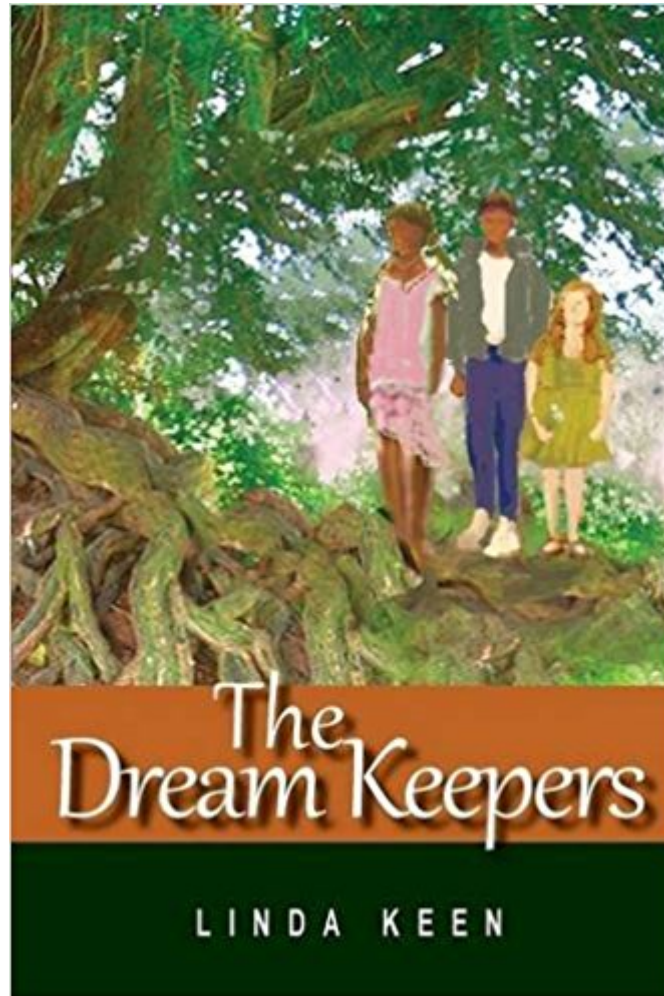




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# The Dream Keepers



## Synopsis

Love is the answer. A heartwarming story about family, friendship, diversity, and self-knowledge. In the first years of the new millennium, Star and Thatcher O'Day are seven and eight years old when they are forced to leave the only home they have ever known. Driving cross country from the Deep South to the West Coast with their grandfather, a famous poet they consider strange, sister and brother will also have to accustom themselves before long to an eccentric artist who does not look or act anything like they think a grandmother should. Settling into entirely new surroundings, their joys as well as trials and tribulations, combined with the ebb and flow of memorable relationships, become central to the siblings' incitement for change. As each advancing year elicits increasing levels of alarm and acute dangers, their continuing encounters steer them into places and circumstances they never could have imagined.

## Book Information

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Fiction > Coming of Age

## Customer Reviews

Official OnlineBookClub.org Review: The Dream Keepers by Linda Keen (by stoppoppingtheP)

4 out of 4 starsStar has always been a unique child. Mixing dreams with reality, she has a vivid imagination with which she allows herself to create fantasy worlds. The Dream Keepers is written by Linda Keen and published by Mill City Press. It is categorized under the Young Adult genre, and the major themes in the book are self-growth, friendship and family. This story revolves around the lives of two siblings, Star and Thatcher. Orphaned at a young age, these two children live the earlier part of their lives in relative bliss and happiness with their one set of grandparents. However, when these

grandparents are unable to take care of the two siblings due to health issues, they are sent to stay with their other grandparents, and it is here that they begin another stage in their lives. Their new grandparents and the new environment are vastly different from what they are used to. Their grandfather is a well-renowned poet and their grandmother is a somewhat erratic artist. The siblings try to adapt to their new home. Star begins a seemingly unbreakable friendship with another girl, Annabel. Thatcher goes through several trials in his relationship with their grandparents. This story spans the siblings' childhood and teenage years. It tells us their various struggles through issues such as racism, friendship, love, family issues, and the struggle to find themselves.

