



The Statue of Ku

Tricia Stewart Shiu , Sydney Shiu (Illustrator)

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The second book in the Moa Book Series follows Hillary and Moa as they jet to Egypt on the Prince's private plane to reclaim Moa's family heirloom, the inimitable statue of Ku. Once on the ground, however, they find that their search is less about retrieving a treasured family possession and more about tracing a healing path in their genetic lineage to its true beginning. Their journey involves magic, sacrifice and discovering their unique healing gifts, which live within all of us. Their story intertwines with that of the real boy, Ku — his questions, his travails and, eventually, his triumph. In their continuing search for the Statue, Hillary and Moa find that the answer to every question they seek is where they least expect it and that healing gifts are not lost but merely forgotten.

The Statue of Ku Details

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Author : Tricia Stewart Shiu , Sydney Shiu (Illustrator)

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From Reader Review The Statue of Ku for online ebook

Carla says

Moa is an Ancient entity who became human to save her friends' homeland. Now, she and Hillary must travel to Egypt to retrieve her family's legacy, the statue of Ku. But, now that she is human, her powers are gone and her situation might get complicated. Happily, she can count with the help of a mysterious royal family. The statue, however, is more than just a sculpture and, to reveal its true nature, Ku must tell the story of how he found himself alone and powerless, but in need to fight to recover his powers and his self.

Being the second in a series, this book might seem, at first, a little confusing if you haven't read the first book. There are many references to what happened before and part of the relationship between Moa and her companions seem to have been explained before. Reading this book before the first leaves an impression of something missing, and the idea that that something might have been explained before.

Even so, there are many interesting things about this book. It is not a compulsive read, mostly because of its many mystical elements, some of which take some time to understand, and also because the character's behavior is a little bit erratic. There is, however, a journey of growth, and not only for Moa. And, once the characters become familiar, their story becomes more and more intriguing and the light, peculiar moments in the beginning are replaced by the right measures of action and emotion.

Two stories entwine in this book: Moa's and Ku's. And maybe because they are so different, or because of the different environment in which they occur, they both have their good moments, but Ku's is quite more impressive. His personality is stronger and his journey is harder, mainly because he meets with deceit and loneliness in a much larger dimension. Ku is the most empathic character, and so, maybe more could have been said about him. However, his connection to Moa is also part of what gives strength to his story, and that creates a great connection between the two parts of the book.

A bit confusing at first, this book might be better appreciated if read after the first volume of the series. But, even without that previous knowledge, the world that, at first, seems strange soon becomes captivating and the same happen with the characters and the story.

****I won this book in one of the Goodreads First Reads giveaways.**

Kristina Aziz says

Pros: A good story with a solid plot. Interesting scenes and gripping when in past tense.

Cons: I wasn't a fan of the present tense segments; I was far more invested in the story when it switched to Ku's story and read in past tense. This may be just a personal preference, though.

Movie Potential: I'm afraid not. The most I see is a cartoon series.

Writing style: As I mentioned, I believe Tricia's past tense writing is far stronger than her present tense. That's not to say her present tense was horrid, just not as good.

Format:Kindle

Characters: I had an easier time imagining Moa and Ku. Hillary and her family, however, I sometimes had to stop and remember which name belonged to which character. This, also, is most likely a personal trait. Unless characters are brilliantly unique and stand out I tend to have trouble telling them apart.

overall rating: 4/5

Marina says

“You can either let fear control you or let it go.”

This was the most powerful and inspirational sentence I’ve ever read. The fear is that thing that controls you, that makes you do or not to do some things. Fear stops us from living our best. Fear stops us enjoying the life. So you have a choice: you can either let fear control you or let it go and live your life.

This is a story for fear and courage. A story for friendship and love. A story for slavery and freedom. A story for magic and real.

So, here’s the plot:

Once upon a time there was a boy named Ku. He had a gift to heal people. He became very famous among people. Until one day a monster killed his family and took away his gift. Ku grew up. He had many troubles in his life but he had friends to be there for him. He met the love of his life, but their love didn’t last long. Ku died. The young woman who loved Ku took his soul and sealed in a statue for the eternity. And so the legend for the statue of Ku was born.

