



When the Butterflies Came

Kimberley Griffiths Little

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Everybody thinks Tara Doucet has the perfect life. But in reality, Tara's life is anything but perfect: Her dear Grammy Claire has just passed away, her mother is depressed and distant, and she and her sister Riley can't seem to agree on anything. But when mysterious and dazzling butterflies begin to follow her around after Grammy Claire's funeral, Tara just knows in her heart that her grandmother has left her one final mystery to solve.

A strange butler brings Tara and Riley to Grammy Claire's house, where Tara finds a stack of keys and detailed letters from Grammy Claire herself. Note by note, Tara learns unexpected truths about her grandmother's life. As the letters grow more ominous and the clues more difficult to decipher, Tara realizes that the secrets she must uncover could lead to mortal danger. And when Tara and Riley are swept away to the beautiful islands of Chuuk to hear their grandmother's will, Tara discovers the most shocking truth of all — one that will change her life forever.

From Kimberley Griffiths Little comes a magical, breathtaking mystery full of loss and love, family and faith.

When the Butterflies Came Details

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Author : Kimberley Griffiths Little

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From Reader Review When the Butterflies Came for online ebook

Natalie says

I thought this book was amazing because it had a lot of mystery. The book made you think one thing and at the end it's not true. I recommend this book if you like to solve mysteries.

Mardi says

This book was recommended to me by one of my students who is a voracious reader. Her words to me were, "Mrs. Wilkins, you NEED to read this book. It is one of the best books I have read in a long time." She even brought her copy to me so that I wouldn't have to wait for the public library copy. What a gem!

This was a lovely little story about butterflies, youth, and the love between a grandmother and granddaughter. With enough detail and a hint of mystery, I found myself completely engaged with each page turning. The ending was a magical surprise. If you are looking for a delightful read for your middle grade student, please don't hesitate to pick this book up.

Holli says

I must read everything this writer has written!

Malayne s8 Simons says

The book when the Butterflies come, by Kimberly Little. Is about a girl named Tara Docet. She is such a sweet loving girl, then her granny Claire just passed away and she is really sad. During this time her mom is very depressed and is having a really hard time understand why that had to happen to her. Then Tara starts to see all of these butterflies and she is wondering why they are all of a sudden they are always right by her and then she finds out that they are from her granny Claire. I really liked this book because it was sad which I like sad books. The author also kept the book really interesting and even in some parts when it got boring it changed into a really good part. I really also liked how I could connect with this book. When my grandpa died he always said he would leave pennies in special spots and he has been doing that and this book really made me think of him. But what I didn't like about this book was that it was kinda boring at the frist and I had a hard time staying with it but then when it started to get towards the middle I really loved this book. I also didn't like how the mom was really depressed and it kinda made a down on the whole book. The theme for this book is to know that someone will always be there for you even if you can't see them.

Maleah says

Too good to be true! This is just amazing. When I finished it I'm like "this is the best book ever"! I think

there should be a When The Butterflies Return to sum it up. I would recommend this to anyone who likes fiction and mystery. My friend read this and said it was the best book ever. My grandma read it and said this is an amazing book. This book is family friendly!

Whisperwind says

Okay. First of all. I don't usually read mysteries. I had no idea that this was a mystery. It is. Saying that for those of you who want to read about butterflies, but hate mysteries.

Second of all. My friend read this and was crying. She was crying due to family problems. Everyone thought the book was sad. I had recently finished the book. It's not a sad book (well, most of it isn't sad).

Now. My biggest problem. This is a spoiler. I'm not marking this review as a spoiler. THE EFFIN BUTLER DID IT!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I mean, how common is THAT?!! He tried to DROWN the mc and her sis. He tricked them and wants to use the butterflies magic and give all the research to a company that will hurt them. Sorry. Skip over that if you don't like spoilers. But it is so common of an outcome!!!

Another problem. I can't stand the main character. She is a "princess" but is so... unroyal. She is not princess material, no matter her bloodline. If she were my princess, I would send her into exile right away. And also, WHAT KIND OF PRINCESS CHEWS HER HAIR??!?!!!!!!! A goat princess??!?!?!?!?! It's just gross. I also could not tolerate the mc's mother. Every time something bad happens, she just runs off leaving a 16 year old and an 11year old at home alone. Such bad parenting. But it turns out, she never even leaves the house. Biggest Facepalm ever.

The cool thing was all the butterfly quotes. Those really made a difference in my life.

"You can chase a butterfly all over the field and never catch it. But if you sit quietly in the grass it will come and sit on your shoulder." "Butterflies are always following me, everywhere I go." "Nerves and butterflies are a physical sign that your mentally ready and eager. You have to get the butterflies to fly in the right formation, that's the trick." "Someday I will be a beautiful butterfly, and then everything will be better." "'just living is not enough' said the butterfly. 'One must have sunshine, freedom, and a little flower.'" "Butterflies are invisible fairies, creating flowers everywhere they dance." "The butterfly counts not months but moments, and has time enough." "If nothing ever changed, there'd be no butterflies." "There is nothing in a caterpillar that tells you it's going to be a butterfly." "Devine creation can be seen painted on a butterflies wing." They say 'only in dreams men are truly free, what does a butterfly dream about? - it is already free!'" "I do not know if I was then a girl dreaming I was a butterfly, or whether I am now a butterfly dreaming I am a girl." "No garden truly blooms until butterflies have danced upon it." "We are like butterflies who flutter for a day and think it's forever." "I'll be floating like a butterfly and stinging like a bee." "How does one become a butterfly? You must want to fly so much that you are willing to give up being a caterpillar." "We delight in the beauty of the butterfly, but rarely admit the changes it has gone through to adhesive that beauty." "We are closer to the ants than to the butterflies." "The magnificent butterfly finds a little heap of dirt and sits still on it; but man will never on his heap of mud keep still." "What the caterpillar calls the end of the world, the Master calls the butterfly." "Caterpillars? Pupas? Cocoons or chrysalis? Only God knows the mysteries and secrets of a true nipwispwis." "Not quite birds, as they were not quite flowers, mysterious and fascinating as are all indeterminate creatures." "In nature, a repulsive caterpillar turns into a lovely butterfly. But with humans it is the other way around: a lovely butterfly turns into a repulsive caterpillar." "The air is like a butterfly with frail blue wings. The happy earth looks at the sky and sings..." "Just like the butterfly, I too will awaken in my own time...."

