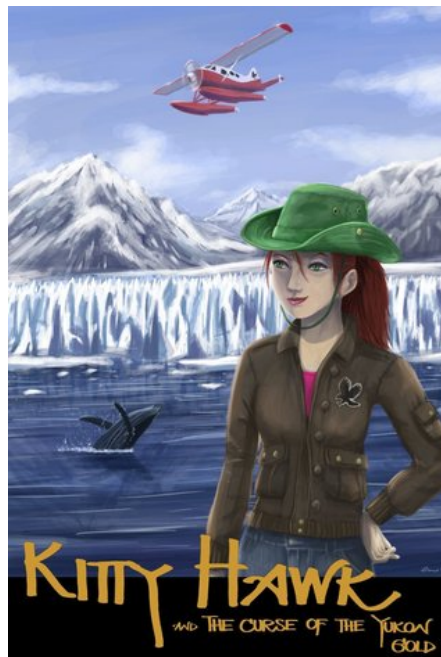




Kitty Hawk and the Curse of the Yukon Gold

Iain Reading

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Kitty Hawk and the Curse of the Yukon Gold Iain Reading

Kitty Hawk and the Curse of the Yukon Gold is the thrilling first installment in a new series of adventure mystery stories that are one part travel, one part history and five parts adventure. This first book of the Kitty Hawk Flying Detective Agency Series introduces Kitty Hawk, an intrepid teenage pilot with her own De Havilland Beaver seaplane and a nose for mystery and intrigue. A cross between Amelia Earhart, Nancy Drew and Pippi Longstocking, Kitty is a quirky young heroine with boundless curiosity and a knack for getting herself into all kinds of precarious situations.

After leaving her home in the western Canadian fishing village of Tofino to spend the summer in Alaska studying humpback whales Kitty finds herself caught up in an unforgettable adventure involving stolen gold, devious criminals, ghostly shipwrecks, and bone-chilling curses. Kitty's adventure begins with the lingering mystery of a sunken ship called the Clara Nevada and as the plot continues to unfold this spirited story will have armchair explorers and amateur detectives alike anxiously following every twist and turn as they are swept along through the history of the Klondike Gold Rush to a suspenseful final climatic chase across the rugged terrain of Canada's Yukon, the harsh land made famous in the stories and poems of such writers as Jack London, Robert Service and Pierre Berton. It is a riveting tale that brings to glorious life the landscape and history of Alaska's inside passage and Canada's Yukon, as Kitty is caught up in an epic mystery set against the backdrop of the scenery of the Klondike Gold Rush.

Kitty Hawk and the Curse of the Yukon Gold is a perfect book to fire the imagination of readers of all ages. Filled with fascinating and highly Google-able locations and history this book will inspire anyone to learn and experience more for themselves as Kitty prepares for her next adventure - flying around the world!

Kitty Hawk and the Curse of the Yukon Gold Details

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Author : Iain Reading

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From Reader Review Kitty Hawk and the Curse of the Yukon Gold for online ebook

Laura says

Thank you to the publicist and the author, Iain Reading, for gifting me with a copy of Kitty Hawk and the Curse of the Yukon Gold in exchange for an honest review!

1. The characters. The characters were one of my favorite parts of this book. First and foremost, Kitty. I loved her personality, her weird humor, her adventurous spirit, and her strange conversations she would have with herself. It was so relatable how Kitty would have conversations with herself in her own head. She would argue with herself and keep up a banter and it really kept the dialogue moving. One thing I do wish is that the author would have made those conversations italicized or something of the sort so they would be more distinguishable from the out-loud conversations that were taking place. The other characters are wonderfully developed as well and I felt like they simply popped right off the page.

2. The plot. The plot was really interesting to me. I didn't really have all that much knowledge about the Alaska/Canada gold rush and the landscape until I read this book. Obviously, pieces are probably fictionalized, but it gives you a good picture of the region and the culture. The book mostly focuses on Kitty on her adventures as she documents whales and gets roped into a gold expedition. I really liked how the plot unfolded at a nice pace and I never felt too rushed or bored out of my mind. There is always something going on. Trying to figure out why the trio was trying to steal the gold was an excellent plot line, as well.

