

The book *Firelight* was released under Kohler's pen name Sophie Jordan. A New York Times bestseller, *Firelight* has been sold in 14 countries and is expected to be made into a movie.



# WRITING BY THE *Firelight*

**Katy Author Sharie Kohler  
Explores Mystical Worlds in *Firelight* & Other Books**

*Written by Natalie Cook Clark & Photography by Marisa Hugonnett*

**K**aty author and New York Times bestseller Sharie Kohler wears many hats in the ever-growing literary world. The mother of two writes historical romance and young adult novels under her pen name Sophie Jordan. She also writes paranormal romance novels under her given name, Sharie Kohler. This overachiever in publishing says that her key to success has been her family. “My husband is incredibly supportive and will brag to anyone he comes across,” Kohler shares. “My parents are very proud, but not necessarily surprised. I’ve always been a bit of an overachiever, and they well remember the teenage daughter they would find up at 3 a.m. reading a romance novel.”

## **Writing Her Own Story**

Nowadays, most teens in Katy and across the globe can be found with a copy of her debut young adult novel *Firelight* (written under the name Sophie Jordan). The book, said by many to be the next *Twilight*, is taking the young adult genre by storm. And it looks as if we’ll be seeing Kohler’s star-struck young lovers come to the big screen. Mandalay Pictures has optioned its movie rights, and recently, the project gained scriptwriter Nick Pustay, who penned the script to the popular movie *Ramona and Beezus*.

Even before the New York Times bestselling titles and movie deals, Kohler has always been a writer at heart. “I think the writer in me was born when I became such an avid reader that I started fantasizing about my own plots and stories,” she says. “Eventually, I just sat in a chair and wrote my first book.” From there, she joined writer organizations and learned how to query and submit to agents.

What does Kohler love about being an author? “Creating something from nothing and knowing that it will touch the lives of others - this still amazes and humbles me each day,” she says. “I love that I’ve been able to take something that began as a passion and turn it into a career that is flexible around my life as a wife and mother.”

## **Big Break & Big Career**

Kohler’s big break came when she found her agent. Just two weeks after signing with her agent, her first book sold to HarperCollins. Currently, she writes three books a year, juggling her paranormal and historical romance series and her young adult novels. With this schedule, she writes five to 10 pages a day and must juggle that on top of the business side of writing.

After all, there is more to writing than just writing. Authors today must have a strong Internet presence on Twitter, Facebook, and blogs to be known and connect with fans. Kohler also works at scheduling school trips where she can talk to Katy youth about her career and promote the value of writing.

The Katy community has been very supportive of Kohler’s work. “Of course, I love the focus on family here,” she shares. “Once my daughter began elementary school, my social network expanded greatly. There is a real sense of community here, and I’ve felt nothing but support and interest among people when they learn that I’m a writer.” Kohler is also thankful for the amazing support she has received from Katy Budget Books, a local bookstore. “They threw me a wonderful release party, and I always love signing there,” she says.

# The Work of Author Sharie Kohler

Books by Sharie Kohler

- Marked by Moonlight
- My Soul to Keep
- To Crave a Blood Moon

Books by Sophie Jordan

- Firelight
- In Scandal They Wed
- Once Upon a Wedding Night
- One Night with You
- Sins of a Wicked Duke
- Surrender to Me
- Too Wicked to Tame
- Wicked Nights with a Lover



Katy mom and New York Times bestselling author Sharie Kohler writes historical romance and young adult novels under the pen name Sophie Jordan.



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Becoming an author takes a lot of work and discipline. Kohler advises aspiring authors to read. "Not only is this great for market research, to see what publishers are buying, but it's an excellent way to hone your craft," she says.

### A Fiery Future

As for *Firelight* movie news, Kohler recently met with Mandalay Bay pictures in Los Angeles. She says that it was exciting to hear about their plans for the film. The script, which is being adapted by Pustay, is expected to be finished soon. Hopefully, there will be announcements in the near future relating to a *Firelight* cast and director.

As Hollywood fights to find the next *Twilight* and *Harry Potter*, Katy can proudly watch one of our own authors make it big by bringing her stories to life on the big screen. **KM**

*NATALIE COOK CLARK enjoys freelance writing and sharing stories from her hometown of Katy.*



## About Firelight

*Firelight* by Sophie Jordan (Sharie Kohler) follows the life of Jacinda, who has been marked as special at an early age and knows her every move is watched. She longs for the freedom to make her own choices, though. When she breaks the most sacred tenet of her kind, she nearly pays with her life, only to be spared by a beautiful stranger sent to hunt those like her. For Jacinda is a Draki, a descendant of dragons, whose ability to shift into human form is her best defense.

Forced to flee into the mortal world, Jacinda struggles to adapt. The one bright light in her life is Will, who is handsome and elusive and who stirs her inner Draki to life. Although she is drawn to him, Jacinda knows Will's dark secret: He and his family are hunters. She should avoid him at all costs. But her inner Draki is slowly slipping away - if it dies, she will be left a human forever. She'll do anything to prevent that. Even if it means getting closer to her most dangerous enemy.

*Vanish*, the sequel to *Firelight*, comes out Sept. 6.

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