



White Witch Pond

Jody Kihara

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Shaya Solen's walk home from school takes her past an eerie pond, where one day she finds an old bracelet made of raven feathers. Soon, strange events begin to unfold: a shadowy figure glimpsed across the water, ominous nightmares haunting Shaya, and rumors of a witch who once drowned in the pond. With the discovery of a strange family connection to the witch, Shaya is drawn into a mystery that must be solved before the approaching Halloween, which is the thirteenth anniversary of the witch's death – and Shaya's birthday.

* You can see some photos of the locations in White Witch Pond at
<http://www.jodykihara.com/whitewitch....> *

White Witch Pond Details

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Author : Jody Kihara

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From Reader Review White Witch Pond for online ebook

Alexis Villery says

This creepy read grabs your attention from the beginning and doesn't let go until the very last word. Shaya finds a bracelet made with feathers, hair, and bone. She searches desperately to discover the background of this unique jewelry so she can stop the mysterious happenings that are turning her family upside down. But the bigger problem, perhaps, is knowing what to do when she finds the information she is looking for.

I really enjoyed this book. It really grabs your attention from the very first sentence. I loved Shaya especially. She felt so realistic; from her interactions with her mom, to the relationship with her brother, she felt like a real person going through real things and I loved being so connected to her. I love that Ms. Kihara did not use any cliche YA devices to progress her story, which was refreshing in so many ways. There aren't any side storylines, which results in a well-developed story despite the short number of pages. I wish I had learned more about the witch. The reader learns enough, I guess, but I just wanted more. If you are looking for a quick creepy read this is definitely the book for you.

Natalie says

When I started this book, I thought perhaps it might be to young of a YA Fiction for me, but to my great surprise I was very wrong. I really enjoyed this book very much, in fact I loved it!!! I just love it when I am contacted to read/review books, and often going into the book I am not sure what to expect and sometimes wonder if this type of book will be to young for me to read and enjoy, I love it when I am proven wrong, and with Jodi's book I was very much proven wrong.

I really liked Shaya's character, she is sweet and very intelligent for a main character that is only twelve. She is a strong young lady taking matters into her own hands to solve a mystery. When Shaya and her brother Dev were walking home through the woods they come across a bracelet made of feathers which soon she will find out it once belonged to a witch that died in the pond in the woods some 20-years ago. Shaya wants to throw it back but Dev brings it home. That same very night very strange things start happening, even her brother Dev starts getting sick and the Doctors can't figure out why he is sick, it's up to Shaya to figure out what is going on before they loose her brother Dev. With her mom always getting yelled at and taking her brothers side, Shaya defy's her mom and pushes ahead to figure out the truth.

Once Shaya starts digging into the past she finds out some interesting things, now I'm not going to say what, that would only ruin the story for you, but I will say I really liked the the old man and his dog that was introduced to the story, I really liked him and pay close attention to the part the dog plays it's important.

Over all this is a fantastic story, the characters are perfectly developed and fit together perfect, Shaya might fight with her brother all the time Dev, but, you can clearly see her love for him at the same time.

The story line was played out very well, I love the details Jodi uses to create and set up the creepiness you feel as your reading the book, I loved the mystery and the suspense that kept you turning the pages, I couldn't turn them quickly enough, but, I had to slow down so I didn't miss any details at the same time. It reminded me of the new Paranormal Activity movies, kept you watching, kept you on the edge of your seat, and with out any notice WHAM something came at you and scared the bejesus out of you. I hope you will all pick up

your copy of this fantastic book and enjoy reading it as much as I did. Enjoy!!!

If you go to Jodi's website there are book extra's and pictures that you must see, they compliment the book very well. I loved going and looking at the pictures, you could get a better visual picture in your mind.
<http://www.jodykihara.com/whitewitch....>

Megan says

since this was a kid book, I'm not putting too much on it. It was just okay.

Jackleen says

Looking for something creepy to read, look no further. Jody Kihara has written a very spooky, spine tingling, hair standing up on the back of your neck witch/ghost story for teens and adults alike. Eerie ponds, dark winding streets in October, strange black dogs and even stranger creepy happenings all combine in a suspenseful quest to solve the mystery of a witch who drowned in a pond on Halloween thirteen years earlier.

Shaya and Dev Solen have just moved to a new city. The new neighbourhood is made up of a nest of winding streets in which the uninitiated are soon lost. As a rule, Shaya must walk home from school with her older brother. While taking a short cut through the park, they pass a pond, rumored to be the site of a drowning of a witch thirteen years earlier. Next to the pond Shaya finds a raven feather bracelet. The bracelet gives Shaya a very bad felling and she throws it away. Unfortunately, the bracelet is picked up and taken home by her brother. Shaya begins to see shadowy images of the witch both near the pond and at home. When her brother becomes ill and begins to behave strangely, Shaya knows she must investigate the death of the woman in the pond and return the raven bracelet. But where should she bring the bracelet? Now running around alone, by herself in the dark October evenings, Shaya sets out to investigate just what happened thirteen years earlier and to find the true meaning of the raven bracelet.

