

## 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. Her Heir Chronicles young adult contemporary fantasy series includes *The Warrior Heir* (2006), *The Wizard Heir* (2007), and *The Dragon Heir* (2008), all from Hyperion, with two more books forthcoming.

Chima's best-selling YA high fantasy Seven Realms series launched with *The Demon King* (2009), followed by *The Exiled Queen* (September, 2010) and *The Gray Wolf Throne* (August, 2011.) *The Crimson Crown* is scheduled for fall, 2012.

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. Both series are *New York Times* bestsellers.

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.

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

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

Once credentialed in nutrition, Chima was a clinical dietitian and filled several clinical management 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. She was an assistant professor of nutrition at the University of Akron (2004-2009) before leaving to write full time.

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 has been active in the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI) and the Science Fiction and Fantasy association (SFWA.) She lives in Ohio with her family, and is always working on her next novel.

Chima often addresses writing questions and concerns on her website and blogs. Find Chima online at [www.cindachima.com](http://www.cindachima.com) or <http://cindachima.blogspot.com/>