3. The writing. Like I mentioned in the characters section, I really loved Kitty's conversations with herself. They brought humor to some dark scenes and helped me understand Kitty's mindset a bit more. The writing style never felt like a nuisance to read.

The Final Verdict:

A fun, quirky mystery that keeps the tone light and the humor prevalent. I especially loved how Kitty was developed and how relatable she was.

5 stars

Quotes:

"Mocha Bear? I thought to myself. What does that mean? Is that some kind of code or something. Apparently even in deadly serious situations boys simply can't resist the urge to play like they are secret agents or something."

"With the trees on the banks of the river rushing past us, we touched down on the river and gradually slowed as the pontoons settled into the water. I turned to face the others with a big, wide grin on my face.

'Piece of cake,' I said calmly, feeling invincible. 'You can let go of the seats now.'"

"'Wherever we are in this world, we are not alone. We are not the only creatures who find life in the sky and water and land. We are not the only creatures who need it. And we cannot just take and take and take. We have to give. And we have to respect.'"

Uma ~Books.Bags.Burgers. says

(A huge thanks to the publicist and the author for sending me a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.)

CHARACTERS

Kitty is the star of the book and the entire story is from her perspective. The thing I loved the most about Kitty is that she has these conversations with herself which was so relatable! She argues with herself which is something I do a lot! Also it was wonderful to see a main character who liked geography and biology. It's not everyday that YA books have such a protagonist. But I must say that Kitty sounded a little younger than a young adult! While the fact that she's flying a plane around the world reminds me that she is an adult, the way she talks and behaves made me feel that she was a lot younger. I felt like she was a younger Nancy Drew who loved adventures!

Every character Kitty meets have an important role both in the book and Kitty's life. It was nice to see her interactions with her parents and friends. I loved that the starting chapters focused so much on Kitty's relationships with the most important people in her life. I feel this gives readers a very good idea about Kitty's personality before diving into the actual adventure!

'Wherever we are in this world, we are not alone. We are not the only creatures who find life in the sky and water and land. We are not the only creatures who need it. And we cannot just take and take and take. We have to give. And we have to respect.'

PLOT

The plot is basically the adventures Kitty faces as she studies whales. When Kitty is suddenly pulled into a gold rush adventure, things get worrisome. While normally the pace with which the plot unfolded would have been slow for me, I liked it here because even before the actual plot starts, we learn a lot about other things such as flying, the whales, the geography and culture of Alaska etc. I found all these quite interesting to know about and there wasn't a single boring moment in the book.

WRITING

The writing flows quite effortlessly even when the chapters aren't in chronological order. Sometimes the chapters weren't continuous and there are time gaps between them; but this never hindered me during reading. I loved the internal conversations Kitty has with herself and also the vivid descriptions of the places she visits and the sights she sees. At times there was a lot of information to absorb in a single page and I had to reread things a bit which is pretty much the only complaint I have about the writing style.

WHAT I LIKED ABOUT THE BOOK

- Kitty's conversations with herself
- All the Biology, geography and history facts
- The slow but steady plot

- The writing for the most part

WHAT I DIDN'T LIKE ABOUT THE BOOK

- The fact that Kitty seemed a lot younger for her age at times
- Too much information at times

CONCLUSION

If you're looking for a fun filled adventure along with a lot of scientific facts, this is a must read. The story has a wonderful MC, a fun plot, a light romance and loads of adventure!

Sherry Fundin says

I loved this wondrous adventure story that I won some time ago, about a young girl flying the Alaskan skies, where she makes the most unlikely friends and learns that life is not black and white, and things are not always what they seem.

See more at fundinmental

Danielle Steenrod says

"This harsh and wild land of the north and all its adventure had infected my soul, and I would never be the same again."

-Iain Reading, *Kitty Hawk and the Curse of the Yukon Gold*

Kitty Hawk and the Curse of the Yukon Gold is the first book in a young adult adventure series. Kitty Hawk is a recent high school graduate who decides to spend her summer flying her seaplane over Alaska studying humpback whales. She writes to her favorite outdoors clothing company asking for sponsorship money in order for her to take this adventure in return for advertising their clothing. They accept Kitty's offer and she's on her way from her hometown of Tofino, Canada to Juneau, Alaska to follow her dreams. Everything seems to be going fine with her studies of the whales until one day she notices a boat that is mysteriously riding low in the water, as if they are carrying something that is heavier than the maximum weight a boat should allow. Due to her curiosity, she decides one day to check it out, as she believes this boat is carrying stolen gold. Her curiosity gets the best of her and she ends up being kidnapped and forced into an adventure that she had never planned.

