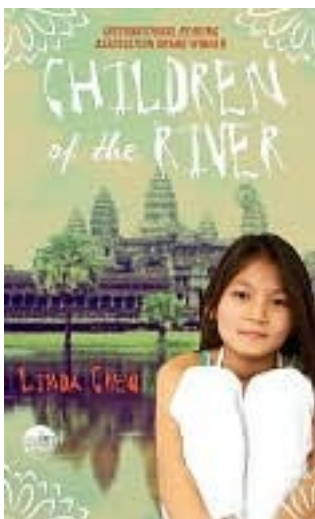


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**Linda Crew**

**Children of the River Children of the River**



Title: Children of the River Children of the River

Author: Linda Crew

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Language: English

Pages: 224

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## Description

"The approach I take with my writing is to have my work reflect real life, and yet be shaped into the best story possible. I feel that a powerful piece of fiction can often convey an emotional truth more compellingly than a strictly factual version."--Linda Crew

Linda Crew is a recipient of the IRA Children's Book Award and the Golden Kite Award, and her books have been named ALA Notables as well as ALA Best Books.

Linda Crew didn't always have to be a writer. In fact, while attending junior high school in the early sixties, this award-winning author wanted to be a folksinger. By high school, when it had become apparent to her that she really couldn't sing, she decided to become an actress. Then, at the University of Oregon, her theatrical ambitions evaporated. At her mother's suggestion, Crew switched her major to journalism--and loved it.

Crew's training was in journalism--interviewing, researching, and marketing--and she was encouraged to present the facts accurately and without fuss. But her assignments always ended up full of dialogue and she "had this compelling urge to make a story just a little better than the way it happened." Thus, her talent for writing fiction was born.

After college, Linda Crew married her husband Herb and settled on a farm in her home state of Oregon, where the couple still resides today with their three children. Crew leads a full, busy life and admits, "It's difficult sometimes to carve out the time for writing with so many other demands, but it's important for me to do some living. After all, what could a person possibly write about if she spent all day closeted in front of her computer?" Book List

"Long Time Passing"

"Children of the River"

An ALA Best Book for Young Adults

An IRA Children's Book Award

A Golden Kite Award

New York Public Library Books for the Teen Age

"Fire on the Wind"

Maine Student Book Award Master List 1996-1997

Vermont Dorothy Canfield Fisher Book Award Master List 1996-1997

"Nekomah Creek"

An ALA Notable Children's Book

"Nekomah Creek Christmas"

Author Fun Facts

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Previous jobs: "Florist, mail carrier, visitor center receptionist for the Forest Service at Cape Perpetua

"Pets: "One lively black cat named Goblin

"Favorite . . .

. . . hobbies? I like theater. I enjoy working with dried flowers, also sewing, especially creative things like doll clothes and costumes. I am notorious in my house for going overboard on

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costumes

. . . foods? chocolate

. . . clothes to wear? jeans or long dresses

. . . colors? green, of course I'm an Oregonian.

. . . books? good children's books

"From the Paperback edition."

## **Insightful reviews**

Taya Kennedy: Children of the River, written by award winning author Linda Crew, is a compelling story about a young girl named Sundara who is forced to flee her Cambodian home, to live in all too different America. As Sundara grows older, she watches the disasters of the Vietnam, and what it is doing to her country. During her early years in America, Sundara thinks it will be easy to maintain her cultures and traditions, but finds it difficult when she finds herself falling in love with a handsome young American boy, who helps her see life in a whole new light. Unfortunately, their love is forbidden and heavily frowned upon by the people of her culture, especially by her family. Linda Crew uses her American authenticity to write about the struggles a young American girl faces in her everyday life. The story line is original and enduring, never leaving you with a dull moment. Sundara's traditions and beliefs are authentic, but will she stick to them and respect her culture, or succumb to the American way. Sundara's life story examines opportunity and freedom in America and opportunity for those willing to work hard. Children of the River would be a very good book for anyone seeking a truly touching love story about family, tradition, and true love.

Katie: I swear I only read this because I found it on my bookshelf after the move and had nothing else. The Cambodian immigrant falling in love with the high school football star was entertaining, but seriously... That's what I get for reading young adult's novels.

Allie Brown: This book follows a young girl who is forced to evacuate Cambodia with her aunt and uncle and cousins, leaving behind her own immediate family and crush. As she adjusts to life in America so does her extended family. Sundara is caught between life as a teenage refugee from her home land and life as an American teenager. She is forced to juggle between the traditions of her family and the new "bold" ways of American culture. Sundara finds love in the high school football star, Jonathon McKinnon.....breakthrough to her aunt with new understanding and discovers who she wants to be outside of everyone else's expectations. This is a novel of holding onto traditions and beliefs of your past and forging on with life in a new world with new ways and new ideals.