Many years ago, a little girl, Moa, lived with her family on a small island. They owned the statue of Ku. Bad people came and family was killed. The little girl’s soul stayed on earth. Now Moa has to find the statue of Ku that her family owned so she can save their souls. She took human form, and with her friend Hillary, a girl at the same age, are in the greatest adventure of their lives. Finding the statue of Ku.

Every chapter begins with magic. Gems, magic stones and rituals. Every stone has its own magic powers. If you believe. But there is no stone with such power like faith. Believing in yourself is the most powerful magic of all.

This is the second book of the story for Moa. I’ve found this book very inspirational. Fulfilled with motivational quotes and challenges. I liked the characters of Moa and Hillary, Ku and Fe. I haven’t read the first book, but the second one was well written, so I connected with the characters very easy. I liked the second book, I’m sure I’m going to like the first one too. The statue of Ku is inside of any of us. All we have to do is to find it. I will recommend this book for everyone.

Nai says

This will be an interesting review. I don't usually review two books in a series so close together, but in this case, I'll make an exception.

The second book begins with Moa and Hillary on a plane to Egypt, and a ritual for the invocation of Ku. I have to admit, getting back into the practice of doing rituals is something I should really begin again.

There are many things each book I read does for me, and some how, each book I read seems to be at the right time in the right place. You can call that karma or Kismet, whatever you like, but I know there's a reason this blog tour happened now.

You see, I've meandered a little farther away from my path than I intended.

Yup, that's right. This star trek loving, music writing, author and any number of other things has gotten off track. I'm SURE you can't POSSIBLY imagine why. . . I mean I only write stream of consciousness reviews because they're fun right?

Nope. I write them because there are so many ideas and things going on in my head on a daily basis that a compartmentalized view of life doesn't seem quite right to me. One? of my issues is starting many projects, and not finishing them. Another one? is prioritizing the wrong projects first.

How does this relate to the book? Well, there are these rituals, meant to self-empower and protect. Some of them are also meant to spread good karma, protect those around you and energize. These are all good things, and I could really use some good energy and karma right about now. The book really is a great fiction journey into learning about the metaphysical, and I found myself googling various things while reading because it peaked my curiosity that much.

So this time, and because of this book, I'm going to take its message (or the message I got out of it anyway) seriously.

Where or where to begin...

First - what the hell is a gem elixir, and where do I get it/how do I make it?

How to make a Gem Elixir

[image error]

Me? get distracted by shiny things? NEVER :P

Ingredients:

Crystal of choice (polished or well-cleaned stones are best to prevent raw material from getting into the elixir)

Distilled or spring water

Glass bowl

Glass jar

Amber dropper bottles (optional)

Brandy or cider vinegar (optional)

Clear crystals by passing them under running water.

Meditate with crystal (s) to affirm what it will be used for.

This recipe (taken from the link above) is about as close to the way I do it as I could find. I place the crystals (or placed when I was actively using them) in water for 24 hours with a few drops of Brandy. Then I bottle it in a sealer jar, and use it in meditation. (Sort-of like the rituals in the book at the beginning of each chapter). I have to admit, that as soon as I googled it, my brain said 'duh, you used to do that'. So that's what a gem elixir is, and how you can use it.

I have a really wide array of stones and crystals collected from all over - most of the stones are from places I've traveled. You know, those stones you just can't help but pick up - just like the one in Hillary's purse when she's on the plane for Egypt :).

While I'm writing in a stream of consciousness - as usual - I have to mention that the first chapter of the book Statue of Ku is written so well that it serves as a great opening chapter of the book - so much in fact that if you only wanted to read one of these books, you could. While you may have more of a connection to the characters Hillary and Moa, Molly and Heidi by reading the first book, the characters come alive in the second book too.

We get a deeper look into Moa, and her journey as well as a greater appreciation for ancient forces. Finding the statue of Ku, and Moa finding peace and guidance through her Maha are a beautiful journey to travel on.

So then, now that I've figured out the gem elixir, what next?

Well this book got me thinking, even more. I've been thinking a lot lately. I've been thinking mostly about inner joy, and truthiness. I really have, even before this.