What I really loved about this book is that it is so unique to the young adult genre. This book is jam-packed with fun facts about whales and the Yukon Gold Rush of the early 1890s that took place in Alaska. I really appreciated all the time and effort Iain Reading took into researching these topics and sharing information that I thought was interesting. It definitely added depth to the story. Throughout the book, we also get campfire stories about the Yukon Gold Rush that I especially enjoyed. These stories had to be my favorites scenes in the whole book. They were fun and really made you feel like you were sitting around the campfire with the rest of the characters.

Kitty Hawk has to be one of my favorite heroines that I have read in the young adult genre. She is intelligent, courageous, focused, and adventurous. At one point in the story, there was a slight love interest that I thought

to myself, "Oh, here we go. Can't have a young adult book without some sort of romance aspect thrown into it." I'm happy to say that I was wrong! Kitty does go on one date but decides that she would rather focus on her work with the humpback whales rather than be distracted by a boy. I absolutely loved this! This just goes to show that you don't have to write in a romance plot into every YA book! These are traits that I would like to see more in the YA genre. Now, I'm not saying there is anything wrong with romance. I just liked the fact that for once a heroine was able to put boys to the side and focus on the task at hand. This was a major plus for me.

I never considered myself to be one who would enjoy an adventure book, but to my pleasant surprise, I've found that I really do enjoy this genre. It is fun, exciting, and something different from the average YA fantasy or contemporary romance book that seem to dominate the genre. So, even if this genre doesn't sound that interesting to you, I urge you to give this series a shot. It was such a pleasure to read.

I do have one con about this series that I would like to bring up. Now this is clearly my own opinion. I do believe that the covers seem more geared for a younger target audience. Before I had even read the synopsis, I had originally thought that this would be a middle grade adventure novel. I think if the covers were changed to target the young adult audience, this book series would get more attention for its targeted audience. I personally would not have picked this book up off of the shelf in a book store if I had seen it just because the cover screams middle grade to me.

Overall, this is a strong first book in the *Kitty Hawk Flying Detective Agency Series*. I would definitely consider picking up the next installment as I'm curious to see what characters make a reappearance. I do have some favorite characters that I would like to see in the next book. I would recommend this book for anyone who enjoys reading about adventure or anyone who just wants to read something different in the YA genre. I rate this book 4 out of 5 stars.

Thank you to Iain Reading and to Kelsey Butts from Book Publicity Services for sending me a copy of this book in return for an honest review.

Veronica ?? says

Finally a young adult book for girls interested in marine life, geography, history and real life adventures. Not a ghost, angel or vampire in sight. Quite refreshing!

Kitty Hawk is a 19 year old adventurer. She has her pilots licence and wants to study the feeding habits and migration patterns of whales off the coast of Alaska. She receives sponsorship from an adventure clothing company and flies from her home in Tofino, Canada to Juneau, Alaska where she will stay with family friends.

As the story progresses the reader learns a lot about whales and the area of Juneau and the history of the Yukon and the gold rush. Kitty's inquisitive nature gets her into some life and death scrapes.

I'll start with a couple of things I didn't like. The story was told in the first person by Kitty and she was at times very annoying. Also that little voice that kept popping into her head drove me crazy. At the start of the story Kitty kept jumping back and forward in time with her narration which was off putting.

The things I liked were Kitty's sass and humour. I enjoyed all the historical facts of Juneau and the Yukon gold rush. There was plenty of action, danger and a couple of great twists. The little maps showing where Kitty was flying and the area she trekked through were great for someone who knows nothing about the area. The author has added references at the end of the book for further reading on some of the animals, places and people mentioned in the story.

A fun way for students 10+ years to learn the history of the gold rush.

Brenda says

Kitty Hawk had loved to fly for as long as she could remember – now as a seventeen year old she decided before settling down to university she would indulge in her love of flying and adventure. Her parents had always supported Kitty, and when she told them of her plan to fly to Alaska to study humpback whales, plus the fact she already had a sponsor, they helped bring it all together for her.