White Witch Pond is youth fiction, but since the arrival of Harry Potter and other children literature, adults have felt more comfortable reading books ear marked for kids. There is something to be said for a book that you can pick up and read in one sitting. Youth fiction, Harry Potter's 700 plus pages aside, tends to be formatted for younger readers, therefore; shorter in length and designed to get the attention of younger readers quick and sustain this attention to the conclusion. In my opinion, those authors who write good youth fiction must have better writing technique then those writing for adults. They must employ fewer words, write more concisely and yet, at the same time deliver a high caliber plot driven story designed to keep children's attention. Jody Kihara is a master at clean concise writing that grabs your attention from creepy beginning to the not- a- Disney- ending, dramatic cemetery conclusion.

The suspenseful pace and creepy settings are straight out of a Stephen king horror book, minus the hand shooting out of the ground. Lost in twilight running down dark allies, being chased by a big scary black dog and shadowy glimpses of the witch near the pond and even in front of Shayas' own home, adds a spooky atmosphere to this fast paced book. This book is scary. I read this book from beginning to end in one night tucked up in my bed. I was caught up in the building suspense and at a point when someone seemed to be sneaking up on our main character, Shaya, when my husband decided to walk into the bedroom, as he is

wont to do for the last twenty years. Bad timing. I screamed. He nearly jumped out of his skin, and looked behind himself because surely there must be an axe wielding mad man or maunding bear immediately behind him to cause such a reaction. What's wrong with you, he yelled. (Years and a team of professionals might be able to come up with an answer to that!) Scary book, was my only answer. I had only intended to read the first couple of chapters but once I started reading I was hooked. (I needed the story resolved before I could sleep.)

The characters are well drawn and true to life, Mom acts like a typical busy mom. Older brother, Dev, is annoying in the way that all brothers are, pestering and superior. The relationship between siblings is very real with equal parts competitive, antagonistic and loving. The main character Shaya is a bright twelve years old, full of the insecurities of a young girl in a new school and new neighborhood. Shaya employs great determination to resolve this mystery and does not give up despite being very frightened, and, uses good detective skills in order to save her brother.

I believe girls will like this book more than boys. The true depiction of the older brother's taunts and lack of contribution to household chores may be a little too real for a boys taste. Shaya is a fine model for young girl as she demonstrates good problem solving and independent thinking. Although new in school, Shaya is able to maintain her own identity and does not allow herself to get caught up in the questionable activity of her new friends.

I thoroughly enjoyed this well written book and will certainly encourage my children read White Witch Pond. Jody Kihara has written 6 other books which we will read soon.

For more detail see my blog <http://jackleenslibrary.blogspot.com/>

E.J. says

This novel is complete edge-of-your-seat, nail-biting reading; a real page turner! It's got a thoroughly spooky atmosphere and you really feel for the character as she struggles to figure out what's going on around her and why. It had me hooked from start to finish and I loved every page. Stephen King for YA, anyone?

Lex Write says

I absolutely loved this book. It was creepy and sweet all at the same time.

Jody Kihara's writing style is so beautiful and it evokes such great imagery. Just in this little passage we get so much information and already there is a feeling of dread creeping into the story: "It was October, and the days were short. The light was already fading by the time school let out – only a quarter to four, and already the edges of the park were blurring away into a fuzzy half-light, as if a paintbrush with too much water had drawn their outlines. The air had a sharp, biting feel to it, making Shaya shove her hands in her pockets and bounce up and down on her heels." (p.4) You just know that something spooky is about to happen.

Shaya is such a wonderful fully developed character. We see her antagonistic relationship with her older brother, Dev, but we also see her love for him as well. When the sibblings are walking home, they discover the bracelet of a witch that died in the pond. Shaya has the sense to throw it back but her brother picks it up

and brings it home. Once it gets there, strange things begin happening, and Shaya has to beat the clock to save her brother and make things right.

Shaya makes such a great heroine. Despite the fact that she is young, she takes her destiny into her own hands and works to save her brother's life. She is constantly yelled at by her mom and her brother does not want her help, but she does not stop and she shows great courage in some pretty spooky situations.

Overall this is a really good story. Very well written and wonderfully spooky. A perfect read of October

Cassandra says

Full, non-spoiler review courtesy at Book & Movie Dimension a Blog

White Witch Pond is the story of Shaya a girl that recently moves to a new neighborhood. While there, her friends reveal a past clouded in a death of a witch who drowned in the local pond. Shaya must uncover why the witch has chosen her to stalk.