Ritual: Inner Truth Serum

Stone: Lapis Lazuli

Blend: Sunrise Elixir

Just before sunrise, create a nest of soft grass in a secluded spot in nature (or if you're inside use blankets) and sit perched and ready to receive your truth.

As the first light of day appears, say the following: I ask the light to bring my truth.

Repeat the incantation as the sun rises. Breathe in joy and anticipate happiness and peace.

I think each of us gets put off, or puts ourselves off our 'path' more than once throughout life. I suppose (or at least I'm told *grumble*) that life wouldn't be worth living without some challenge in it.

Let me tell you - it's pretty challenging to live somewhere there are not arts jobs and be an artist. I work my 40 hours a week to make money for rent/food etc. but it's not what I love to do. More importantly, it's not what I NEED to be doing.

The last (and also first?) step on this path, or at least a teeny bit of enlightenment brought to me by Moa and Hillary?

Go back to the 5 year plan. It was well thought out, and while I'm about a year off, I'm pretty sure that with the help of my significant other (who is truly amazing) I can get back on track. I have plans for organs, and a symphony that is dying to be finished. The symphony is this mountain.

The mountain IS the Organ, and the entire picture IS the symphony.

CC) BY-NC-ND Derek BF Gunnlaugson

This is an enormous task (or so I'm learning) but after so 'gentle' prodding, I've begun writing again. It also requires meditation. Now I have a purpose for my Alice in Wonderland/all types of random mythologies/religions shade garden. (It did seem like a lot of effort for just something pretty and weird to look at in my yard :P). It will be my place to go on a journey, to discover where all the truths lie, and to get back on a musical path.

So, thank-you Tricia Stewart-Shiu: for writing these books, for the blog tour, and for the inspiration your characters brought me. Thanks also to Moa and Hillary along with a group of ancients - for kicking me in my proverbial ass. I needed it, and the organ awaits, along with one kick-ass huge mountain that needs to be transcribed.

Where's the star trek you might ask? Well it's many places that I can think of - like all the musical escapades of Data in TNG, and Riker (though he always looked kinda funny playing any instrument - constipated maybe?) There's even Harry on Voyager and his clarinet, along with The Doctor and his operatic endeavors.

I could make MILLIONS of connections if you'd like, but the one I'll make is probably the most suiting.

Earlier in the day, I screwed up, and instead of scheduling a post of 8 pm, it was published at 8 am - before I copied the actual review into it.

You're doing it WRONG!

Now go spend some time on Deviant art, meditate (Vulcan style clearly) and do all the things you love.

What I'll take from the journey this book took me on includes the resounding whack to my backside that says:

a)Go back to meditating and Alexander Technique.

b)Write music, it's what you're supposed to be doing, and it leads you on the 5 year (now 6 year) plan.

c)Star trek explains everything. Even a face palm of a blank review :D. What star trek 'doesn't' explain, these books sure point you on a clearer path to.

I think Emlyn said it best (also with her face palm comment :P) *"Moa is not a book you read lightly. It's a deep journey into the metaphysical as the title character, Moa, who is the keeper of the ancient portal."* This is of course a quote from the first book, but it holds true through out Moa's journey in the second. While each book stands alone well enough to read as an entire adventure of its own - go read both, they're both worth it.

As part of this special promotional extravaganza sponsored by Novel Publicity, the price of the

Moa and *Statue of Ku* eBook editions have both been dropped to just 99 cents this week. What's more, by purchasing either of these fantastic books at an incredibly low price, you can enter to win many awesome prizes. ***The prizes include \$600 in Amazon gift cards, a Kindle Fire, and 5 autographed copies of each book.***

All the info you need to win one of these amazing prizes is RIGHT HERE. Remember, winning is as easy as clicking a button or leaving a blog comment--easy to enter; easy to win!

To win the prizes:

Purchase your copies of *Moa* and *Statue of Ku* for just 99 cents

Enter the Rafflecopter contest on Novel Publicity

Visit today's featured social media event

About Moa: Eighteen-year-old, Hillary, anticipates adventure as she embarks for trip to Honolulu, but gets more than she bargained for when Moa, an ancient Hawaiian spirit, pays her an unexpected visit. Get it on Amazon.