When Kitty left her Canadian home of Tofino in her De Havilland Beaver seaplane she hopped from one refuelling base to the next on her journey – her excitement when she saw her destination of Juneau in Alaska and Uncle Joe and Aunt Jenny waiting on the pier was breathtaking. Her adventure was starting – she was achieving her dream...

Kitty's days were filled with the wonder of watching the whales frolic and feed – her cameras attached to the underside of her seaplane captured it all. Her assignment was proving to be much more than she thought it could possibly be – she was keen to share her findings with other researchers. But after hearing the story of the mysterious sinking of the *Clara Nevada* more than one hundred years previously, and the Klondike gold rush, Kitty had no idea she would find herself embroiled in another adventure she could have done without. Stolen gold and criminals – would Kitty ever see her parents again?

Kitty Hawk and the Curse of the Yukon Gold is an exceptional adventure story – the first in the Kitty Hawk Flying Detective Agency series for older children and young adults. I thoroughly enjoyed Kitty's indomitable spirit; her toughness when it was needed; her soft and gentle awe of the whales. I have no hesitation in recommending this novel highly.

With thanks to Book Publicity Services and the author for my copy to read in exchange for an honest review.

Erin Sky says

I wanted to like this book so badly. I LOVED the premise. Nancy Drew with an airplane! But it just wasn't what I hoped. There were too many places where the plot and story structure didn't work for me. But it's gotten some decent reviews here on Goodreads. If you've read it, what did you think?

Vikki P says

I received a Review Copy of *Kitty Hawk and the Curse of Yukon Gold* from the publicist/author in exchange for an honest review.

Kitty Hawk and the Curse of Yukon Gold is the first book in the Kitty Hawk Flying Detective Agency by Iain Reading. As the description above implies, Kitty Hawk has a very Nancy Drew vibe to her which was why I was pretty excited about reading this book! I've always been a big fan of Nancy Drew, Hardy Boys and all the childhood classics of the sort and I was looking forward to finding out what this book had in store

for me.

The first thing that I have to highlight, which I now realize was always missing from the stories I read as a kid, is the book was so very informative! A lot of reviews claimed they enjoyed the book because of Kitty Hawk as a character but it was the fascinating facts that made me enjoy the book even more. The topics covered in the book range from Gold Rushes, to Whales to even sushi! I had never heard of Gold Rushes before and ended up reading up a lot more about them after I was done with the book. The book is pretty useful for children to learn about such topics.

The second thing that I loved about the book was the little maps illustrating the entire book. The moment I received the book, I began flipping through it and they were pretty captivating and made it so easy to follow Kitty Hawk's journey.

As a character, Kitty was pretty brilliant and independent which I did like, but I think I enjoyed the story-line itself far more. Kitty's life, like it is in all children's books, was far too perfect as everything did line up quite a little too easily for her, but nevertheless I did like the Amelia Earhart vibe. When facing adverse circumstances, Kitty is optimistic and resourceful and I really did love that! The first 10-15 pages were slightly discordant and a little confusing but once the actual story of her travelling to Juneau began I was right with her!

Kitty Hawk Flying Detective Agency series has 5 books, the next one being Kitty Hawk and the Hunt for Hemingway's Ghost which I'm definitely looking forward to reading it. It is the perfect series to pique a child's imagination.

Olivia-Savannah Roach says

I was eager to read Kitty Hawk and the Curse of the Yukon Gold seeing as I had already read The Dragon of the Month Club by the same author and really enjoyed the creativity behind that one. I have to say, this novel wasn't quite as good as this one, but it still an enjoyable read. You have to be appreciate Kitty Hawk as a character.

What I loved the most about this story had to be how much of an adventure it truly was. There's no doubt this one can be pegged under this genre. But at the same time, there is also the quest element to it, and the mystery element as well. As Kitty Hawk goes on her adventure, she also sees a lot of the beautiful landscape of Alaska. It was so beautifully described that it made me wish that I was there myself. Iain Reading knew how to find the balance between giving us information about what we were seeing and experiencing as well as describing it in such a way that you had to admire the scene as if you were seeing it yourself.

