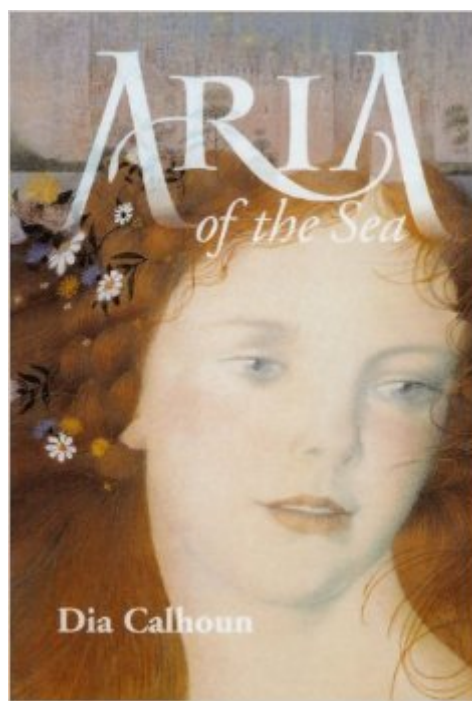


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Aria Of The Sea



Synopsis

On the island of Normost, in the kingdom of Windward, 13-year-old Cerinthe Gale is a folk healer who dreams of being a dancer. When her mother falls ill, Cerinthe fights to save her â" but fails. She blames herself for her motherâ™s death, gives up healing, and decides to pursue dance. Cerinthe travels across Windward to audition at the School of the Royal Dancers, which accepts her even though she is a commoner. It should be the beginning of a brilliant future, but Cerinthe feels an emptiness she canâ™t identify. A disagreement with a young man, a conflict with a cruel teacher, a rivalry with an aristocratic classmate, Elliana, and a meeting with a mederi â" a healer with magical powers â" add to her anguish. When the rivalry between the two girls causes a terrible accident, Ellianaâ™s life hangs in the balance. Cerinthe faces the same awful choice she had faced with her mother: Should she try to heal Elliana herself or hope that the mederi arrives in time? Only the song of the Sea Maid holds the answer. *Aria of the Sea* is an ALA Best Book for Young Adults, a Book Sense 76 Recommended Childrenâ™s Book, and a New York Public Library Best Book for the Teen Age.

Book Information

Paperback: 272 pages

Publisher: Farrar, Straus and Giroux (BYR); First Edition edition (March 24, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0374404542

ISBN-13: 978-0374404543

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.6 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (11 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,582,207 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #107 inÂ Books > Teens >

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> Social & Family Issues > Death & Dying

Customer Reviews

Don't be put off by the poetic cover and alternate world setting-- this book is very straightforward and immediately engrossing. I began reading it at a highway reststop on a long drive and ended up staying until I finished it! With elements of a great school story (like Harry Potter!), "Fame"-- competition and talent among young people, and coming-of-age-- young Cerinthe feels responsible

for her mother's death so avoids using her intuition as a healer-- this book is rich in detail and strong in character. The atmosphere of Faranor, the capital of the country, and the sea religion-- the Sea Maid is the goddess, and those who are gifted like Cerinthe hear her singing in a very literal way-- add to the power of the story and its themes. The dance is clearly ballet, and uses the same terms as ballet in our world, but dancers are called "daina" and "daine" rather than ballerina. Any child (or any person) with a calling, and maybe a choice between two callings, will find this story close to their heart. What do we sacrifice when we dedicate ourselves to a skill? Is it worth it? Sometimes the answer is very complicated! A must-read for any girl or woman with an interest in dance, or in the arts. Cerinthe's growing maturity, and her beginning to understand the humanity of even her opponents, is very touching. Surprising and delightful book!

A thirteen year old girl named Cerinthe Gale lives on the island of Normost in the kingdom of windward. She has always dreamed of becoming a dancer, and now her dream has come true. She has been accepted to the royal school of dance, but will she regret the decision she has made? I'm talking about the book *Aria Of The Sea*. This book is good for just about any age, but I suggest it mostly for the 10-15 age group. This is just because if you're older it might be a little childish for you and if you're younger you might have trouble understanding some things. Also because at times I found myself cringing at some rather unpleasant images, "the ragged edge of her shinbone thrust through the skin". I myself am 14 years old and I followed the book very clearly. In my opinion I found that this book was marvelous. I think now it's my new favorite book. I found it to be so great first of all because it has to do with dance and I'm obsessed with anything to do with dance. Also because it had a good plot, filled with lots of surprises and there was a lot of things going on. It really kept my interest, I found myself having to pull away from it many times, because I had to go to bed or do my homework. So if anything I just said describes what you like in a book then this book is for you! And as Cerinthe would say "may fair winds be yours".

As I have said, this book is very touching. The main character, Cerinthe Gale, has given up healing after what happened to her mother. Now, Cerinthe must finish the dream her mother had once told her and this was to dance at a royal school. She had a lot of trouble by some selfish and jealous classmates, but she had to fulfill the dream. Yet something is missing. She must choose what to do because the song of the sea maid stopped singing to her and she is so unhappy. She must choose who she will be before she too gives her life away, just like a girl she had once looked up to. Join Cerinthe in her journey of choices. And also if you're looking for some new vocabulary, this is your

book. I'm sure you'll enjoy it!

Aria of the sea is a beautifully written story about a passionate and talented girl named Cerinthe. Set in the magical kingdom of Windward, Cerinthe has one only one goal; to fulfil her dreams of becoming a dancer. Yet so many things stand in her way. The loss of her mother, her constant fear of harming those around her with her medical expertise, and her position in society are all obstacles that she needs to overcome in order to achieve her dreams. But after the first several months at school, Cerinthe isn't quite so sure what she wants anymore. Aria of the Sea is a fantastic story, but it can also be used as a valuable lesson for young people trying to find out who they really are. The author, Dia Calhoun was trained from the ages of 5-17 to become a classical ballet dancer. I have a feeling that with the depth of emotion Cerinthe displays in the novel, Calhoun herself struggled with deciding on her life's goals. This book should help readers recognize that life offers many possibilities and it is our responsibility to do our best to fulfill our dreams.

As I have said, this book is very good. It takes you inside the character's head and gives you some very sorrowful moments and joyful ones too. It gives you many descriptions to get the real feel of what the story is talking about. The main character, Cerinthe Gale, has given up healing after what happened to her mother. Now, Cerinthe must finish the dream her mother had once told her and this was to dance at a royal dancing school. She had a lot of trouble by some selfish and jealous classmates, but she had fulfill the dream. Yet something is missing. She must choose what to do because the sea maid, that had once sang to her, had vanished. She is so unhappy. She must choose who she will be before she too gives her life away, just like an unhappy girl she had once looked up to. Join Cerinthe in her journey of choices and her determined acts that even you wouldn't do. She will have many brave and true acts that will help shape who she will be. I'm sure you'll enjoy it!

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