About Statue of Ku: The second book in the Moa Book Series, "The Statue of Ku" follows Hillary and Moa as they jet to Egypt on the Prince's private plane to reclaim Moa's family heirloom, the inimitable statue of Ku. Get it on Amazon.

About the author: Tricia Stewart Shiu combines her addiction to the written word with her avid interest in the healing arts and all things metaphysical in her novels *Moa* and *Statue of Ku* and looks forward to finding new ways to unite her two loves. Visit Tricia on her website, Twitter, Facebook, or GoodReads.

Related articles

Review of Moa ~ Open your Mind (naimeless.wordpress.com)

Review: Moa by Tricia Stewart Shiu (Moa Blog Tour) (scotzig.com)

July better be sunny ~ My garden gnome needs a wake up call (naimeless.wordpress.com)

Nicole Dunton says

I just finished reading Statue Of Ku. It is the second book in the Moa series written by Tricia Stewart Shiu. It takes place in Egypt. Hillary, Heidi, Molly, and Moa work together with the king and prince to recover the Statue Of Ku. It is a family heirloom of Moa's. Not only does she want it, it is discovered that without it her entire family line will perish.

I loved this book. I couldn't get enough of it. I didn't think it was possible to like the second book better than I liked the first book. It happened with this series though. I especially love how everything was described so vividly. I felt like I was actually there with them for the majority of the book.

The only thing I really didn't like about this book all that much is how mature they made Heidi. She talked like she was several decades older than she really was. She's a child. I'm sure that it's meant to be like that for

the story line. It just kind of made me feel a little strange. I love Heidi though. She's an amazingly sweet and cute character.

I fully recommend this book to anybody who loves adventurous Wicca novels. Especially ones that come in series. It's action packed without being too violent. It does have some violence in it, but it's very mild. I think that's what I love the best about this series. The minimal violence. I am so glad I had the opportunity to read this book!

Alissa says

Re-read in anticipation of Book 3 which (yay! yay! and yay again!) will soon be in my hands!

My thoughts: Just as good the second time around!

Lately, I've been reading a lot of middle books (in trilogies, in quartets, etc.), and unlike most, *The Statue of Ku* does not fall victim to what's commonly become known around here as "second book syndrome" or "middle book syndrome" (you know, where not much happens and the book serves as more of a gateway into the concluding volume). I'm pleased to report this is not the case with this book.

Rather, *The Statue of Ku* takes the fantastic journey that began in *Moa* and builds upon it, making for an even better read. As the story opens, we find the girls jetting off to Egypt to (hopefully) retrieve *Moa's* prized family heirloom, the subject of the title. The girls soon learn their success is crucial to life as they know it. But their mission will prove a difficult task on many levels. Like in *Moa*, there are some very real dangers, both physical and spiritual. But there are also important lessons. And the ending! I don't like to give too much away, so I'll just leave it at this: The ending, for me, made it essential that I read Book 3.

There was so much that was great about this book! I really loved getting to know the returning characters better. Hillary is still my favorite. She's not the picture perfect popular teen (just the opposite, in fact), but she's well-adjusted and wise despite her troubled past. And the new characters! *Ku* was so fascinating and well-drawn. I really enjoyed getting to know him. The setting is just as exotic as in *Moa*. However, having been to the area of Hawaii where *Moa* was set, I had an easier time picturing the details of everything. All I know of Egypt is what I've seen in pictures, documentaries, and books (*side note: "The Egypt Game," by Zilpha Snyder was a childhood favorite*). But the setting is great just the same, and I could tell the author has a real interest in Egypt and Egyptian culture. A unique feature of this story (and of *Moa*) I really liked was the shifting viewpoint, where the POV jumped among the characters and a third party narrator. Another of my favorite authors, Kathi Appelt, is particularly well-known for this (*side note: loved "Keeper"*). I realize not everyone likes this type of shifting perspective, but I find it helps me to get to know the characters and the story better. It's extremely difficult to pull this sort of writing off, but Tricia Steward Shiu handles it successfully. And, of course, the book wouldn't be complete without the lovely illustrations by Sydney Shiu!

