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**“WHAT CAN I CONFESS?  
I’M ASHLAR. I’M A TALTO.**

It’s centuries since I’ve seen one single other member of my own species. Oh, there have been others. I’ve heard of them, chased after them, and in some instances almost found them. Mark, I say almost. But not in centuries have I touched my own flesh and blood, as humans are so fond of saying.  
Never in all this time . . .”

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When Ashlar learns that another Taltos has been seen, he is suddenly propelled into the haunting world of the Mayfair family, the New Orleans dynasty of witches forever besieged by ghosts, spirits, and their own dizzying powers. For Ashlar knows: this powerful clan is intimately linked to the heritage of the Taltos.

In a swirling universe filled with death and life, corruption and innocence, this mesmerizing novel takes us on a wondrous journey back through the centuries to a half-human civilization of wholly mysterious origin, at odds with mortality and immortality, justice and guilt. It is an enchanted, hypnotic world that could only come from the imagination of Anne Rice . . .

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**“RICE IS A FORMIDABLE TALENT.”**  
—*The Washington Post Book World*

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VAN DITMAR BOEKEN

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