However, I still felt like it was hard to peg whether this one was a young adult or middle grade book. It seemed to drift between the two age categories, and that bothered me a little. Because while Kitty Hawk was 18 and fresh out of high school, she was also having some pretty juvenile issues (such as the whole thing with Amanda) which seemed more fitting for a middle grade novel. It would be hard for both age categories to read it for that reason, so I felt a bit lukewarm about that.

Another aspect of the novel I really liked was the individuality of the characters. We get to know a little bit of detail on all of them individually – especially the four main characters. Yet we also get to see the four of them acting as one unit. We get to see their motivations and more about their background that made me actually really care for them. I liked how my own closeness to the characters seemed to steadily grow

alongside Kitty's care for them.

As for Kitty Hawk herself, I also loved her. Although at times she did seem a little too perfect, Reading resolved that by giving her a bit of a flaw at the end. Mostly, I admired her morals and how she was not afraid to stand up and hold fast to what she believed in. She had a very good moral compass that made me wish I had as strong and sure of a hold as she did on my own too. It made her so easy to love.

My main issue with the novel was at times it bordered on being a bit too wordy, which made it slower. It could have been faster paced and used fewer words, making the story more addicting. Toward the end of the novel I was really immersed and flipping pages, but personally, I felt like it took a little too long to get to that point. And the chapters were agonizingly short! It's a personal matter, but it made the story feel disjointed to me. There were certainly new places where a new chapter did not need to be started.

Overall, this was a really good adventure story with a very important life lesson as a theme to the entirety of the novel. It told me a lot about greed, first impressions vs. true impressions, and loyalty. Hopefully there is something for you to take from reading this novel yourself, as well.

This review and others can be found on Olivia's Catastrophe: <http://olivia-savannah.blogspot.com.e...>

haley says

DNF around page 255

I received a free ebook copy from the author/publicist in exchange for a review.

Honestly? This book has a great premise but it was so disappointing.

I didn't particularly like Kitty. She's 18, but acts really young for her age. She often has internal conversations with herself that irritated the hell out of me and she just feels really immature. All the other characters were flat too.

The plot wasn't keeping me interested either. Maybe it's the way it was written, or maybe it's what was actually happening in the plot, but I just didn't care at all.

Because this was a review request, I felt obligated to try and finish it, but it was such a chore to read that I just can't anymore. I'm not wasting anymore of my time.

I'm sorry, I know this review is really harsh. It didn't work for me, but perhaps someone else would have better luck. I won't dissuade anyone from reading Kitty Hawk and the Curse of the Yukon Gold. But I wouldn't recommend it either.

Amanda Thompson says

3.5/5 stars

PG-13 for mild language throughout

Recommend to readers looking for realistic, historical adventure stories. Also for fans of strong heroines and little to no romance.

I received a copy of this book courtesy of the author and Book Publicity Services in exchange for an honest review.

Kitty Hawk and the Curse of the Yukon Gold is a fun adventure with plenty of history and daring, featuring a great and capable heroine, but a little heavy-handed on facts and details.

What initially struck me about this book is the great voice of the main character, 19-year-old adventurer Kitty Hawk. This girl has spunk and energy and Reading does a fantastic job showing that through this first person narration. Readers will appreciate Kitty's humor, sarcasm, determination, and smarts. She's capable and clever and, best of all, she doesn't make those face-palming, stupid decisions so many YA characters seem to make. In addition to her strong personality, Kitty is a licensed pilot and the owner of a De Havilland Beaver, in full possession of the empowering quality of figuring out what she wants and going for it, no matter what; she is definitely the best thing about this book. Part Nancy Drew, part Amelia Earhart, Kitty Hawk is a good role model for girls; she reminded me particularly of my beloved Vesper Holly, Lloyd Alexander's adventure heroine from his series of the same name. (See *The Illyrian Adventure*)

While Kitty's voice in the prologue hooked my attention, the book does have a slow start after that, detailing a lot of Kitty's background and childhood, the technical specifics of flying a plane, a lot of her whale research, and quite a history lesson into the Klondike Gold Rush. I skimmed a good deal of this, because I found it rather dry. It wasn't until after 80 pages before I really got into it, but once the adventure gets under way, the reading went pretty fast.