A note about both books: So far, the *Moa* trilogy is both fun to read and uplifting. I look forward to discovering how, and where, this journey will end up.

p.s. No idea why my original review vanished from my feed. I guess, like with everything involving technology, Goodreads is prone to an occasional hiccup. Oh well...

Erica says

I just finished reading “Statue of Ku” by Tricia Stuart Shiu. It’s the second book in the Moa book series. I was so glad I was able to review both books back to back and I can’t wait to get the third book, “The Iron Shinto” and make time to read it.

“You can either let fear control you or let it go. The choice is up to you.” ~Am

This book picks up where the first book, “Moa” leave off. The author does a wonderful job re-capping the first book at the beginning of this book, so that you don’t feel lost when starting out. Hillary and Moa take off for Egypt to find a lost statue that belonged to Mao’s mom before she died. When they get to Egypt they find Molly, Hillary’s sister and Heidi, Hillary’s niece, waiting for them at the King’s palace. The find out they must work together to find the lost Statue of Ku and help save millions from dying.

The book is written from the point of Ku thousands of years ago, where we learn who he is and his back story to why there is a statue of him now. The important thing we know is he is/was a healer and needs his soul brought back to the statue to be able to save everyone. And it’s also written from the point of view of the 4 females of the book, where you see them searching not only for the statue but for who they are in this world.

They each face fears and frustration and it’s 7 year old Heidi that reminds them to let go of their fears and to focus on the positive. Through that they each find out they have special “powers”, the power to sense other’s feelings, to hear other people who aren’t in the room, to see other people, ect... Later on in the book they find out how important these gifts are.

The book leave you in a big cliffhanger and it makes you want the next book in your hands now. As with the first book I would recommend this book to anyone ages 14 and older. It’s a fun quick read that keep you turning the pages.

I will leave you with this thought. It was something that kept going through my head throughout reading both books (“Moa” and “Statue of Ku”) “Do not let your anger control you. Do not let your fears hold you back.”

Pooja (On books!) says

3.5 stars

Review originally posted [HERE](#)

Statue of Ku was an amazing sequel to *Moa*. I love that the series is filled with colourful illustrations and the parts I found hard to adapt to in *Moa*, like the dual perspectives and spiritual overtones, I loved in *Statue of Ku*. I guess these things took me by surprise in *Moa* but in *Statue of Ku*, I expected it and it added a great deal to the story.

Statue of Ku takes place in Egypt and the story centers around Ku, whose statue Hillary, Heidi, Moa and Molly are in search of. It is important that they ensure the soul of Ku returns to his statue to prevent his

descendants, which includes Moa herself, from ceasing to exist. The story of Ku is also told and that was my favourite part of the book!

Hillary, Heidi, Moa and Molly, you made a fun team! It was amazing to see Molly, who had started out as a skeptic, truly accept everything that was going on around them. After the events of the previous book, Moa had been reduced to human form and watching her adapt to the life she had once left was interesting. I expected her to enjoy being human again and I was surprised by what she had wanted all along.

Ku, your story blew me away! I loved how you overcame the odds and the people around you played a large role in both pulling you back and allowing you to move forward. The need to overcome fear and self-doubt to achieve your true purpose played a large role in this book and this quote, really, is the reason this book had such a profound impact on me:

"You can either let fear control you or let it go. The choice is up to you."

This series has been an unexpected source of calm and comfort to me! I expected it to be about witchcraft in the traditional sense but got something else entirely which wasn't a bad thing at all. If you liked *Moa* and the metaphysical world holds your interest, you will love this series!

Roxanne Kade says

Statue of Ku, the second book in the Moa series was a much more exciting read than the first book. The story was well paced which allowed for an easier read. Continuing from where Moa left off, the adventure moves to Egypt, where Moa, Hillary, Molly and Heidi go in search of the Statue of Ku.

