



## **Wren**

*Alice Longaker*

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# Wren

*Alice Longaker*

## **Wren** Alice Longaker

Wren's gleeful mood at becoming lead in the summer musical crashes with the news of her mother's diagnosis of advanced-stage Breast Cancer. While her mother focuses on healing, Wren is sent to spend the summer with her grandparents in the Ozark Mountains of Arkansas.

Grandma and Grandpa live on an acreage of rural land. The not-so-typical grandparents are aging hippies with goats, chickens, and alpacas as companions. Wren finds that happiness comes with new friends, increased independence, and acres of woods to explore. She tries to discover what she wants to do when she is grown--an archaeologist, or ranger, perhaps a writer or a singer?

Without cell phone reception and internet access, Wren feels detached from those back home. Chiggers bite. Spiders lurk. An owl calls outside of Wren's window. Sometimes Wren gets scared. Yet, even bleak sorrow and loss are no match for family, friendship, and laughter.

## **Wren Details**

Date : Published April 6th 2017 by Black Rose Writing

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Author : Alice Longaker

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## **From Reader Review Wren for online ebook**

### **Mary Stockwell says**

#### **Sweet love story**

When I say sweet love story I don't mean romance. This book is about a young girl coming into adolescence. Learning about love of family, life, death and nature. It's well written and worth reading.

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### **Victoria Zigler says**

A beautifully written story, with some touching moments, some amusing moments, and a great main character that readers can relate to.

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### **LeighAnn Loudner says**

New to Goodreads--my first review. Tried to post on Amazon, but since I never order from them...

Good for young teen girls. A short, but satisfying read, and the author chose a unique character to tell the story. The plot is straightforward but with some unexpected surprises. Safely deals with sensitive issues without making reader (parent or teen) feel uncomfortable. *Wren would hold up well in a book club discussion.*

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### **Beth Kaminske says**

#### **Wren**

Cute story appropriate for Ten to fourteen year olds. Good family story and how people and places aren't perfect, but still enjoyable. That life is both happy and sad but to appreciate it all.

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### **Allison says**

An expertly woven story about Wren, a young Colorado teen, visiting her grandparents in Arkansas while her mother is being treated for cancer. Wren meets the locals, and like many who go live in a new place, she learns a lot about the world and herself while in Eureka Springs. The writing is poetic and Wren's voice is captivating from beginning to end.

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## **Lee Anne says**

A lovely story.

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## **Libby says**

Wren's summer is not going as planned. Her mom has stage 4 breast cancer and so rather than the lead in a musical, she's spending summer in the Ozarks on a farm with her grandparents.

While not written as poetry, Wren's journal entries remind me of the writing of Margarita Engle, simple but rich. The highest praise for Wren: the book was much too short. I want to continue to walk alongside Wren as she flits through life.

An excellent debut by a Colorado author.

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