Found there was a very wooden style to the writing which made the plot stand out stronger over character complexity. While the character of Shaya wasn't my most favorite because of her personality the flow of the story flowed really well that you don't have to worry too much about the characters. For the most part, White Witch Pond will have a good ending to look forward to. White Witch Pond is for the reader that cares much more for a suspenseful plot rather than the characters.

Sara says

White Witch Pond was a good story. It wasn't super creepy or anything but it definitely had the potential to be just that. I think the author must have wanted to keep it on the non scary side since it's a YA book. In all fairness, I just got done reading another YA book about a witch and this book just paled in comparison. I try not to compare books and really the stories didn't have anything in common but a dead witch, however after reading the other book, I just expected more from this one. Still it was a good story, I liked the writing style okay though I prefer first person. I think the characters themselves could've used more depth but overall it was a good story that will probably be creepy enough for younger teens. ;-)

Once Upon a Twilight says

Shaya is a young girl that by accident finds a bracelet near a pond in her neighborhood. When she takes it home there are some frightful consequences, when she realizes it belonged to a young witch that drowned in that pond and her ghost want it back. The story is not hardcore spooky but just enough to keep you wondering and urging you to go on reading to see what will happen next.

It is a short and easy read with a high entertainment factor and can work even for the younger crowd. Great book for the Halloween season.

review link: <http://www.onceuponatwilight.com/2011...>

Jennifer says

I was hoping with a title like White Witch Pond, there would be enough creepy factor for this 33 year old horror lover to really enjoy this story. Not that I was doubting it would be enjoyable, because Jody is an amazing writer, just that it would at least give me a few chills being as it is a YA book. I was not disappointed! Right from the first chapter, reading in the almost dark living room, the hair on my arms stood up a little. Short and easy to read this is a perfect read for a dark, stormy night.

I loved Shaya's character. I liked her confidence for being so young (I think she is around 12) and she seemed so grown up with her thoughts and actions. I felt bad for her though because it seemed like her mother did not understand her at all and was constantly putting her off and would never listen to anything she had to say. Determined to get to the bottom of the bracelet mystery and what is making her brother Dev sick, Shaya never backs down from the challenge and every step closer she gets, the more she needs to know.

With just enough creep factor to keep you from looking out the window in the dark, White Witch Pond will keep you reading until you reach the perfect ending!

Leanne B says

Fun and exciting - a great 'ghost story' that really pulls you in.

Jessica at Book Sake says

This story started off great, and I got into the main character Shaya's story very quickly. The writing style was easy to read and enjoyable, and for YA fiction I found it to be a different and interesting witch story with some suspense thrown in the mix. Shaya's character is well written and she comes across as a very intelligent teenager who isn't caught up in much of the drama that her age group is prone to. That being said, I wish there was more development of the story, once the connection is made by Shaya, the last few chapters seem to be rushed and I would have liked to have more to the story, or even a second novel in the series. Overall I would recommend it to those who enjoy the YA/Supernatural, and anyone looking for a quick read, especially around Halloween.

Reviewed by Gabi for Book Sake.

Mlpmom (Book Reviewer) says

This did have some formatting issues for me, nothing too terrible but a little distracting, overall though the story was a good one. A little creepy at times.

I think it would be worth a read if you like the genre. I think the author has a lot of potential.

cissy says

3.5 stars. This was a fun and fast read. It wasn't as creepy as I expected but I enjoyed it, and it sure has halloween vibes.

Rebecca says

Before I started reading White Witch Pond I thought it was going to be about a girl who discovers a bracelet of an old witch and then weird things start happening. I had expected the weird things to be something like she was getting the witch's power from the bracelet. Let's just say that nope, I was definitely very wrong. White Witch Pond was quite a creepy story really and reminded me a tiny bit of a horror movie. The ones these days where an event takes place and then strange things keep happening afterwards until the person it is affecting figures out how to stop it. I really enjoy those sorts of horrors because the creepy factor is there and then there is the element of mystery which I always love. White Witch Pond had all that and I really enjoyed it.

I sat down and read it in one setting because it's relatively short but highly entertaining. I had to know more about the creepy goings on and how things would get resolved. It was definitely interesting. I really liked how everything was set up and discussed. The supporting characters were all really good too and incredibly realistic. In other words, the mother actually acted how a mother would and things like that.

I think my only complaint about the book is that about 75% of the way through we were told how to resolve the issue but the main character, Shaya didn't click for a really long time after that, but in saying that it didn't detract from the story too much.

Overall, I thought that White Witch Pond was a really great, really well-written story and it had just enough creepiness to satisfy my cravings. I would definitely recommend reading White Witch Pond. It would definitely make a good addition to any Halloween TBR; or even just a good book if you're in the mood for something with a little bit of a spooky twist.