This statue belonged to Moa's mother and Moa swore to regain possession of it as soon as she returned to her human life. Although I still wasn't able to connect with any of the characters from the first book, they felt a bit more solid - better defined. It was fun to see how they handled situations on their new journey, from the issue of Moa's identification, Hillary's reaction to the prince, and even the chaos that ensued during their trip to the open market. The latter, in particular, was a fun scene to read and when each character's gift was exposed, I knew the story had a higher purpose than simple entertainment value. I liked the way Ms. Shiu planted little tidbits of information relating to the first book, as well as Moa's connection to Ku, and as the story came to a close all the puzzle pieces (those that didn't quite fit together while I read Moa) finally merged, revealing the mystery of Ku and his healing powers.

Ku was an amazing character and I loved reading about his life's journey. He faced so much adversity from such a young age, but he always held his head high. He was brave and compassionate no matter what came his way. My heart went out to him when Meep was taken, and when he lost Am. I rejoiced when he finally found a new family, who took care of him and released him from his hardships, even if for only a little while. The final step in his journey handed him love, deservedly so, and there was a beautiful sense of completion to his trek, when Hueneme tells him about her experience in the Great Pyramid.

This book was filled with as many interesting beings as Moa, and I loved that this book took place in Egypt, with its rich sense of history and culture. My previous thoughts of this series have certainly been changed. I can only wonder what else is in store for Moa and her friends as the series continues.

Jenelle says

View the original review in my blog: [The Midnight Book Thief](#)

The Bad and the Good

Development of past characters. Now, I only had one issue with this book- I felt like the previous characters from the book didn't develop that much. By saying that, I am still talking about the character connection. This is a huge factor for me, and I was disappointed that I found it hard to relate to Hilary, Molly, and even Heidi in *The Statue of Ku*. However, I began to like Moa more. But I don't mean that the characters weren't developed at all- in fact, they unlock new powers, with each of them having a special one. I just found it a little bit hard to really fall in love with them.

The Good

The narration. I really liked the way the book was narrated. Ku narrates the story, and I have to say I liked the way he narrated the story, way more than when it was Moa who was doing it. I don't really know why, but I found him a really likeable character- now, I believe he's my favorite!

The Awesome

The writing. I have to applaud Trishia Shiu. Her writing definitely improved this book, and I enjoyed reading it a lot more than I did with Moa. The plot was more pacy, the stakes a bit higher- it was like she upped everything up by a few notches! The book definitely surpassed my expectations.

The presentation. The way the novel unfolded was brilliant. In a sense, the story occurs in two timelines- one is in the present, wherein Hilary and her family are in Egypt, while the other one is about the life of Ku, and how he became to be a god. Both storylines complemented each other nicely, and because of the way they were arranged, the mystery and intrigue were nicely presented to us and they keep us guessing until the last few chapters.

The ending. Wow. Okay, this part was my favorite. The big finale of the story was really unexpected, and I was shocked with the way it ended. I won't spoil what truly happened, but yeah, it ended with a bang. But at the same time, it was really sad and painful to read about the goodbyes...

The cliffhanger. Okay, this frustrated me to no end. The cliffhanger in the book was humongous! I mean, I thought that Moa ended in a cliffhanger- but the cliffie in this book was twice as big! One thing's for sure- the next book? It's not taking place in Egypt anymore, but somewhere far away... Japan, here we come!

The Rating

4 stars! I enjoyed this book way more than I expected to, and as I said, you could clearly see a lot of improvement in the writing. If not just for a few issues I had, I'd have given it 5 stars! This book had a lot of great stuff- there's suspense, mystery, danger, drama, a little humor and romance, and of course, a lot of the metaphysical! So, if you stopped reading at Moa, I strongly recommend that you continue on with the series! I promise that it won't disappoint.

Katie says

This novel continues with the same major characters as the previous novel — Hillary, Molly, Heidi, and Moa — but adds an important new character, Ku, who takes the main point of view.

Moa has relinquished her powers, and is a regular human instead of an Ancestral Gatekeeper. Ku, however, is not human and seems to watch over the main characters just as Moa did in the previous novel. Moa and Hillary, as well as Hillary's family members Molly and Heidi, were able to restore balance to the Hawaiian islands in the prior book.

