



AllBooks Review

by Cheryl Ellis

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Genre: Youth/Adult Fiction

Title: **Queen Crystal and The Land**

Author: **Sandra-Jo Matusky**

“Listen to your inner spirit.”

At first glance you would assume the story to be just another fantasy but in reading this fast paced tale, you will find it has been intricately woven with many valuable life lessons.

Since Crystal’s mother, the Queen’s sister, was brutally murdered by her father years ago; Crystal is heir to the throne of ‘The Land.’ She possesses magical powers but is unaware of her strengths. It soon becomes apparent that she has 10 days to complete a journey through an exotic world to gather knowledge and strength. The journey prepares her for the battle against her corrupt father in order to prevent the destruction of this magical, happy place. Her deceased brother guides her, communicating through a magical newspaper as well as the irresponsible Knight who had been forever banished inside a ruby on the handle of a sword. Crystal rescues him from a Lion’s pit and you will be surprised at who he turns out to be!

Sesha is not only her horse but a faithful friend and they communicate telepathically. Although her magic works wonders, it is Crystal’s ingenuity that invents or creates ways to make the magic useful and stronger.

To give away any more detail would certainly spoil the fascinating journey she embarks on, I will however let you know that of the mystical creatures there are both saints and devils.

Throughout the journey she believes she has her first love ignoring her natural instincts. She learns the hard way another of life’s lessons- “Love is built on trust.”

She treats all forms of life with respect, the way she would like to be treated. This helps her to find that paths open for her and other beings like the ‘frogman’ become much happier and therefore more helpful. “I allowed myself to see more than at first glance, more than skin deep.”

Emotions of love and hope for the future are an asset to this tale. You will find the ending is filled with many emotions, sadness for those who are lost and happiness for those who find their way.

Young ‘Crystal Elderbee’ is born and lives in the dreams of an extremely talented artist, Sandra-Jo Matusky. Her style is captivating and each character is so well presented that you literally see them before your eyes. I will look forward to Book Two: Bringers of Balance as Crystal struggles to unite humans across Noore Continent.

Sandra-Jo Matusky has a Bachelor’s degree in Fine Arts and teaches middle school art in Florida. Her hiking trips are inspirational for her illustrations and her vivid dreams. She resides in Land O’ Lakes, Florida with her husband and two dogs.

Highly Recommended by Reviewer: Cheryl Ellis, Allbooks Reviews.

Pre-pub review (soon to be released)

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