Nuestr. Published through Harper Impulse. Kindle Edition. No goody bags, sponsorships, "material connections," or bribes were exchanged for my review.

Artemiz says

A.J. Nuestr book The Golden Key Chronicles is an interesting historical fantasy, paranormal and romance novel. There is time/realm travel, mythical creatures, strong characters, good plot and just one thing that felt wrong, almost like afterthought - long and pretty graphic sex scenes.

Do not get me wrong, the love story in this book is essential and a good, strong one, and without it it wouldn't be half of what it is, but just those sex scenes - they just knocked the flow of the story out of sync. And not that there were sex scenes, but how they were written ... as I said already, they felt like they were added after the story was actually written and then the sex scenes were rewritten with more details and flare.

But the story itself, is compelling. All this time/realm travel - how and why it works, how "the key" looses her memories when she gives up the key, how she finds her place in this new realm, how she meets again the reason she traveled the realms in the first place, how he finds his way back to her heart. The way how she is tough chic at the end of second part and thaws pretty (too) quickly at the beginning of the third part is a bit jumpy, but just a bit.

The beginning of the fourth part - well damn, that reminded me Lara Adrian books, where her protagonists find always time for sex while world around them falls apart, but ... oh well. The ending is well thought of, not some usual quick happily ever after, but interesting way to interpret the ancient chronicles.

The extra about Selene and Helios romance is also well written ... just one thing bothered me ... well in Greek mythology those two are brother and sister.

A good book and I'm happy I got to read all the parts together, not as a separate books.

Amy Rumler says

This was a great read! I loved the love story between 2 Realms and 2 Time periods! I hated ending this story because I truly enjoyed the characters and didn't want to see the story end! These books made me an AJ Nuestr fan for life! I enjoy her writing style and the pictures that she can weave in your mind's eye! Caedmon's response to current day was great and I would have loved to see more of his reactions to everyday life in this time period, but what I did read made me chuckle! And Rowena's strength and commitment made me want to be a bigger, better and stronger woman! I want to meet Caedmon and I want to be Rowena, that in itself is a great indicator at how good this story was! Can't wait for more!

Rabid Readers Reviews says

The author, AJ Nuest, gave me a copy of this novel in exchange for my review.

One of the best elements of the time travel genre is that fish out of water adjustment that goes hand in hand with falling into another time. When Rowena falls through the veil and removes the key necklace, she loses all of her memory so we miss out on that period of adjustment but what Nuest does with her story is equally fun and engaging. No memories? Lost in a time where women are lower tier on the ladder (though the deity system is female based), learn to fight back. Measure up with the boys and then beat them down showing them that they'll find no simple victim here. Rowena is woman, hear her roar.

The beautiful thing about the way that Nuest writes her characters is that we knew that Rowana would be strong and adaptable all along. She lost her parents at an early age and forged a means of support in a field where really anything can happen. When Caedmon appears in her armoire she's fairly pragmatic. Someone is clearly playing a trick on her and fun is her middle name so she's willing to play along. It helps, of course that Caedmon is an Adonis who with repeat visits clearly becomes smitten with the woman in the mirror. We see it and we believe it. The hero worship in the novel does, at times, get to be too much but as romance writing goes Caedmon and Rowena are strongly entertaining and believable.

Though a meaty 360 pages, the narrative flows well and the novel read quickly. There are storylines I'd like to see more developed such as the time Rowena is separated from Caedmon. There are blanks to be filled but "The Golden Key Chronicles" was written by bringing four previously released novellas "Rowena's Key," "Candra's Freedom," "Caedmon's Curse" and "Braedric's Bane," together and sticking to the rules of novella writing made the portions of the book periodical like and the shifts between quite smooth but left some questions unanswered. At the end of this novel, I would have loved to have known more and that is a very good sign of an interesting read.

"The Golden Key Chronicles" features likable characters in interesting situations. If you like adventure, romance, erotica or time travel fiction, pick this one up today.

Lucinda says

A fantastical fantasy full of enchanting romance and epic quests that will set your heart racing!

Originally published as a set of 4 novellas this collection of consecutive stories is a 'chocolate box' of delights just waiting to be discovered! Similarly to a KEY that opens the door onto a new world filled with

wonder (metaphorically speaking) this book truly unlocks the imagination allowing you to enter a surrealistic trance/ dreamlike state of transcendence. I felt like *Alice opening the door into the Garden* as I delved into an enchanting, mesmerizing creation founded on inspired vision and far-reaching premise. Nail-biting intensity and heart-pounding drama kept me on edge throughout, glued to the pages with attentive interest and excitement.

**The Key would unlock his future...
and the safety of his kingdom,
but he never imagined the sorceress would unlock his heart**

Caedmon and Rowena are bound together by fate, with their paths entwining as if pre-destined before the story begins. An ancient prophecy holds the secret to unravelling a remarkable mystery that in turn unlocks a window into the heart.