My personal favorite which should be on all greeting cards is this one,

May the wings of the butterfly kiss the sun

And find your shoulder to light on

To bring you luck, happiness, and riches

Today, tomorrow, and beyond. (My friends who live in Ireland might recognize this one, as it is an Irish blessing)

Cynthia says

First book of the summer and it was amazing!! I love Kimberly's storytelling and magic.

Chantele Sedgwick says

Beautiful writing and loved the story.

??? says

What a amazing twist at the end of the story. I was stunned and I would never guess that the grandma was alive!

Emma says

I first read this book in third grade and I've read it more times than I can remember since. It made me look at butterflies in a whole new way. I was so surprised that the grandmother staged everything. That totally caught me off guard. This is a beautiful book about loss, friendship, mystery and butterflies!

Sheila says

Another beautiful story by Kimberley Griffiths Little. I'm always so moved by the powerful stories that she tells. When the Butterflies Came is another excellent addition to the middle grade reading world. The mystery will ensnare you, and the storyline will touch your heart.

Dan Rogers says

I became acquainted with this book when one of my students told me about it. Based upon what she said, as well as the description written on the back of the book, I just knew that I had to read it so I asked to borrow it when she was finished. I am so glad that I did. Everything about this book says “girl” book. All I can say about that is, if this is a typical “girl” book then I want to read lots of them. This has to be one of the best mysteries I have read in quite a long time.

Tara Doucet, the protagonist, and her recently deceased Grammy Claire, most definitely have to be two of my favorite characters. I admire the love which Tara has for her Grandmother. Not only is she deeply devoted, but she also continually strives to live up to all that Grammy Claire asks of her. Grammy Claire's love and confidence in Tara come through in the letters she leaves her. Together, they work to find out who is behind the drive to wipe out the Nipwisipwis.

For the longest time I was so caught up in the story that I wasn't sure what genre this book is. Additionally,

for the longest time, I wasn't sure exactly where the author was taking the reader to. When I finally figured these two things out, I was so caught up in the story that there was no way that I could bear to put it down for even a moment. The only thing that kept me from just reading through straight to the end was that this book sat on my bedside table and when I found myself reading the same page for the third time in one evening I knew that it was time to turn off the light and go to sleep. Many thanks to my student Lexi for lending me such an enjoyable book.

Katie Bettis says

When the Butterflies Came by Kimberly Griffiths Little is about how a girl named Tara Doucet's grandma died. Her mother gets depressed and very distant. She has a sister named Riley, but they don't get along. After her grandma's funeral, a bunch of mysterious butterflies start to follow her. She can tell that her grandma is giving her one last mystery to solve. I would recommend this book to anyone who likes realistic fiction.

Kimberley Little says

I *adored* mysteries growing up and tried my hand writing them many years ago without luck. This new book is the closest thing to a mystery that I've published so far, and it was fun to see it come alive as I worked on it. WHEN THE BUTTERFLIES CAME has many elements I adore: islands and beaches and a tree house a la Swiss Family Robinson style from Disneyland (which I always pretended was my own secret tree house), secret letters, mysterious keys, and magical butterflies. The cover art from artist Erin McGuire is fantastic and simply perfect.

Genesis says

The first butterfly came with others following. This book, When the Butterflies Came by Kimberley Griffiths Little, went soaring high in the sky. The author flew very high with this book. This fictional book is designated for children. When Tara Doucet loses her dear beloved Grammy Claire, she is left alone in no one's hands. To make matters worse, her mother hides in her shell and leaves Tara alone with her chaotic sister, Riley, who is going through teen hood, and her dad has left them to go live in California for Hollywood Life. In this somber, empty house Tara is left to find the strange notes and keys that her Grammy Claire left behind on purpose. She is taken along on a journey and discovers secrets about Grammy Claire that she had no idea about her.

Tara learns important discoveries about her life and family. The world is full of secrets.

This wonderful story is told in 1st person by Tara telling the story. The author describes the whole setting and description of what is happening. She describes how Tara is feeling every time she made a discovery. You can learn that every nook and cranny, there are secrets. Life is full of disappointing and wonderful secrets. The author comes up with a great way of keeping the reader interested in the book. She creates a nice plot with a lot of suspense. Each time you turn the page you are filled with suspense and thoughts about the story. This book is a brilliant book filled with details and suspense that will make everyone reading. This is one of the most marvelous books I have ever read. It teaches a world-wide lesson that everyone should know.

Genesis Nam
10.26.2013
~ RATING: * * * * *
