



## Leandra's Enchanted Flute

*Katy Huth Jones*

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## **Leandra's Enchanted Flute** Katy Huth Jones

Fourteen-year-old flutist Lee Ann Graves is a survivor--she has beaten cancer. But her greatest battle is yet to come.

The Carolina wren who has sung outside her window during the long weeks of chemotherapy reveals himself as Songcatcher. He knows Lee Ann's real name is Leandra, and he transports her and her flute to a magical world that is dying because of a growing world-wide "canker."

Leandra is restored to health and her flute transformed by what magic is left in the world. But as she searches for the source of the canker, the malignant forces take their toll, not only on the land, but on Leandra's physical and mental well-being.

With the help of Songcatcher, other bird friends, and a very human prince, Leandra must find a way to heal the land she has learned to love before it is too late.

## **Leandra's Enchanted Flute Details**

Date : Published December 9th 2014 by Quinlan Creek Press (first published January 13th 2012)

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Author : Katy Huth Jones

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# **From Reader Review Leandra's Enchanted Flute for online ebook**

## **Ines Bautista-yao says**

**So much action, so well-written, a gem of a book!**

I cannot begin to describe just how awesome this book is. But I will try so you grab it right now.

It hooks you from page one and doesn't let go. The writing is impeccable, and the descriptions make you feel as if you're right there with Leandra. For example, I have never ridden on a giant eagle, but the way Huth Jones describes it made me feel as if I too were up in the air with Leandra.

I loved how each chapter was just the right length. It never felt as if it were dragging on (which is a problem with quite a few books) and it always ended leaving you wanting more.

The characters, though mostly birds, were lovable. And the magic and power of Leandra just made everything so perfect. I also appreciated the parallelism between Leandra's fight against lymphoma and the battle against the canker.

And of course there was the prince.

A short book that's packed with action, magic, and selflessness, Leandra's Enchanted Flute is everything I wanted in a young adult fantasy. In fact, I already bought the sequel and can't wait to find out what happens next!

Thank you for writing such a wonderful book, Katy Huth Jones! Don't stop writing.

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## **Steve says**

This is a delightful and surprising volume. It follows the journey of a young teen that is struggling to battle against cancer into a journey of adventure and excitement that strangely mimics her own life. As a young musician, her disease has taken away the pleasure of playing with the band at school. When she takes her flute with her on the journey, it becomes enchanted and turns out to be a surprisingly effective weapon against the canker threatening to destroy the world she has traveled to. Join her as she risks her own life to battle the canker threatening Finian Jahndra along with Prince Aspen, Songcatcher, Ground eater, Windrider, and a host of others.

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## **Angela Castillo says**

As a writer and fan of Middle Grade fiction, I found myself to be pretty picky when it comes to books geared toward this age group. But Katy Huth Jones has it right in this book.

Lee Ann has been fighting cancer, the same disease that took the life of her mother. She's won one battle, but

is unsure if she's beaten the disease for good.

Lee Ann loves to play the flute, and she loves birds. She is taken on an amazing journey by a Carolina wren who's been singing outside her window.

I love the magical world Katy Huth Jones has created, and her amazing bird heroes that join Lee Ann (now Leandra) on her journey. I love how music is used to defeat evil. I've read hundreds of books, and it takes a lot to really touch me, but I was in tears at the end of this story.

I recommend Leandra's Magic Flute to everyone, but especially people who have dealt with long-term illnesses and their caregivers.

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### **Ann Swann says**

I really love Katy's writing style. It is seamless. Her characters are wonderful, and the allegory was very satisfying. Great book.

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### **Samantha says**

I felt like this was supposed to be better. It could have been fantastic. Leandra goes to this amazing world filled with wonder and animals that can talk...where the air smells like chocolate...and turns out, it's got this disease that was like the cancer she just fought. It could be an amazing Alice-in-Wonderland-like trip. But instead it felt clunky, where it moved too fast with little to NO explanation. The Aquila-Aspen thing could have been cute, but instead it was weird. Then how the land was fixed...oh goodness, that made no sense. Good idea, bad execution.

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### **Julie Sarff says**

This book was so different from anything I read, it was a magical little realm full of enchanted birds. Leandra who is fighting cancer is transported to a magical world which is in need of her help. A wonderful read, I recommended it to my daughter. Just lovely.

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### **Sarah Green-Hart says**

Leandra's Enchanted Flute is a good story with a heavy message delivered in an enjoyable manner. My daughter read it first (she thought the antagonist was terrifying, by the way), but I was sucked in by the characters' names, and I just knew I needed to read it. :o) My only complaint is that I wish it were longer! I loved the characters, and I wish I'd had more time to get to know them better! That's what sequels are for, right? ;o)

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## **Sarah Dalton says**

This is a lovely and enchanting story about a teenage girl recovering from cancer who is transported into a magical world where birds talk, the breeze smells like chocolate and she can heal with her flute playing. I really enjoyed reading this book because it is so positive and charming that you can't help but fall under its spell.

There is more than a hint of CS Lewis, of stepping into a magical realm, but that isn't a bad thing. There is enough originality to the story for it to not be boring and the message that is written into the tale is one of hope and fight which makes Leandra a strong character and someone who is very likeable. The ending pulls at your heartstrings but carries on the positive message.

