

Fantasy/Juvenile Fiction: ages 8-12
Pages: 88 - includes 14 illustrations

The Quest of the Blue-Black Birds

Being the middle child in a large family, Cato often feels overlooked and longs to be seen as a hero. A family crisis provides him a chance to prove he can be as brave and clever as his older brothers.

After hearing a storyteller's tale, Cato and his cousin, Tomas, seek to mind-link with the elusive eagle to find clues to the missing blue-black birds. The missing birds may help Cato uncover a long-kept secret. A secret that may help his family.

Through his adventures, Cato learns to trust his inner power. He conquers his fear of the Ghost Bird, befriends a scary hawk, and rescues his brother. Themes of loss, courage, and the importance of family and friendships are explored.

Website: www.Cindymhayesauthor.com

Note: If you are interested in the book and wish to purchase a copy, we are only set up to accept cash, checks or Venmo at this time.

It can also be purchased through Amazon.

Price: $12.50

Reviews

"This touching fantasy story of the magic bond between birds and humans, will keep the young reader engaged. It is perfect for those who are transitioning to longer chapter books, or for the older student who wants a quick fantasy story to read."

- Pam Matthews - former elementary school librarian- Tulsa, Oklahoma

* Read additional reviews on the reverse side



I worked for 40 years in the field of public education in the Midwest, and the South, before settling with my family in the Pacific Northwest.

After retiring, I continued to be active with the Arboretum, Friends of the Library, garden groups, history/research, hiking, and whatever else caught my fancy. I combined my various interests with a dose of imagination to write my first children's fantasy book.

Previously, I have published the book *Aunt Emily's Diaries* which were my great-great great aunt's diaries from the 1800s. This 2015 edition commemorated the 100th anniversary of her death in 1915.

(Place icons for Instagram, Facebook, Amazon)

Review

“This enchanting book begins with Cato’s question to his Grandfather Ollie, “How long does it take to grow up and not be afraid of the forest Ghost?”

This book sings with storytelling! After the monthly Gathering of the Vallee People, Cato and his cousin, Tomas, begin plans to help Cato’s family avert a family crisis. During their quest, lessons are imparted through nature’s creatures, wisdom of the elders, and Tomas’s friendship. Cato overcomes his fears, gains a sense of belonging, discovers his individual strengths and talents.

I’m still laughing about the screaming cure! A shout-out to the illustrator! The chapter pictures gave the reader clues to the upcoming content. Sweet and simple pictures.”

- Julie Smith – former middle school librarian/ language arts teacher – Sandpoint, Idaho