

CEARA COMEAU - TEEN AUTHOR

By Gretchen Abendschein

Ceara Comeau could easily power most of the buildings in Acworth with her excess energy. She is a lively, chatty 16-year-old who has already written and published two books of short stories: *Adventures of the Young and Curious* and *Amber Oak Mysteries, Volume One*.

Amber Oak is a feisty teenager who sniffs out and fearlessly solves unusual mysteries with her often-times reluctant and skeptical cadre of high school friends.

Amber has a penchant for repeatedly becoming entangled in paranormal adventures. To Amber's curious mind there is nothing strange about solving a decades-old crime after the ghost of a murdered boy possesses the younger brother of her friend, Adam, in the story, *The Ghost Possessed Boy*. Amber seems equally comfortable walking through a doorway into another time and place while she's spending the night at her friend, Gwen's house in *The Red Rug Room*.



Ceara working on her third book

Ceara and her alter-ego Amber share many qualities; a love of mystery and the unknown, daring inquisitiveness, ebullient curiosity, a keen interest in research and the desire to be an unparalleled sleuthhound.

Ceara describes Amber Oak as a loner and a modern-day Nancy Drew. She said, "Amber learns more about herself with each experience."

The Nancy Drew books have been one of Ceara's literary influences. Ceara said, "I was in heaven!" when she discovered many shelves of Nancy Drew books in the Toadstool Bookstore in Keene.

Currently Ceara is devouring Agatha Christie novels.

Ceara has been an avid reader for as long as she can remember. She began writing stories of her own about five years ago. Before she was a published author Ceara would pass out her stories, which were written in longhand on lined paper and stapled together, to friends and family.

Ceara always writes her stories in longhand and carries a notebook with her at all times so she can scribble down an idea before it vaporizes from her active imagination. "I usually end up falling asleep with a notebook in my hand," explained Ceara.

During the summer of 2008 Ceara's cousin, Gwen (the inspiration for her story *The Red Rug Room*) made a twelve-minute movie of *Plagued*, a story in Ceara's book *Adventures of the Young and Curious* about a teenager named Loretta who is afflicted by dreams of Isabella, a young girl who died centuries earlier. About fifty people showed up to watch the theater debut.

Ceara's career as a young author has been a family affair. Her father, John, serves as her editor and her mother, Charlotte, formats and designs the layout of Ceara's books.

It was Ceara's mother Charlotte who stumbled upon a website for self-publishing: Lulu.com. Charlotte decided it was time to give her daughter's stories a boost by helping her share them with the public.

A junior at Fall Mountain Regional High School, Ceara is currently working on her third book.

Ceara's books are available on Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble.com, through her publishing company Lulu.com or through her own website: AmberOakMysteries.com.