I would recommend this book to anyone, but in particular children aged twelve and up. It's the kind of book I would buy my niece and nephews for Christmas. :)

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## **J.B. Pelts says**

An absolutely enchanting tale that drags you in takes you on a journey through a parallel cancerous world that mirrors brilliantly so many real-world things. The characters are captivating, and Leandra is so easy to connect to that the pages pass by in a haze. An excellent read on so many levels.

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## **Dianne Astle says**

Leandra's Enchanted Flute is one of the most unique stories I have read for some time. It is the kind of story that could be turned into an enchanting BBC special for children or any young of heart lover of sweet fantasy. Leandra and her flute are chosen to join a prince and some talking birds in a quest to heal a world that has been blighted. Leandra is specially chosen to journey to Finian Jahndra because she has fought and won a battle with cancer on earth. Leandra has a spiritual connection with the world of Finian Jahndra that causes her to rejoice in its places of beauty and feel a deep sense of grief when the world is impacted by the canker that is blighting it.

There was one place in the book where I wondered if I had skipped some pages. The raven Eyepecker goes too quickly from being a suspected enemy to a friend. It was left with the feeling that there was dialogue missing. However, all in all the book was very well written. Katy Huth Jones is a gifted writer. I think this book would be widely acclaimed if it were not for the great many books being published at this moment in time.

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## **S.A. Molteni says**

Leandra's Enchanted Flute By Katy Huth Jones is an engaging and fun read for both children and adults.

Leandra (Lee Ann) has just finished her last round of chemotherapy and is in remission from lymphoma. For

now, she is doing well. Her mother had died from cancer, leaving Leandra to be raised by her single grandmother.

While resting one afternoon, Leandra is visited by a song bird (Songcatcher) who speaks to her. The bird knows her name and knows many things about her. With a little prodding, Leandra is spirited away to the remote land of Finian Jahndra to help in saving it from a deadly canker. Leandra was chosen specifically because she had won her own battle with cancer. In the land of Finian Jahndra, there is good, bad and scary along with a prince to make the story even more interesting. The story takes on a fantastical journey at this point, where Leandra must use her knowledge and bravery to rid the kingdom from the deadly cancer that has overtaken it. Will she succeed and is there chocolate involved?

The author did a great job with the character development of Leandra as well as with the birds and other creatures of Finian Jahndra. The author's first hand experience with cancer and chemotherapy came through quite well in the pages of this story.

I would recommend it to middle grade to tween aged children and to anyone battling cancer or other dreaded disease. The book is certainly uplifting and full of hope for those who need a great, positive story to read.

I see there is a sequel (Return to Finian Jahndra) and I plan to read that as well.

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### **Marc Secchia says**

An enchanting read for middle grades and older, which tells a beautiful and ultimately moving allegorical tale of Leandra, a child suffering from cancer. Themes of courage, friendship and overcoming obstacles abound, while the treatment of cancer itself is sensitively dealt with, without shirking from the hard realities. My 10 year-old girl recommends it as 'a fantastic read' and I concur.

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### **K.S. Jones says**

Leandra's Enchanted Flute by Katy Huth Jones surprised me! It is a unique story written in a tone similar to many Native American tales. You learn right away in this book that cancer is a hard-to-beat villain, but the main character is no pushover. This fantastical adventure is a unique read, especially for young people battling this terrible monster.

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### **H.L. Burke says**

Portions of this book made me feel as if I were watching a Disney cartoon, especially the talking birds. Groundeater, the Ostrich, was hilarious. I loved the imagination of the world and the characters. My only complaint is that I wanted more history/theology/mythology behind the blight. It was closely paralleled to the main character's cancer, which I liked, but it did make for a very faceless villain. I was kind of expecting there to be more of an explanation, which might've been the point, that sometimes evil is just evil, there isn't a monster or a person behind it, it just happens, the way disease happens, but I still wanted that in the end. That said, I read through this ridiculously quickly. I think I got to 75% of the book one afternoon. It's a great fantasy read.

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## Masquerade Crew says

### ABHA'S REVIEW

*Sometimes the magic lies within.*

This is a fantasy tale filled with talking birds an enchanted flute and a world that is dying. The main character Lee Ann (Leandra) has just survived chemo and her cancer is in remission when she gets called into this world. This is an easy story to follow for the young readers. What I like about the book is how it compares cancer to things tweens or teenagers could relate to. The story itself is absorbing and the characters are interesting. I like that Lee Ann although physically weak is portrayed as a strong character capable of defending a world.

I would give this book four stars and caution the readers of the content. I think it is appropriate for tweens/teenagers and particularly if someone is dealing with cancer on any level. Another subtle message of the book is how our world is connected. There is evil in many forms but if we are strong then we have a way of fighting it. The author is a cancer survivor and the reader can definitely see some of what she went through in her own personal journey.

The story did leave me with an incomplete feeling. Even if a book is part of a series I like to see some closure. This book does have an ending but perhaps its not the ending I was looking for! I sure hope Katy continues Leandra's journey so that eventually I get my ending!

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