The major plotline within this novel is that the Statue of Ku has been lost, and the girls must track it down. To do this, they head to Egypt by plane, and go through a series of hopeful adventures in order to recover the statue. As the girls try to complete this task, the reader gains knowledge of Ku through his back story and through his observations as he watches the main characters. The reader does learn more about Moa's life from back when she was originally human, and before she became an Ancestral Gatekeeper of the portal that leads to the ancient world.

In line with the first novel of this series, each main character has a spiritual gift which must be used in order to help them complete the task of finding the statue. Learning of Ku's background is intriguing, and I enjoyed learning of his history.

A few wonderful aspects of this novel that have been continued from the first are the rituals at the beginnings of chapters, and the art and illustrations that are scattered throughout the story. The novel is rich with history and spirituality. Each character is dynamic and interesting, and each of them help the plot along in their own way.

To end this review, I'd like to provide my favorite quote from the novel:
"You can either let fear control you or let it go. The choice is up to you."

Carrie says

Statue of Ku begins immediately following Moa. There is a bit of recap so if you haven't read the first book or if it's been a while you can get your bearings. This story seemed to move along at a faster clip and kept my attention much better than the first one. I felt as if the author was in her stride by this point and the story just flowed.

That said, there were some similar issues with Statue of Ku as in Moa. The odd POV shifts continued with a distant 3rd person that seemed to be observing the entire adventure as it played out and a more immediate 1st person that I assumed was Ku, a god-like spirit who was ancestrally connected to Hillary and Moa.

I think part of the reason this story worked better than the first was the interweaving of Ku's story with the main story. We were given a peek into his world and shown how he went from a gifted child to a young man struggling to find his place in the world when his 'gift' is stolen from him. This struggle is an ongoing theme in both books.

The elements of magic worked well in this story, better than in Moa (for me). I accepted more, perhaps because the story was set in Egypt and ancient Egyptians were known for their mystical rituals.

My biggest issue with this story was the relationship between Hillary and Moa (who has become a human child, no longer a spirit as of the end of the first book). She is a worldly 7/8 year old in many respects and more mature because of her past experiences as a spirit guide BUT Hillary is 17/18 years old and she considers Moa her best friend. For the purposes of the story I suppose I can suspend belief and accept that this relationship works (part of the “acceptance of who you are” theme applies to Moa and her transition from magical spirit to human) but in real life you aren’t going to find an 18 year old hanging out with an 8 year old as “best friends”. I wish, for believability, that Moa was aged slightly based on her vast experience and knowledge and given an older body to match her personality.

Overall I enjoyed how the plot progressed and ended with a suitable cliffhanger. To find out the conclusion of Hillary and Moa’s tale you need to read the third book. This is something I look forward to doing.

4 out of 5 stars.

Lucinda says

I was extremely excited upon hearing the news that I had won through a GoodReads ‘first-read’ giveaway Tricia Stewart Shiu’s novel the statue of Ku, as it looked fantastic and sounded really interesting. I would like to thank the author for her kind words and for giving the gift of her work to the world, as it is a remarkable volume being something that I cannot enthuse about enough. The calming, healing cover of this book connects to the narrative, which is moving and poignant as well as very meaningful. The illustrations and photographs inside compliment those words that I found mesmerizing, and which were thought-provoking to the core as I felt their full significance. This is the second book in the Moa series, which follows the two main characters Hillary and Moa as they jet to Egypt on the Prince’s private plane to reclaim Moa’s family heirloom, the inimitable statue of Ku. Rather than being predictable in that they journey to find this statue it is more about an inner journey, where they trace a healing path in their genetic lineage. Soul searching, this book digs deep within ourselves as one looks upon the art of healing that is in all of us. It also follows the story of the boy Ku and his triumphs and trials in life. This is an utterly gripping and truth-drawing read that looks at something which is not lost but rather forgotten, that the author brings back into the light.