The story itself was rather unexpected; it took a much different direction than I thought it would and I actually kind of loved it. This is much more of an adventure story than a traditional mystery, because Kitty isn't Nancy Drew sneaking clues to solve something; she's more of an Indiana Jones, setting off on a mission, but stumbling into an adventure along the way. There's even a pretty good Indiana Jones moment in the story; don't worry, you'll know it when you read it.

This delves deep into the history of Alaska and the Klondike, which I really love, and it has a strong sense of place, from the coast of Alaska to its fierce wilderness. Unfortunately, a lot of the information is conveyed through off-putting info dumps; even when another character is telling Kitty a story it feels more like reading a Wikipedia page than a conversation. I skipped over a lot of the history and technical information because it was too dry for my taste.

Interesting, fun, and educational, I wound up loving the adventure, the concept, and the characters. I would love to see some of these characters (specifically one) pop up in the other books, because I liked Kitty's chemistry with them (him). Outside of Kitty's great voice I had a hard time with the writing style, though Reading does paint some gorgeous and poetic landscapes.

Overall, I enjoyed it enough that I plan on checking out the rest of the series someday.

Dianne says

Adventure! Youthful independence! Mystery and the chance to travel far and wide! Sounds like the perfect set up for fantastic reading for pre-teens, teens and even adults! **Kitty Hawk and the Curse of the Yukon Gold** by Iain Reading unleashes a young and independent teen on the world of adventure as she flies her own plane to study whales in Alaska! I'm not sure what reader, young or old wouldn't love to have their own

adventure like Kitty's, so hop aboard, prepare for takeoff, some history lessons and the intrigue of the call of gold as Kitty finds trouble and moves to outwit the bad guys.

Iain Reading has created a responsible young woman with a zest for adventure and a knack for finding trouble. Kitty is about to discover the rush of gold fever, the mysteries of the Klondike Gold Rush and how far some quirky bandits will go in their quest for the gold. Be prepared for beautifully described scenery, detailing the majestic Alaskan landscape, the wildlife in their habitat and listen to the inner ramblings of a seventeen-year-old girl, wise beyond her years and far braver than I would be!

Need a positive role model who is the picture of working hard to achieve a goal, uses their brain to ponder out a situation or is able to converse with herself in her mind? Meet Kitty, there won't be a dull moment from start to finish! The best part is there is no gore, no over-the-top evil, there is some history, some wonder facts and the thrill of falling into another world with positive emotions, fresh characters and a doorway into a world of possibilities.

Series: Kitty Hawk Flying Detective Agency - Book 1

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For Reviews & More: <http://tometender.blogspot.com>

Aimee says

I received a copy of Kitty Hawk and the Curse of the Yukon Gold from a publicity agent for the author to review. (I think that's the right term??)

There were parts of this book that I think are great for girls to read. Like the adventure, a strong female heroine and marine life. It's set in our world so there are no vampires or faeries which I thought was a nice change. I mostly read fantasy books. Maybe I need to mix up my genres a little more. There was a mystery to the story too which kept me reading.

There were a few things I didn't like though. I did find Kitty and her inner voice annoying at times. Maybe because there's an age gap between us and I don't really know any nineteen year olds? I'm not really sure.

I also found the book had too much text for me which made reading a lot slower. So I did end up struggling to finish the book. But I did really want to finish it. I find I get through books with shorter paragraphs faster. Or maybe it just wasn't my kind of book? I'm not really sure what it was.

Overall I thought Kitty Hawk and the Curse of the Yukon Gold was a good adventure story for girls, or boys if they're also interested. I'm not saying this is just for girls. But I don't think this was for me. I've passed my copy onto someone I think will enjoy it more than me.

If your into adventure and mystery then maybe Kitty Hawk is the kind of book you'd enjoy.

Yesha says

Note: I received this book from the author via Kelsey @bookpublicityservices, in exchange for an honest review. I am glad I got chance to read this book.

Okay everyone, buckle your seat belts. Charlie Foxtrot Kilo Tango Yankee is ready to fly. Isn't that name is cool? That's Kitty's trusty seaplane De Havilland Beaver. You seeing the one in red and white on the cover? That's it. I so loved it that I want fly with her in that plane.

