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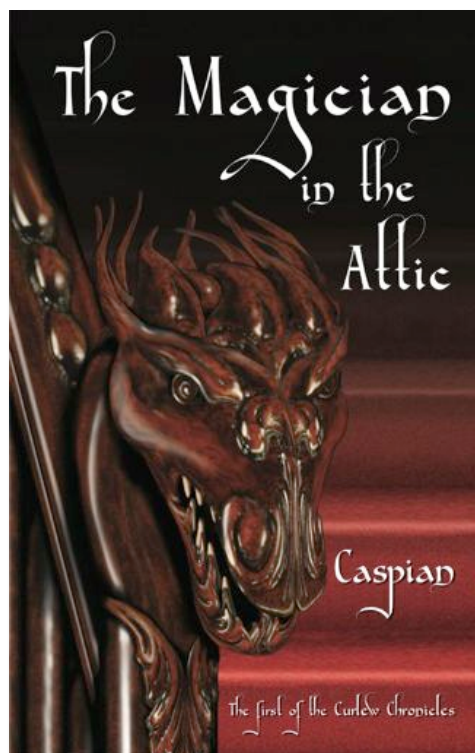
a small independent publisher specialising in Speculative Fiction

ADVANCE INFORMATION

The Magician in the Attic

Caspian

The First of the Curlew Chronicles



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The *Curlew Chronicles* series opens with *The Magician in the Attic*, a story about Alexander Roebuck, a young magician coached by a mysterious recluse called Francis Curlew. Just before his fourteenth birthday, Alex first comes to the attention of the legendary Curlew and is taken under his wing.

Like any other fourteen year-old, Alex has to contend with all that family, friends, school and the local busy-bodies throw at him. If he is to realise his dream of being a renowned illusionist, he must respect the older man's seemingly strange obsession with privacy and seclusion. He wants to learn from his mentor more than anything else, but that means hours of practice, keeping secrets from his mum and his best friend, and gaining experience in (mis)directing the attention of an audience. Alex soon persuades his form tutor to let him perform some illusions as part of the forthcoming school play. Is he ready for the audience... and are they ready for him?

Caspian is a thirty-something UK-based illusionist. His style of both writing and performing smacks of the classics with his own modern twist. Approaching twenty years in the magic and deception business led naturally to writing fiction with some deceptive twists and turns. Originally from Bristol his work has taken him all over the world and he is always on the lookout for the next original idea for an illusion or a plot twist that hasn't been done before. Outside of work his passions include his faith, steampunk and other Victorianisms, pool, movies and having a near full glass in a near empty bar.

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