Set in Egypt with Hillary, Heidi, Moa and Molly I found myself drawn into a realistic and believable setting and environment, which was brought to life with color and beautiful description. One is able to really connect with each individual character as their thoughts, feelings and viewpoints are expressed so candidly, with Molly being a most interesting study of a human skeptic; with the saying that ‘seeing is believing’ to be most relevant. Ultimately overcoming fear and self-doubt is tough and being able to move on from negativity is not always easy, hence I found this book to be empowering and very positive. Calmness settled over me as I read this book, releasing tension and anxieties which was wonderful. I had no idea that a book could be so impacting on ones own thoughts, life and actions as I gained a new perspective on something that fascinated and intrigued me. The author wrote a message at the beginning of her book for me that I found after reading her book to be quite profound and impacting

“...your ‘gut’ instinct is right 100% of the time”

This remarkable, original and insightful book is intense and quite captivating, that honestly did exceed any expectations I had before. Deep and complex I loved the mixture of narrative and storytelling that you could lose yourself within alongside the facts and information, on healing, rituals and stones. I cannot wait to read

the third book and sequel to Statue of Ku and honestly believe that Tricia Stewart Shiu is an outstanding writer.

Angieleigh says

Disclaimer: I received a review copy of The Statue of Ku from Novel Publicity as part of the Moa blog tour. All opinions about this book are my own. Many thanks to Tricia Stuart Shiu and Emlyn Chand for the opportunity to participate!

The Statue of Ku picks up exactly where Moa left off and keeps your attention until the surprising end. I say surprising as I never really saw that happening. And by "that" I mean that you really need to read for yourself to find out what I mean!

It was easier this time around to understand the switch between narration modes. When not reading about Hillary, Molly, Heidi, and Moa, we learn about Ku and why his story is so important to the women. Some parts of his story had me turning a lovely shade of green, but for the most part it was well-written. Ku's story is very powerful and had me wanting to skip ahead and read more instead of waiting to get through the women's story...which was equally intriguing.

Overall, this was a great follow-up to the first book. Too often follow-up books don't measure up to the first and leave the reader feeling annoyed; I promise you The Statue of Ku will keep you glued to your Kindle//Nook//book until the very end.

I can't wait to be able to read the third installment - The Iron Shinto - and follow the rest of the women's incredible journey.

Leah (White Sky Project) says

I read and reviewed this book with the the first one, Moa, so my review here is about both books. This is also the same review I posted at the page for Moa.

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Let me kick off this review by saying something about the book covers. I actually like them. They evoke a sense of calm and peace. Although at first glance they look like generic book covers, their significance becomes clearer once you've read the books.

The books were pretty easy to read. Each book sort of had two perspectives--a third person perspective and a first person perspective. The first person narrations were from the perspectives of Moa (in book 1) and Ku (in book 2). I think some people got a little confused with this style, but I didn't have a problem with it once I realized it would only be Moa's or Ku's voice every time.

Moa didn't really turn out as I expected. The witchy power that was implied in the blurb isn't exactly like the usual witchy powers you read about in most fantasy or paranormal books. The powers referred were more

spiritual in nature. In the book, you read a lot about light, energy and chakras. At least this part was something different from the usual powers tackled in many books. I wasn't able to follow it all though. In Moa, the major "battles" all took place in the "other" or metaphysical or whatnot world. Characters went into deep meditation and there was a lot of talk about light, chakras and stuff like that and then talk about light pushing, stuff like that. I really did not get all that. I have nothing against those, but I just felt lost. Maybe I am just used to reading about powers that occur in the "real world." I liked part of the ending but I wanted more explanations. Hah.

Statue of Ku was much better for me because of the physical "real world" action and the whole Egyptian culture component. Although it still had some of those light and chakra fighting and meditation and spiritual powers stuff. I thought some of the twists and resolutions were a little abrupt though. I can't say any more without giving spoilers. Meh.

Things I liked about the books: I liked the spells and rituals at the start of each chapter. They were pretty fun and interesting and there were times when I wanted to do them myself. I'm not sure if they are actual rituals, but I think some of them can be used as mental exercises or meditation/relaxation techniques. You can skip the funky ingredients and just get down to part where you go, "Ommm." Kidding.

Things I didn't like about the books: The whole fighting thing with inner light and chakras. The abrupt bits and twists. I feel like I need to research to get these things.

I would recommend these books for those who want a more spiritual take on clairvoyance, clairesentience, and stuff like that. If you have an interest in healing, spirituality and related things, you might enjoy this series!