In this profoundly heartrending tale of true love, magical mirrors and war-torn Kingdoms ruled by dangerous leaders dark and difficult times lie ahead. The combination of in-depth, majestic world building and an array of colourful characters was simply brilliant and certainly made for an entertaining, compelling reading experience. As an avid reader of this genre my prior expectations were considerably high, therefore upon discovering A J Nue's convincing and intricately woven narrative full of touches of originality I was delighted!

Terrifically fast-paced drama and action blend together to take you on an unforgettable, sweeping adventure of ambitious proportions. Fans of fantasy will find the characters in A J Nue's novel distinctly memorable and the intriguing storyline to be something worthy of note. I would definitely recommend this exceptional story and so rate it highly at **4.5 Stars**

*I would like to thank the author for providing me with an e-copy of her book to read & provide an honest and non-biased review on.

Joana says

Rowena is an antique dealer and she just purchased an armoire...it's quite in bad conditions, but when she starts exploring the armoire she finds a hidden key and what it seems a "magic" mirror. In the other side of the mirror she sees an handsome warrior, that thinks she is a sorceress, destined to bring the key to save his people. Now Rowena at first, thinks this is a prank by her friend Oliver but she soon realizes, that was seems impossible it's actually true.

But the more she speaks with the handsome prince Caedmon, the more the bound between them grows. They speak for hours and share some things they never told anyone before.

And then comes the time where she must make the choice, to leave her world, risk everything to be with him and save his people.

But the moment she gives the key she loses her memory and Caedmon must leave her to try to find the chest, held in the enemy kingdom.

And 2 years later, Caedmon returns after being held and tortured, only to find his love have passed to hardships and still doesn't remember him.

Three days with him and she'd risked everything? Given up her entire life?

NO,no, people didn't experience the kind of love he described after only three days. They couldn't.

Not unless they were completely insane!

Can he remind her of her love? Can he find the traitor behind the trap where he was caught? Can they fulfill their destiny and save them all?

I enjoyed a lot this epic fantasy, it had a good plot and quite awesome characters.

I loved Rowena and how much she grew in those 2 years, she became a fierce warrior in her own right. Yep, quite a kick ass heroine. The scene where she makes her test to prove her value as a warrior and to gain her freedom, was wicked.

And Caedmon? Quite the perfect hero! Brave, resilient and above all, devoted to her! I loved when at one point, when he thought he couldn't be with her, he would still help her to be safe, even if it meant away from him.

The world building was great, I loved how history was matched with legends and myths, and how the passage through the realms was possible.

And that alongside the love of this 2, made this story a good read.

*****copy kindly given via Netgalley in exchange of an honest review*****

Kelly Moran says

Though I love romance, fantasy is not a sub-genre I read very often. It's just not a "connect" for me. And then I read this. Both a mix of contemporary and historical setting with a huge fantasy twist, this had me hooked from the first page. Nuestr takes a key and a mirror and created magic. She made me believe the plot was possible as well as the romance. Steamy scenes, fast-paced action, and unforgettable characters. *skips off to buy the Legacy follow-up series*

Emily says

Review originally posted on Follow the Yellow Book Road

Originally published as a 4 book series of novellas, this collection is truly an epic, fantasy, adventure, and romance with a dash of comedy all rolled into one.

I love the characters and quickly become attached Rowena, Caedmon, and Oliver. The characters develop

throughout the story. The world building (especially in Caedmon's realm) is fabulous.

The plot moves along at an excellent pace. The action scenes were well-written and I could visualize everything so well that at times it felt like I could be watching a movie. They also had me on the edge of my seat with my heart racing at times. The romance is well balanced with other aspects of the book and is at times swoon-worthy and at times toe-curling yet beautifully written.

Basically it's everything you want in a book!

I received a copy of this book from the author in exchange for an honest review.

Kerry says

I absolutely Loved this series originally I was only going to read the first book but there was no way I could have stopped there!!!!

I Loved Rowena she is my kind of girl, Strong, Bright and Bubbly the shrewd Antique's Dealer is unsuspecting that she is in fact the Sorceress and magic Key holder linked to saving the Mystical Kingdom of Prince Caedmon Austiere, but just one look at each other and it's more then kingdom's that are at stake.

I loved this series it is a fabulous mystical tale of corruption, survival, twists and turns that leave you wondering what else could happen!! I loved the smooth action packed story line and the character's were very lovable and as Rowena and Caedmon journey on their route to true love their super sexy hot steamy encounter's leave's you hot under the collar yet yearning for more!!!

With wizard's, Witches, Falcon's and many more mystical creatures as allies as well as enemies this series is a fantasy world full of betrayal, mystical spell's and treachery on such a massive level and all aimed at denying the true heir to the Throne his rightful place.

Rowena kicks ass her time training with the Royal Guards helps her protect herself and those she loves as she and Caedmon battle to save the kingdom and themselves and stop the foretold prophecy from coming true and breaking hearts.

With excellent characters and environmental back drops of amazing detail and mystical worlds this series takes you to a world of fairytale where the nightmare's are as real as the happily ever after's

Absolute must read and any fantasy lovers dream adventure.