Characters: Sundara= heroine, Cambodian, teenage girl, high school student

Jonathon McKinnon= Sundara's love interest, football star, American

Soka= Sundara's aunt, guardian, strict in regards to the old ways from Cambodia and this causes tension between the two

Naro= Sundara's uncle, tries to keep the peace and maintain an open mind about America

Pon and Ravy= Sundara's younger cousins

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Moni= Khmer friend of Sundara's

Dr. and Mrs. McKinnon= Jonathon's parents, wealthy and friendly toward Sundara

themes: growing up in a new land, trying to honor your family and beliefs of the homeland, teenage love, adjusting to the new ways of America

English Education: TW: Violence, death. Kids of the River is a unique depiction of the stories of Sundara, a Cambodian refugee dwelling within the United States. The textual content of Sundara's makes an attempt at navigating US tradition and changing into "Americanized", whereas she relives the rigors that Sundara skilled in Cambodia and on her trip to the United States. Many scholars can be in a position to relate to Sundara's emotions of social isolation and confusion, and her budding romance with American Jonathan, whereas additionally commencing to comprehend the cultural modifications among Cambodia and the United States. This novel can be utilized in a school room not just since it is enjoyable, yet as a result of its price as a historic and cultural analysis.

Brenda: think having to go away your loved ones to a brand new kingdom that's at the contrary aspect of the world. This can be used to be occurred to a tender girl, Sundara Sovann, in little ones of the River. The writer Linda team writes approximately Sundara's lifestyles in America, after escaping the warfare torn country of Cambodia on the age of thirteen as a result of Khmer Rouge assault on her homeland. Sundara needed to go away her parents, friends, siblings and Chamreoun - the boy she loved. (view spoiler) [Now at 17, Sundara lives in Willamette Grove together with her Aunt Soka, Uncle Naro, Grandmother and her more youthful cousins, Ravy and Pon. Her family members alternatives tomatoes within the afternoon and Sundara works on the Saturday marketplace promoting crops. Sundara remains to be dealing with the hot American lifestyle. Sundara needs to study the customs and expectancies of the folks in her environment. To her, it's very diverse compared to the stern upbringing of a formal Cambodian girl. Sundara remains to be surprised on the angle of scholars towards their teacher, American clothes, and plenty of different issues that have been performed otherwise in her country. Sundara is in lots of used to be a formal Cambodian girl, yet is attempting to slot in as an American girl. One difference among the Cambodian way of life and the yank one is she was once no longer allowed to date. She attends highschool in Willamette Grove and meets Johnathan McKinnon, an American soccer player. via her time in school, Sundara turns into keen on Jonathan. She explains to him issues approximately Cambodia and her trust that "life is sort of a river". The 2 fall in love and Sundara is going opposed to her households customs and ideology to be with Jonathan. Sundara will get harassed and disenchanted in herself while she thinks approximately Chamreoun, the boy she was once to marry again in Cambodian (in the Cambodian tradition it's important younger woman marries the Khmer way, prepared marriage). Sundara is stuck among worlds, among the Cambodian customized and the yank custom. Sundara used to be forbidden to determine Jonathan, basically simply because he used to be Caucasian. Soka, her aunt tells her, "Forget American boys. do you need to be married and divorced, over and over? You deserve better. carry your self above this niece. you want to marry the Khmer way". it is crucial for Sundara to discover her position within the tradition during which she now lives, but in addition within the tradition she left in the back of through sacrificing her personal happiness. In the top Jonathan's father who's a doctor, volunteered to visit the refugee camps within the Thai-Cambodian border and help. He requested Sundara's

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uncle for permission if Sundara could educate him Khmer simply because he had to be capable of converse with the people. Sundara and Jonathan grew to become very shut in the course of her time on the McKinnon's. Her aunt and uncle ultimately agreed that they can now not strength Sundara not to be with the one who she love.(hide spoiler)]This e-book is easily written and makes you conscious of cultural differences. It express the problems in getting into one other culture; being torn among previous traditions and having a brand new one begin. kids of the River places you within the middle and soul of the characters, letting you're feeling the best way they do and adventure what they're experiencing. i believe all readers can establish themselves via this romantic tale facing cross-cultures.

02/28/04["br"]>["br"]>["br"]>["br"]>["br"]>["br"]>["br"]>["br"]>["br"]>["br"]>

Esther Stella: the best books i have ever read. primarily it's a couple of lady who involves the United States from Cambodia along with her aunt's kinfolk to flee from the violence in her personal country. a very good Cambodian woman waits until eventually her family members arranges a wedding for her, however the major character, Sundara, falls in love with an American boy. This story made me cry. I bear in mind analyzing it whilst i used to be in center school. the yankee boy she falls in love with is in love along with her as well. he's intrigued together with her kingdom and wonders approximately his personal difficulties in addition to American difficulties in comparison to violence in different countries. the main shiny scene I be mindful used to be in the course of a visit to the dumpsters, Sundara reveals a damaged crippled doll and it haunts her as in the course of her journey to the US her aunt's child little one doesn't live to tell the tale the tough journey and he or she used to be compelled to throw her overboard. Sundara breaks down and cries in regards to the lose virtually as though she have been possessed. The scene used to be so haunting and so awesome it continues to be with me until now, nearly 5 years later. i haven't got the booklet anymore (I'm confident my mother threw out my books...) yet i will never forget it as the most effective books i have ever read. suggest and expense five out of five definitely.

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