Loved this book right from the very beginning. Book is all about Kitty's summer adventure and Alaskan history. Basically the whole book revolves around history of Yukon Gold Rush in late 1890s. This was not like usual young armature detective and definitely different one in this genre.

Characters-

Kitty Hawk- Our heroine of the book was smart, funny, entertaining. Definitely NOT whiny typical teenage girl. She was portrayed really well in this book, so natural and realistic. Her development through gold adventure was pretty amazing. At first I doubted 2 or 3 things about her, like her trusting ability and her easy nature on that adventure. I was so sure that her this nature may put her in danger but she just surprised me or should I say author surprised me. I also loved her habit of comparing things with books she never read, it was peculiar. Best thing about her was her monologues, her conversations with her inside little voice. It was logical and funny and also gave pretty good idea about her thought process.

I also loved her parents, their way of teaching and Skeena's grandpa. In the very beginning they gave clear idea how our heroine would be like. Friends she made in this adventure were awesome.

What I liked-

Adventurous start of the book. This is first book that have 2 prologues and chapter zero which gave pretty good idea about Kitty's background and her childhood. I loved reading her voice and her childhood was really jaw dropping specially her flying lesson. I so loved reading this book from Kitty's POV. Her letter to her favorite clothing company was so good and her sign off signature at the end of the mail was beautiful.

I liked the flow of the book, first her Humpback Whale adventure, campfire story of Yukon Gold Rush and then Kitty's adventure of solving the mystery of stolen gold. How all that woven and related to Gold Rush was pretty amazing. During all those narration I felt like I was sitting with Kitty in her plane and watching Humpback or listening stories. Did I mention there were maps of Yukon Gold Rush? Those maps were very small in my kindle but they were all available on google so used it for convenience.

Here comes the mind-blowing part of the book that I loved so much-

There were lot of stories within this story and they were so mesmerizing that I never wanted it to end. That gold curse story involved in her adventure was the best.

Author has covered all places with detailed landscape and history that were related to the Yukon Rush. It was so well researched and I felt like author has personally visited all those places, learned everything about it and put it all in words. I got to know lot about Canada, Alaska, Humpback whale, and history of Yukon Gold Rush. Also, about authors who became famous with and because of this Gold Rush.

Best thing was the authenticity of all the information about places, humpback whales, bears along with the

clothing company and Kitty's aircraft De Havilland Beaver. Author has given all the information related to all of it at the end of the book. How to find these places and how you can google it for more information and books references of those famous authors who has written books on Gold Rush. Isn't it pretty amazing? Usually authors give discussion questions at the end but here author has given lot of homework of googling for readers. I so enjoyed googling it that I proudly showed it to my husband and family telling them 'see I learned all these things just by reading this book'. ?

There were many twists in the book. At some point I really had no idea what was going to come next, what Kitty will do and how this story was going to end. Author has given me many surprises in the book specially the in the End and also in epilogue. It was pretty cool in fact. Till the end I was thinking first prologue is not making sense where was that particular event! And finally I got that answer in the epilogue. So guys don't miss prologues and epilogue.

Kitty's adventure also gave a lesson on the human greed, how far it can take them and how much damage it can cause to not only their life but also earth.

Overall, Kitty Hawk and the Curse of the Yukon Gold is adventurous, entertaining book that will take you back in the Gold Rush era with lot of information and stories. It is not just for YAs, everyone can enjoy this book. If you love history and adventure, this book is for you.

Lisa (Remarkablylisa) says

MY RATING: 4/5 STARS

I was provided a complimentary copy from the author & marketing team in exchange for an honest review.

Okay, so I know what a lot of you guys might be thinking. I normally don't reach for books like this one and you guys make a fair point. I reach for steamy romances, young adult contemporaries, or like my newly discovered love--young adult fantasy novels. It is also within fair reason why I would personally be hesitant about reading this on in particular.

And I may have the same reasons as you do. While the cover features gorgeous artwork, it doesn't necessarily look like a well polished book you'll find in your bookstore. The title is kind of put in the bottom--discarded like it will ruin the cover even though the title is one of the most important parts to a book and the author's name is squished in the bottom left corner. I know we shouldn't be judging books by their covers but in a world where our attention spans last no longer than it takes to send out a tweet--a beautiful cover matters.

