

Title: The Silver Chronicles: Psychic Slaughters
Author: Crystal Ordonez
Publisher: Crystal Ordonez
Genre: Romance/Mystery
ISBN Number (if applicable): Pending
Release date: July 21, 2006
Author's website: <http://www.lulu.com/crystalordonez>

Reviewed by: Dianne Gray

Set primarily in Chicago, more than a hundred years into the future, *The Silver Chronicles: Psychic Slaughters* is a story of serial murder, love, and human beings with superhuman abilities.

Silver Brewton has just graduated from an elite school for powerful Pollees, evolved humans who carry psychic abilities—telepathy, telekinesis, the ability to manipulate matter, and more. Like his father before him, Silver has graduated at the top of his class, and is on his way to lend his unique abilities to the Chicago branch of the International Parapsychological Institute. Silver will join his father, as well as his lover Gabriel, to police the criminal Polleo element.

From the moment Silver arrives in Chicago, a series of grisly murders begin, the work of a powerful Polleo. Silver and the others working the case soon come to suspect the murderer is the same person behind the Psychic Slaughters of years ago. The murderer has come out of hiding to begin again, and renew his grudge against the Brewton family. Silver and the rest of the Chicago IPI's must figure out how to capture the murdering Polleo before Silver pays the ultimate price—his life.

Crystal Ordonez writes a compelling and gritty story of humanity's future, combining mystery, love, and urban fantasy. She creates a believable world of the future, tempering the abilities of the evolved Pollees with limitations that keep the story from being overly fantastical. Interwoven with the murder mystery is the story of human relationship, primarily that of Silver and his lover Gabriel, as well as Silver's less than ideal relationship with his father.

The title implies there will be more stories in the series. Whether that's true or not, Crystal Ordonez has given herself fertile ground for more titles in *The Silver Chronicles*, and I'd be interested to see how her characters and their abilities develop themselves further. *Psychic Slaughters* starts quickly and kept me entertained until the last page, a satisfying blend of gruesome murder, science fiction, and human interaction.

Rating: 4 cats