Dispersed between the story are the vivid dreams that Star often has that somehow help to shape her as a person. The characters are very well developed, we see them grow and change from innocent children into adults who have to face the harsh realities of the world. The story-line is captivating and interesting. The story is set in recent times in America, the author makes the reader aware of this by bringing in relative news stories to highlight this fact. The style of writing of this book is so immersing and unique. I can honestly say that it is one of the best and well written books that I have read in a long time. The experiences that the characters went through made me emotional in parts, and I was glad for the way in which they were able to persevere through their difficulties. There is no doubt about it that this book deserves a four out of four stars. I enjoyed the story, I liked the style of writing, and even the characters were alive. I seriously cannot think of anything that I disliked about the book. I would recommend this book to anybody who enjoys reading, but especially those who like to read books in which a large portion of the character's life is shown and the character grows and develops throughout the

book.  
By Violeta Nicola Instagram: [instagram.com/bookaholic.for.life/?hl=ro](https://www.instagram.com/bookaholic.for.life/?hl=ro) | Title: The Dream Keepers, Author Linda Keen 2 July 2017 Rating: 5/5 stars  
This book was such an enjoyable read. I had so much fun reading about the adventures of Star and Thatcher. These two characters take you on a wonderful journey where you get to see them grow and, by the time you finish the book, I assure you will be sad that you have to part ways with them. Another reason that I enjoyed this book was because it dealt real issues and it makes you happy, sad: you want to cry, you want to smile at times and you want to laugh because the book is so diverse and well done. "The Dream Keepers" is a really good recommendation for children growing up because it offers a lot of insight into that period of time and, through Star and Thatcher's journey, you get to learn a new way to approach the challenges that may come your way. To conclude, this book was an emotional roller coaster and that is why I recommend it to everyone even if you are an avid reader or you are now just getting into reading because Linda wrote a beautiful story.

Little did I know in 2002 when working as a school counselor in California that the fictional book I was envisioning and had started writing would speak so appropriately to many of our country's trials as we now experience them. The Dream Keepers, as my story was soon named, took twelve years to write. Uncanny now for its timeliness in relation to many aspects of our country's unfolding future, my story was intended to actuate teenage readers towards a better understanding of diversity, friendship, and self-knowledge. Its purpose was a hopeful step towards motivation--and possibly towards a genuine grasping--of environments and mindsets holding the potential to provide a young person of any race or faith with a sense of dignity, safety, and calm amidst the chaos and turmoil of daily life. This 21st century coming-of-age adventure tale is all-embracing, encouraging interest in varying aspects of everyday reality, from practical to spiritual. Its array of unfolding involvements demonstrates the healing power of love, nature, poetry and art, as well as appreciation for scholarship and science. As this book was first evolving, I became deeply impressed with poet Langston Hughes after unwittingly placing a poster of him on the wall of my counseling office at a school for students with behavior problems. Curious to know more about this distinguished-looking man, dubbed on the poster as "Poet Laureate of Harlem," I sought out his writings at my public library. Bringing home several books of his poetry, one of them entitled The Dream Keeper and Other Poems, I was profoundly moved, not only by this writer's

insights and expressions of compassion and hope, but by his understanding of the racial challenges our world continues to face long after his passing. In connecting myself with the spirit of one of our country's most inspirational and beloved poets, the emotional journey of my fictional story had begun.

I enjoyed being taken on this unique journey with Star and Thatcher. I quickly felt I was with them on their travels; it was truly a magical experience. It was really hard to put the book down; eventually, sleep won the battle, but I couldn't wait to get back to reading. This book became a part of me, I was addicted. The only bad part was when it ended; I didn't want it to be over. It isn't often, that a book grabs ahold of me this deeply. I highly recommend it to anyone who loves to read; if you don't love to read, The Dream Keepers will quickly introduce you to a newfound love of reading. A strong 5 Boundless Stars from me. I will be looking for more written by Linda Keen.

Linda Keen weaves a story like a master weaver builds a magic carpet and her books take you on a wondrous ride with each little nuance of character development and spiritual adventure. In her past two books, *Intuition Magic* and *John Lennon in Heaven: Crossing the Borderlines of Being*, Keen mixes adventure with mystical insight to entertain, inform and heal her audiences. Her latest book is classified as children's literature, yet people of all ages are warmly invited to enjoy *Star and Thatcher O'Day's* struggles to forge new relationships with elders, friends and strangers on their pathway to discover their own true selves. The settings are based on real but purposefully unspecified locations, adding a wonderful element of mystery. The children's growing years coming to terms with life's unexpected hardships and challenges offer an abundance of wisdom along with valuable ideas for proactive problem solving. I highly recommend this book for counselors, teachers, children (especially children struggling to fit-in after sudden change, loss and hardship), parents and school libraries and classrooms.

I really immensely enjoyed this book. I think what made it different was the unique style of writing. It had an almost dreamlike quality about it. It is not one that I have read often. It was interesting to read about the characters' struggles to adapt to their new environment as well as to see them grow into teenagers. Star is a brilliant character, who shines in her environment, although Thatcher is more relatable - being more introverted and unsure of himself.

The dream keeper's is a exquisite read that transports you to a different world while somehow hitting so close to home. This book tackles real issues and takes you on a rollercoaster of ideals and emotion while challenging reality simultaneously. It is complicated and complex while being caring and considerate. I laughed, I cried, and I felt. I have never read a book that has rocked my foundation like this and yet made me feel so safe and secure.

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