BUT.

AND A HUGE BUT.

This book just PROVES the rule of 'don't judge a book by it's cover' because as soon as I started reading the first couple of pages I was GRIPPED. Iain Reading's style of writing is smooth, beautiful, and full of wit. I found myself actually smirking and laughing at the sprinkle of humor he put in there. The sarcasm especially and the outrageous comments made me appreciate this book a lot more. And trust me, if you can make me laugh, you already won AT LEAST 1 star in the rating. Aside from humor, I was just intrigued by the story like what are we getting ourselves into? What exactly is going to happen to Kitty and how does that all tie back to the really thrilling prologue?

Let's backtrack a bit and discuss the story. Kitty wants to go to Alaska for the summer so she can shoot some pictures of whales and during her time there, she somehow gets involved with four brothers who are stealing gold. The whole entirety of the story is about Kitty helping the four brothers steal massive amounts of gold while also trying to survive and not get murdered by the same people she's helping out. Okay, so it's pretty intriguing to read about how Kitty manages to protect herself from getting killed by the brothers or by the climate and of course, the underlying plot was nothing to complain about.

I've had my suspicions about the characters but I was happily relieved that my suspicions were correct by the end of the book. I mean, the four brothers (sorry, I don't remember their names because I read the book for the oldest brother aka Charlie), were far too nice. I mean, they were gruff and rude in the beginning towards Kitty because she is their hostage but they fed her, made sure she was warm, and chatted with her like they were their friend or *winky face* lover.

And I know that's just my inner romantic coming out but Iain Reading wrote some freaking sexual tension scenes and I am still so mad and frustrated that the relationships were not fully flushed out nor developed and I am honestly intrigued to read the others just so I know if Kitty EVER ends up with the bad boy/good boy, Charlie.

Before I move onto the things that I didn't like about the book, I just want to point out the freaking plot twists in this story. THEY ARE WILD. A VERY PLEASANT SORT OF WILD that I never saw coming and I'm like I thought you were bad or I thought you were good or I thought this wouldn't be happening!!!!

What disappointed me a lot about this book was that I found character development and creation was really lacking in this book. I could tell you that Kitty was brave and adventurous but her motives and her feelings were way out of sync. I mean, she was kidnapped by four older men, and not once did she ever cry about her parents or worried that EVERYONE would be searching for her. She only thought about it once and she didn't even think my mom is going to be worried about me but rather think what my crush from the small town I'm staying in is doing. I mean SERIOUSLY?! I understand strong females who don't cry at every turn but it's not very realistic for a person or a character to go along with everything like everything is OKAY when it's clearly not!

And the characters were mostly one dimensional. We don't really know why some characters are acting a certain way. Iain kind of just writes them for the sake of writing them and it's kind of unnecessary. Take for example, Kitty's enemy, Amanda. What was the point of her?! She was just plain mean for the sake of being mean!!!! She destroyed Kitty's hard work when she was little and she annoys Kitty constantly by doing silly things and she didn't add value to the plot so really I didn't get her purpose!

Another thing that kind of grated my nerves was that the chapters were short and they didn't fit together. Like one chapter would be talking about the headcase known as Amanda (see above) and then the next would be Kitty writing a letter to get some funding to travel to Alaska. It just didn't flow and it didn't feel like an actual story as opposed to diary entries.

Finally, I'm Canadian. I, therefore, find some Canadian history interesting but I'm definitely not a history buff. It was interesting a lot of the times to read about small towns in Canada, learn about the nature, culture, and heritage but a lot of the times I skimmed and browsed the pages simply because this isn't an educational book. This was meant to be fiction where I'm reading for the plot and not for the facts. So if you are going to read this book I HIGHLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU KNOW THAT AT LEAST 35% OF THIS BOOK INCLUDES FACTS AND STORIES ABOUT CANADUH.

MY RECOMMENDATION:

Honestly, I didn't know this book came out FIVE WHOLE FREAKING years ago but it's a pretty good book and it surprised me a lot that I would actually enjoy it. And I think you would too if you want to read about

the amazing scenery Canada has to offer and you're ready for a little kick of an adventure.

Can someone tell me if Kitty and Charlie end up together?
